



LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST

INSPIRED



Gospel
Stories

RACHEL HELD EVANS

Sunday, September 11, 2022

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Prelude

The Spirit of America

Hank Fellows
©2002 Hokenoke Music Company

Introit

O Worship the Lord

Arr. Donald Moore
©1994 Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp.

Welcome

† Opening Hymn

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

UMH 57

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!
2. My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honors of thy name.
3. Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life, and health, and peace.
4. He breaks the power of canceled sin,
he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean;
his blood availed for me.
5. He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive;
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.
6. Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,
your loosened tongues employ;
ye blind, behold your Savior come,
and leap, ye lame, for joy.
7. In Christ, your head, you then shall know,
shall feel your sins forgiven;
anticipate your heaven below,
and own that love is heaven.

Blessing for Children

Pastor will begin with the discussion of the Queen of England's death & how people/media are telling stories about her life and reign - Followed by explaining that we tell stories about great and interesting lives - and lead into the story we will hear from Pastor Bob during the sermon.

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

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 Response

Amen

Arr. Donald Moore
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WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Scriptures

John 4:4-26 (CEB)

Jesus had to go through Samaria. He came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, which was near the land Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus was tired from his journey, so he sat down at the well. It was about noon.

A Samaritan woman came to the well to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me some water to drink." His disciples had gone into the city to buy him some food.

The Samaritan woman asked, "Why do you, a Jewish man, ask for something to drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" (Jews and Samaritans didn't associate with each other.)

Jesus responded, "If you recognized God's gift and who is saying to you, 'Give me some water to drink,' you would be asking him and he would give you living water."

The woman said to him, "Sir, you don't have a bucket and the well is deep. Where would you get this living water? You aren't greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave this well to us, and he drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock."

Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks from the water that I will give will never be thirsty again. The water that I give will become in those who drink it a spring of water that bubbles up into eternal life."

The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I will never be thirsty and will never need to come here to draw water!”

Jesus said to her, “Go, get your husband, and come back here.”

The woman replied, “I don’t have a husband.”

“You are right to say, ‘I don’t have a husband,’” Jesus answered. “You’ve had five husbands, and the man you are with now isn’t your husband. You’ve spoken the truth.”

The woman said, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you and your people say that it is necessary to worship in Jerusalem.”

Jesus said to her, “Believe me, woman, the time is coming when you and your people will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You and your people worship what you don’t know; we worship what we know because salvation is from the Jews. But the time is coming—and is here!—when true worshippers will worship in spirit and truth. The Father looks for those who worship him this way. God is spirit, and it is necessary to worship God in spirit and truth.”

The woman said, “I know that the Messiah is coming, the one who is called the Christ. When he comes, he will teach everything to us.”

Jesus said to her, “I Am—the one who speaks with you.”

Scriptural Response

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

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem

Let the Whole Creation Cry

Robert Leaf
©1971 Augsburg Publishing House

Message

Inspired: Gospel Stories

Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response in the World

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Chorale Prelude on “York”

Douglas E. Wagner
©2013 Lorenz Publishing Co.

† **Doxology**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

Prayer of Confession

All: Faithful One, we long to trust your steadfast faithfulness. We yearn to know your life-giving love. Love us into faithful living. Wash over us with your grace. Nourish us with the water of your presence, and lead to eternal life. In the name of your love, we pray. Amen.

One: Christ, the Living Water, is here, washing over us with mercy, and filling us with hope and renewal. Rejoice and be glad, for we are renewed with love and made whole with grace. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

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

WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

Prayer for 9/11

† Closing Hymn

For the Healing of the Nations

UMH 428

1. For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords;

to a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word,
help us rise and pledge our word.
2. Lead us forward into freedom;
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.

Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase,
fear will die and hope increase.

3. All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.

In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span,
may we hallow life's brief span.

4. You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind,

that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find,
earth its destiny may find.

† **Benediction**

Postlude

March Recessional

Lily Strickland
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Liturgist: Chelsea Carter

Organist: Jenny Lai

Ushers: Rod Betts, Beau Brandon, Peter McCreight, Don Rushing, Russell Toppi

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