



LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST

1/2
TRUTHS

God Helps Those
Who Help Themselves?

Sunday, April 23, 2023
Third Sunday of Easter
www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Prelude

Goldberg Variations, BWV 988: Variation 13

J.S. Bach
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Introit

O Worship the Lord

Arr. Donald Moore
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Welcome

† Opening Hymn

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

UMH 117

1. O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home!
2. Under the shadow of thy throne,
still may we dwell secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.
3. Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting, thou art God,
to endless years the same.
4. A thousand ages, in thy sight,
are like an evening gone;
short as the watch that ends the night,
before the rising sun.
5. Time, like an ever rolling stream,
bears all who breathe away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.
6. O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come;
be thou our guide while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

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

Psalm 10:14,17-18 (CEB)

But you do see! You do see troublemaking and grief, and you do something about it! The helpless leave it all to you. You are the orphan's helper. Lord, you listen to the desires of those who suffer. You steady their hearts; you listen closely to them, to establish justice for the orphan and the oppressed, so that people of the land will never again be terrified.

Psalm 18:6,16

In my distress I cried out to the Lord; I called to my God for help. God heard my voice from his temple; I called to him for help, and my call reached his ears. From on high God reached down and grabbed me; he took me out of all that water.

Psalm 121:1-2

I raise my eyes toward the mountains. Where will my help come from? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth.

Scriptural Response

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

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem

Lord, Lord

Thomas More Scott
©1977 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

Message

"God Helps Those who Help Themselves?"

Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Goldberg Variations, BWV 988: Variation 28

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† Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

Prayer of Confession

All: Faithful One, you know our fears and our doubts. You know our hopes and our dreams. You know our blessings and our curses. Hold us closely with your love. Breathe into our lives with your mercy. For we yearn for the courage to accept your grace and love. We long to know your presence and to trust your grace. In faith and hope, we pray. Amen.

One: God will guide you from temptation and evil, and bless you with renewal and grace. God will hold your life and lift you up, both now and forevermore. 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

Give to the Winds Thy Fears

UMH 129

1. Give to the winds thy fears;
hope and be undismayed.
God hears thy sighs and counts thy tears,
God shall lift up thy head.
2. Through waves and clouds and storms,
God gently clears thy way;
wait thou God's time; so shall this night
soon end in joyous day.
3. Leave to God's sovereign sway
to choose and to command;
so shalt thou, wondering, own that way,
how wise, how strong this hand.

4. Let us in life, in death,
thy steadfast truth declare,
and publish with our latest breath
thy love and guardian care.

† **Benediction**

Postlude

Goldberg Variations, BWV 988: Variation 22

J.S. Bach
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Liturgical elements from *The Abingdon Worship Annual* and *The United Methodist Hymnal*

Flowers: Given by Virginia McCrae in honor of her parents,
Spence & Helen McCrae, on their wedding anniversary
Liturgist: Sal Butera
Organist: Jenny Lai
Ushers: Steve Gray, 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