



LA JOLLA  
UNITED METHODIST

**The Last Week**  
**The Temple in Frame**

Sunday, February 25, 2024

Second Sunday in Lent

[www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org](http://www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org)

# WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Gathering Music

*More Precious Than Silver*

Lynn DeShazo/  
Setting by Peggy Bettcher  
©2001 Intergity's Hosanna Music

## Call to Worship

One: Lenten travelers, why are you here?

**All: We gather to do the work of worship.**

One: Lenten travelers, what happens when we gather to worship?

**All: We listen and proclaim. We sing and pray. We repent and encourage.**

One: Lenten travelers, how do we do the work of worship?

**All: We bring all that we are to be present to God and one another.**

One: Lenten travelers, what work does God do in worship?

**All: God raises us up so that we can delight in life together with God and one another.**

One: Lenten travelers, come, let us worship God together!

**All: Come, let us worship God together! Amen.**

## Introit

*Lord, Take Control*

Arr. Donald Moore  
©1996 Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp.

## Welcome

### † Opening Hymn

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

UMH#213

1. Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;  
behold the King of glory waits;  
the King of kings is drawing near;  
the Savior of the world is here!
2. Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
make it a temple set apart  
from earthly use for heaven's employ,  
adorned with prayer and love and joy.
3. Redeemer, come, with us abide;  
our hearts to thee we open wide;  
let us thy inner presence feel;  
thy grace and love in us reveal.
4. Thy Holy Spirit lead us on  
until our glorious goal is won;

eternal praise, eternal fame  
be offered, Savior, to thy name!

## **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**

### **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**

*The Family Prayer Song*

TFWS 2188

## **WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST**

### **Scripture**

Mark 11:12-21

The next day, after leaving Bethany, Jesus was hungry. From far away, he noticed a fig tree in leaf, so he went to see if he could find anything on it. When he came to it, he found nothing except leaves, since it wasn't the season for figs. So he said to it, "No one will ever again eat your fruit!" His disciples heard this.

They came into Jerusalem. After entering the temple, he threw out those who were selling and buying there. He pushed over the tables used for currency exchange and the chairs of those who sold doves. He didn't allow anyone to carry anything through the temple. He taught them, "Hasn't it been written, My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations? But you've turned it into a hideout for crooks." The chief priests and legal experts heard this and tried to find a way to destroy him. They regarded him as dangerous because the whole crowd was enthralled at his teaching. When it was evening, Jesus and his disciples went outside the city.

Early in the morning, as Jesus and his disciples were walking along, they saw the fig tree withered from the root up. Peter remembered and said to Jesus, "Rabbi, look how the fig tree you cursed has dried up."

### **Scriptural Response**

One: The Word of God for the People of God.  
All: **Thanks be to God! Amen**

**Anthem**

*I Am the Vine*  
Chancel Choir, Sue Boles, Flute

Allen Pote  
©2017 Hinshaw Music

**Message**

*The Temple in Frame*

Rev. Bob Rhodes

## WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

**Response to the Word**

**Invitation to the Offering**

**Offertory**

*Peace*

Mark Dorian  
©2017 Dorian Music

† **Doxology**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

**Prayer of Confession**

**All:** With hearts of sorrow, we come before you, O God, to confess what you already know—we have failed to keep your laws. Again and again, we have followed our own selfish will, rather than your holy and life-giving will for our lives. We have twisted your decrees and institutions to suit our preconceptions and interests rather than your own. Forgive us, O God, and cleanse us from hidden faults, that the words of our mouths, and the meditations of all our hearts, may be acceptable to you, our Rock and our Redeemer.

One: God shows steadfast love and blesses to the thousandth generation those who follow God's ways. In love, God sent Jesus to bless and redeem God's people. God forgives us our sins and restores us to new life. 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**

*The Lord of Life, a Vine Is He*

W & S 3155

1. The Lord of Life, a vine is he and grafted to him we must be;  
and thus we yield abundantly sweet fruit for all to taste and see.
2. If we be joined to him we know his strength and power will help us grow.  
His Spirit's grace through us will flow to prune and shape us as we go.

3. The vine is he, the branches we for now and to eternity.  
His word sown deep in us will be both sun and rain . . . sufficiency.
4. The Lord of Life, the Source Divine calls us to come, with him entwine.  
Will we, un-hearing, dare decline the call of Christ, the One True Vine?

† **Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Fugue*

Louis Nicolas Clerambault/  
Edited by Hopson  
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Liturgical elements from *Discipleship Ministries (UMC)* and *The Abingdon Worship Annual*.

**Flowers:** From Margie Herrick In loving memory of husband Bob on his birthday  
**Liturgist:** Joyce Theilacker  
**Organist:** Robert Wuertz  
**Pianist:** Rebecca Cosford  
**Ushers:** Steve Gray, Don Lincoln, Peter McCreight, Russell Toppi, Lon Showley  
**Tech Team:** AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

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**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