



LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST

INSPIRED

Resistance
Stories

RACHEL HELD EVANS

Sunday, September 4, 2022

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Prelude

Fugue in C Major

Dietrich Buxtehude
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Welcome

† Opening Hymn

O Come and Dwell in Me

UMH 388

1. O come and dwell in me,
Spirit of power within,
and bring the glorious liberty
from sorrow, fear, and sin.
2. Hasten the joyful day
which shall my sins consume,
when old things shall be done away,
and all things new become.
3. I want the witness, Lord,
that all I do is right,
according to thy mind and word,
well-pleasing in thy sight.

Blessing for Children

Prayers of the People

*A Pastor will begin a time of prayer and name those for whom our congregation is praying.
Online Worshipers may type prayer requests in the Live Chat, taking care for privacy.*

Pastoral Prayer

WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Scripture

Esther 7:1-7 (CEB)

When the king and Haman came in for the banquet with Queen Esther, the king said to her, “This is the second day we’ve met for wine. What is your wish, Queen Esther? I’ll give it to you. And what do you want? I’ll do anything—even give you half the kingdom.”

Queen Esther answered, “If I please the king, and if the king wishes, give me my life—that’s my wish—and the lives of my people too. That’s my desire. We have been sold—I and my people—to be wiped out, killed, and destroyed. If we simply had been sold as male and female slaves, I would have said nothing. But no enemy can compensate the king for this kind of damage.”

King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is this person, and where is he? Who would dare do such a thing?”

Esther replied, “A man who hates, an enemy—this wicked Haman!” Haman was overcome with terror in the presence of the king and queen. Furious, the king got up and left the banquet for the palace garden. But Haman stood up to beg Queen Esther for his life. He saw clearly that the king’s mood meant a bad end for him.

Scriptural Response

Liturgist: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Special Music

Love Will Be Our Home
Lisa Corpron

Steven Curtis Chapman
©1988 Sparrow Song/
New Wings Music
Rev. Tara Limbaugh

Message

Inspired: Resistance Stories

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response in the World

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

O Perfect Love

Arr. Hal H. Hopson
©2006 Hope Publishing Co.

† Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

Prayer of Confession

All: God of love, you inspire us as we journey the course of our lives. How we wish we could avoid the tribulations. Like Esther before us, we would rather keep our heads down than risk the wrath of the powerful, even if our courage might save others. We would rather shut out the advice of the wise than be instruments of prophetic challenge. We would rather be left alone in our fear and despair than face the demands of faithful living. Forgive us, Holy One. Help us to have Esther’s courage and faith, that we may know and experience your inspiration and then respond as your children. Amen.

One: When the road is hard and all hope seems lost, fear not. Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth. If God had not been at our side, we would be like ashes and dust. God has turned our sadness into joy, and our troubles into times of gladness. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

All: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Thanksgiving and Holy Communion

Online worshipers are invited to select elements including bread and juice (or similar) from their homes to participate in Holy Communion. Please wait until directed before receiving your elements.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Prayer After Communion

WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

† Closing Hymn

I Want a Principle Within

UMH 410

1. I want a principle within
of watchful, godly fear,
a sensibility of sin,
a pain to feel it near.

I want the first approach to feel
of pride or wrong desire,
to catch the wandering of my will,
and quench the kindling fire.
2. From thee that I no more may stray,
no more thy goodness grieve,
grant me the filial awe,
I pray, the tender conscience give.

Quick as the apple of an eye,
O God, my conscience make;
awake my soul when sin is nigh,
and keep it still awake.
3. Almighty God of truth and love,
to me thy power impart;
the mountain from my soul remove,
the hardness from my heart.

O may the least omission pain
my reawakened soul,
and drive me to that blood again,
which makes the wounded whole.

† **Benediction**

Postlude

Postlude in G Minor

F. E. Rembt
©J. Fishcher & Bro.

Liturgist: Ann Gonsalves

Organist: Jenny Lai

Ushers: Russ Corpron, Don Lincoln, Peter McCreight, Lon Showley, Russell Toppi

Communion Servers: Chelsea Carter, Gail Chatfield, Susan Russell

Audio Visual Team: Dave Flores, Emilio Valente, Cameron Rhodes

Liturgical elements from *The Abingdon Worship Annual* and *The United Methodist Hymnal*

LJUMC Ministry Team

Rev. Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Rev. Tara Limbaugh, Pastor of Connexion;
Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director; Theresa Erb, Administrative Assistant;
Emilio Valente, Information Technology Director; Erin Wyer, NS Executive Director