



LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST

1/2
TRUTHS

Everything Happens
for a Reason?

Sunday, April 16, 2023
Second Sunday of Easter
www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Prelude

Jubilation

G.F. Handel
©2006 Hope Publishing Co.

Introit

We Praise Thee, O God

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

Welcome

† **Opening Hymn**

Trust and Obey

UMH 467

1. When we walk with the Lord in the light of his word,
what a glory he sheds on our way!
While we do his good will, he abides with us still,
and to all who will trust and obey.

Refrain

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

2. Not a burden we bear, not a sorrow we share,
but our toil he doth richly repay;
not a grief or a loss, not a frown or a cross,
but is blest if we trust and obey.

Refrain

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

3. But we never can prove the delights of his love
until all on the altar we lay;
for the favor he shows, for the joy he bestows,
are for them who will trust and obey.

Refrain

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

4. Then in fellowship sweet we will sit at his feet,
or we'll walk by his side in the way;
what he says we will do, where he sends we will go;
never fear, only trust and obey.

Refrain

Trust and obey, for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.

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

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

Scripture

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 (CEB)

Look here! Today I've set before you life and what's good versus death and what's wrong. If you obey the Lord your God's commandments that I'm commanding you right now by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments, his regulations, and his case laws, then you will live and thrive, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you refuse to listen, and so are misled, worshiping other gods and serving them, I'm telling you right now that you will definitely die. You will not prolong your life on the fertile land that you are crossing the Jordan River to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth as my witnesses against you right now: I have set life and death, blessing and curse before you. Now choose life—so that you and your descendants will live— by loving the Lord your God, by obeying his voice, and by clinging to him. That's how you will survive and live long on the fertile land the Lord swore to give to your ancestors: to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Scriptural Response

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

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem

I Will Trust in the Lord

Arr. William Farley Smith
©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

Message

"Everything Happens for a Reason?"

Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

O Perfect Love

Arr. Hal Hopson
©2006 Hope Publishing Co.

† Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

Prayer of Confession

All: Gracious God, there are so many times when our hearts turn away from you: when we become angry or judgmental; when we speak falsehoods; when we squander your blessings; and when we covet the things that are not ours. Forgive us. Help us speak words of encouragement and love. and help us follow your ways, that we may be your faithful followers. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

One: Our loving God has said, "I have set before you today, life and prosperity, death and adversity... Choose life." Beloveds, in Christ, choose life now, and turn your hearts toward God. 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

† Closing Hymn

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

UMH 462

1. 'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
and to take him at his word;
just to rest upon his promise,
and to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

Refrain

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him!
How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust him more!

2. O how sweet to trust in Jesus,
just to trust is cleansing blood;
and in simple faith to plunge me
neath the healing, cleansing flood!

Refrain

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him!
How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust him more!

3. Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,
just from sin and self to cease;
just from Jesus simply taking
life and rest, and joy and peace.

Refrain

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him!
How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust him more!

4. I'm so glad I learned to trust thee,
precious Jesus, Savior, friend;
and I know that thou art with me,
wilt be with me to the end.

Refrain

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him!
How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust him more!

† **Benediction**

Postlude

Alleluia

W.A. Mozart
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Liturgical elements from *The Abingdon Worship Annual* and *The United Methodist Hymnal*

Flowers: Given by Leigh and Dave Kramer in celebration of their 45th wedding anniversary.
Liturgist: Ann Davis
Organist: Jenny Lai
Ushers: Beau Brandon, Don Lincoln, Don Rushing, Lon Showley
Tech Team: AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

LJUMC Ministry Team

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