



LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST

Embracing Theological Diversity

Sunday, July 2, 2023
Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Prelude

Prelude in C Major

J.S. Bach/Edited by Hal H. Hopson
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Introit

He Is Lord

UMH 177

Welcome

† Opening Hymn

America (My Country, 'Tis of Thee)

UMH 697

1. My county, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty,
of thee I sing;
land where my fathers died, land of the pilgrim's pride,
from every mountainside let freedom ring!
2. My native country, thee, land of the noble free,
thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills, thy woods and templed hills;
my heart with rapture thrills, like that above.
3. Let music swell the breeze, and ring from all the trees
sweet freedom's song;
let mortal tongues awake; let all that breathe partake;
let rocks their silence break, the sound prolong.
4. Our fathers' God, to thee, author of liberty,
to thee we sing;
long may our land be bright with freedom's holy light;
protect us by thy might, great God, our King.

Blessing for Young Hearts

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

Romans 14:1-12 (CEB)

Welcome the person who is weak in faith—but not in order to argue about differences of opinion. One person believes in eating everything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. Those who eat must not look down on the ones who don't, and the ones who don't eat must not judge the ones who do, because God has accepted them. Who are you to judge someone else's servants? They stand or fall

before their own Lord (and they will stand, because the Lord has the power to make them stand). One person considers some days to be more sacred than others, while another person considers all days to be the same. Each person must have their own convictions. Someone who thinks that a day is sacred, thinks that way for the Lord. Those who eat, eat for the Lord, because they thank God. And those who don't eat, don't eat for the Lord, and they thank the Lord too. We don't live for ourselves and we don't die for ourselves. If we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we belong to God. This is why Christ died and lived: so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. But why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you look down on your brother or sister? We all will stand in front of the judgment seat of God. Because it is written,

*As I live, says the Lord, every knee will bow to me,
and every tongue will give praise to God.*

So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.

Scriptural Response

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

All: Thanks be to God! Amen

Anthem *Eternal Father, Strong to Save* TFWS 2191

Message *Embracing Theological Diversity* Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory *Andante* Carl Reinecke/Arr. Hal H. Hopson
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† **Doxology** *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 94

Prayer of Confession

All: Merciful God, when we have inflicted injuries upon others, forgive us; when we have laughed and sung as our enemies faced calamity, pardon us; when we have belittled the convictions of others through word or deed, restore us in your mercy. Reclaim us, Mighty One, that amidst the trials of life, we might walk on the dry land of your powerful hope and your loving grace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

One: If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, the forces of death would have claimed us as victims. If it had not been the Lord who was on our side, we would have fallen to the sword or been drowned by the sea. Dance and sing to the Lord who is on our side, and is on the side of all God's children. 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 Musical Setting A UMH 17
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

Father, We Have Heard You Calling

W & S 3150

1. Father, we have heard you calling to your church in every age;
for a sign of true devotion for a sacrifice of praise.
In this place where you have brought us, may we always seek to be
one in love and one in worship—children of eternity.
2. Jesus Christ, our faith's perfecter, priest and advocate above.
We would reach our broken nation with the truth of your great love.
So transform our feeble witness, may we always live to be
one in love and one in worship— children of eternity.
3. Holy Spirit, fire of heaven, fall upon us here today.
Bring release, bring tears, bring passion, then transform your church, we pray.
As you pour your grace upon us, may we always thirst to be
one in love and one in worship— children of eternity.
4. Praise we bring to God the Father, praise we bring to God the Son,
praise to God the Holy Spirit, praise to you, the three in one.
Trinity of love inspire us, may we always strive to be
one in love and one in worship— children of eternity.

† Benediction

Postlude

Awake the Trumpet's Lofty Sound

G.F. Handel/Arr. Hal H. Hopson
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Liturgical elements from *The Abingdon Worship Annual* and *The United Methodist Hymnal*

Flowers: from Tom & Kathy Dombrowski in honor of their birthdays
Liturgist: Don Rushing
Organist: Robert Wuertz
Ushers: Rod Betts, Paul Crowder, Don Lincoln, Peter McCreight, Russell Toppi
Communion Servers: Paul, Colin & Evan Crowder
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