

A group of diverse people are hugging and celebrating in a church setting. In the background, there are colorful triangular bunting flags in shades of green, yellow, and blue. The scene is joyful and communal.

LA JOLLA  
UNITED METHODIST

# Gathering for Worship

Worship with Rejoicing

Sunday, July 14, 2024

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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

## WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Gathering Music

*Laudate Dominum*

W. A. Mozart  
©2000 Hal Leonard

### Call to Worship

One: When we witness our work bear good fruit and rejoice in all God has done among us...

**All: we gather for worship.**

One: When misunderstanding and misinformation threaten to divide instead of unite us...

**All: we gather for worship.**

One: When we dance together in the joy of knowing we belong to God and one another...

**All: we gather for worship.**

One: When we stumble and bumble our way forward as God's grace guides us into greater love and deeper communion...

**All: we gather for worship. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### Introit

*This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made*

UMH 658

**Welcome** – (*Welcome, attendance pads & prayer cards, flowers in celebration of Beau & Karen Brandon's 10th wedding anniversary*)

### † Opening Hymn

*God Is Here*

UMH 660

1. God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,  
may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.  
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts  
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.
2. Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;  
here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place.  
Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,  
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.
3. Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;  
here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us, as of old.  
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore  
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.
4. Lord of all, of church, and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt  
keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work your purpose out.



Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive;  
we, who cannot live without you, we adore you! We believe!

### **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**

*Amen*

UMH 898

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

### **Scripture**

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19 (NRSVue)

David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the Lord of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim. They carried the ark of God on a new cart and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart with the ark of God, and Ahio went in front of the ark. David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the Lord with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing, and when those who bore the ark of the Lord had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fattened calf. David danced before the Lord with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting and with the sound of the trumpet.

As the ark of the Lord came into the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord, and she despised him in her heart.

They brought in the ark of the Lord and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it, and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the Lord. When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

### Scriptural Response

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

All: **Thanks be to God! Amen**

Anthem

*Lord, Speak to Me*

Arr. Edward Wetherill  
©1984 Harold Flammer, Inc.

Message

*Gathering for Worship*

Rev. Bob Rhodes

## WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

### Response to the Word

### Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

*Serenity*

Mark Dorian  
©2007 Dorian Music

† **Doxology**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures here below;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

### Prayer of Confession

All: **Gracious God, pour out your mercy on us. Where there is despair, fill us with hope. Where there is sorrow, fill us with comfort. Where there is sin, fill us with forgiveness. Where there is hatred, fill us with love. Where there is worry, fill us with assurance.**

**Gather us in the arms of your grace and glory, that we may reflect your glory with honor and praise all the days of our lives. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

One: Our God, who saves us, is with us now: filling our lives with grace, forgiving us and making us one, perfecting all of creation, through the mercy of God's steadfast love. 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**

*Gather Us In*

TFWS 2236

1. Here in this place new light is streaming, now is the darkness vanished away,  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings, brought here to you in the light of this day.  
Gather us in—the lost and forsaken, gather in us—the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall awaken, we shall arise at the sound of our name.
2. We are the young—our lives are a myst'ry, we are the old—who yearn for your face,  
we have been sung throughout all of hist'ry, called to be light to the whole human race.  
Gather us in—the rich and the haughty, gather us in—the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart so meek and so lowly, give us the courage to enter the song.
3. Here we will take the wine and the water, here we will take the bread of new birth,  
here you shall call your sons and your daughters, call us anew to be salt for the earth.  
Give us to drink the wine of compassion, give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.
4. Not in the dark of buildings confining, not in some heaven, lightyears away,  
but here in this place the new light is shining, now is the Kingdom, now is the day.  
Gather us in and hold us forever, gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in—all peoples together, fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

† **Benediction –**

**Postlude**

*Nachspiel*

Anton Bruckner/Edited Hal H. Hopson  
©2006 Hope Publishing Co.

Liturgical elements from *Discipleship Ministries (UMC)* and *The Abingdon Worship Annual*.

**Flowers:** In celebration of Beau & Karen Brandon's 10th wedding anniversary  
**Liturgist:** Sal Butera  
**Organist:** Robert Wuertz  
**Pianist:** Rebecca Cosford  
**Ushers:** Dan Martin, Peter McCreight, Don Rushing, Lon Showley  
**Tech Team:** AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

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**LJUMC Ministry Team**

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