



LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST

In Everything

Sunday, November 19 2023
Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost
www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Call to Worship

One: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice!

All: God, we delight in your creation. We thank you for soft breezes, crisp apples, and changing seasons that remind us of your presence and provision.

One: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice!

All: God, we delight in our connectedness. We thank you for friends who check in, for church family who lift one another up, for neighbors who show up in the good and challenging times.

One: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I say, Rejoice!

All: God, we delight in your peace that dwells among us. We give thanks for neighbors who offer help in times of trouble, gentleness in the midst of pain, and acts of kindness during seasons of struggle.

One: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving and rejoicing!

All: Come! Let us worship God together. Amen.

Prelude

A Child's Prayer

Mark Dorian
©2007 Dorian Music

Introit

Sing to the Lord of Harvest

Arr. Donald Moore
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Welcome

† Opening Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God

UMH 102

1. Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
2. O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us still in grace, and guide us when perplexed;
and free us from all ills, in this world and the next.
3. All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given, the Son,
and him who reigns with them in highest heaven;
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

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

God, we come into Your presence with praise and thanksgiving for Your faithful love.
Your love never fails—
As You welcome us, so You welcome our prayers.
We bring them to You with confidence,
knowing that You will hear and answer.

We pray for the world You created, and the people who share it with us:
- for countries caught up in war or violent conflict
- for those whose homes and lives are threatened by natural disaster;
For these and all the other areas in our world
where there is need and despair,
Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for our country and for its people:
- for our government leaders, federal and local,
- for our cities, towns, and rural communities,
- for employers and employees, for young and old,
For all who are part of this country,
Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for our local community—the people of La Jolla,
- for those who are unemployed,
- for those in prison,
- for those who are hungry,
- for those who are alone and afraid,
For all our neighbors, both known and unknown to us,
Lord, hear our prayer.

We pray for this congregation—our brothers and sisters in Christ,
- for those who are ill or whose loved ones are ill,
- for those who are anxious about the future,
- for those struggling with their faith,
- for those who minister among us,
For all Your people in this place,
Lord, hear our prayer.

Pour out Your Spirit on us!
Fix our hearts and minds on what is true and honorable and right.
Keep us faithful to the call we have received, extending Your loving invitation to the world around us.
In Jesus' name. Amen.

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

Philippians 4:4-13 (NRSVue)

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned for me but had no opportunity to show it. Not that I am referring to being in need, for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Scriptural Response

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

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Anthem

Lord, You Have Been Our Dwelling Place
Chancel Choir; Sue Boles, Sally Strobl Flute ©1995 H. W. Gray Publications

Hal H. Hopson

Message

In Everything

Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Come Into God's Courts with Praise
Dorian Bells

Michael Helman
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† Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

Prayer of Confession

All: Faithful God, We confess that we do not give attention to the things that are of you. We listen to rumors and gossip instead of what is true and honorable. We do not hold fast to justice. We do not train our hearts on what is pure and pleasing to you. In our words and our deeds, we stray from all that is commendable, excellent, and worthy of praise. We do not attend to all we have received and learned of your good news, and so we do not live in peace with you or with our neighbors. Forgive us, we pray. Free us to live as your grateful people.

One: Receive the good news: God pays attention to us when we pray. God receives our confession and saves us by grace. May the peace of God guard us in mind and heart now and forever. 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

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

UMH 694

1. Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.
2. All the world is God's own field, fruit as praise to God we yield;
wheat and tares together sown are to joy or sorrow grown;
first the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.
3. For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home;
from the field shall in that day all offenses purge away,
giving angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast;
but the fruitful ears to store in the garner evermore.
4. Even so, Lord, quickly come, bring thy final harvest home;
gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified, in thy presence to abide; come, with all thine angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest home.

† **Benediction**

May God's peace follow you wherever you go, guiding and guarding you, that you may live in joy and thanksgiving with God, self, neighbor, and all creation. Amen.

Postlude

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Arr. Hal H. Hopson
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Liturgical elements from *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers, The United Methodist Hymnal and Discipleship Ministries*

Flowers: In loving memory of Flossie from her family

Liturgist: Deborah Butera

Organist: Robert Wuertz

Accompanist: Rebecca Cosford

Ushers: Beau Brandon, Dave Grundies, Peter McCreight, Russell Toppi, 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