



LA JOLLA  
UNITED METHODIST

# Wonder

Call & Response

Sunday, September 7, 2025  
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
[www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org](http://www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org)

# WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

## Gathering Music

### Call to Worship

One: Wherever you go, from the top of the highest mountain or into the deep abysses of the earth,  
God knows you.

**All: Wherever we go, God knows our name.**

One: Whatever you do, from the time you wake up until you lay your head down again, God knows  
you.

**All: Whatever we do, God knows our name.**

One: However you live, from your inner thoughts to your public acts and everything in between,  
God knows you.

**All: However we live, God knows our name.**

One: We gather to worship God, who loves us, knows us, and calls us by name.

**All: We gather to worship God, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made by God who  
knows our name!**

### Congregational Introit

*I Will Call Upon the Lord*

TFWS 2002

I will call upon the Lord **I will call upon the Lord**  
who is worthy to be praised. **who is worthy to be praised.**  
So shall I be saved from my enemies. **So shall I be saved from my enemies.**  
**I will call upon the Lord.**

**The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock;  
and let the God of my salvation be exalted.  
The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock;  
and let the God of my salvation be exalted.**

### Welcome

### † Opening Hymn

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

UMH 139

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigning  
bears thee on eagle's wings, e'er in his keeping maintaining.  
God's care enfolds all, whose true good he upholds. Hast thou not known his sustaining?
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;  
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee.  
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, who with his love doth befriend thee.
4. Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,  
fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee.  
Then to thy need God as a mother doth speed, spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.
5. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly forever adore him.

### **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**

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (NRSVue)

O Lord, you have searched me and known me.  
You know when I sit down and when I rise up;  
you discern my thoughts from far away.  
You search out my path and my lying down  
and are acquainted with all my ways.  
Even before a word is on my tongue,  
O Lord, you know it completely.  
You hem me in, behind and before,  
and lay your hand upon me.  
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

For it was you who formed my inward parts;  
you knit me together in my mother's womb.  
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works;  
that I know very well.  
My frame was not hidden from you,  
when I was being made in secret,  
intricately woven in the depths of the earth.  
Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.  
In your book were written  
all the days that were formed for me,  
when none of them as yet existed.  
How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!  
I try to count them—they are more than the sand;  
I come to the end—I am still with you.

### Scriptural Response

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

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

### Anthem

*Let the Whole Creation Cry*

Robert Leaf  
©1971 Augsburg Publishing House

### Message

*Wonder*

Rev. Bob Rhodes

## WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

### Response to the Word

### Invitation to the Offering

### Offertory

### † 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:** Holy God, we confess that we do not always love our neighbor. We confess that we have despised others, even to the point of hatred. We confess that we have been hurt by others. We confess that forgiveness and reconciliation at times are just impossible for us. We know that nothing is impossible in You. We come to You, seeking healing and wholeness for us. Help us, whenever possible, to live in peace with others, to seek reconciliation and healing and forgiveness. For Your Son came and lived among us, was betrayed and denied, abused and put to death. He rose again and came with the message of peace to those who had denied him and abandoned him. May we walk in his ways. Amen.

One: For nothing is impossible with God. There is no place we can go, no end of the earth we can run, where God cannot find us. There is nothing on earth or beyond death that can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. We are fearfully and wonderfully made. We are fearfully and wonderfully loved. 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 (*Sung responsively*)

Our Father **Our Father** who art in heaven, **who art in heaven,**  
Hallowed be Thy name. **Hallowed be Thy name.**  
Thy kingdom come, **Thy kingdom come,** thy will be done, **thy will be done,**  
on earth **on earth** as it is in heaven. **as it is in heaven.**  
Give us this day **Give us this day** the food we need **the food we need;**  
And forgive our sins **And forgive our sins** as we forgive those **as we forgive those**  
who sin against us all, **who sin against us all.**  
And lead us not **And lead us not** into temptation **into temptation**  
But deliver us **But deliver us** from evil **from evil**  
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and at the glory forever  
**For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and at the glory forever**  
And ever **And ever** And ever **And ever**  
Our Father **Our Father** who art in heaven, **who art in heaven,**  
**Hallowed be Thy name.**

**Communion Song***Christ, We Are Blest*

W &amp; S 3174

1. Christ, we are blest as we gather to dine, strengthened for love by the bread and the wine.  
This is your body, now entering ours, strong with your loving, miraculous powers.
2. You laid your life down like sowing a seed; once dead and buried, from death you are freed,  
rising like wheat in the warmth of the sun! Christ, you are risen! Now life has begun!
3. Christ, you are risen, but not far above: you live among us in each act of love,  
in every deed of compassion you rise, living in flesh we can see with our eyes.
4. Jesus, you feed us, then bid us to leave, sharing with others the love we receive.  
We are your body, sent by your command, making love real as the bread in our hands.

**Prayer After Communion****WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD****† Closing Hymn***Take My Life, and Let It Be*

UMH 399

1. Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.  
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.  
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.
2. Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my King.  
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee.  
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.  
Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.
3. Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.  
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store.  
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

**† Benediction****Postlude***Jubilation*  
*(Arrival of the Queen of Sheba)*G.F. Handel/Arr. Hopson  
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**Flowers:** in gratitude for Nick Cosford's leadership on the Church Council  
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**Ushers:** Rod Betts, Dave Grundies, Dan Martin, Peter McCreight, Don Rushing  
**Communion Servers:** Ann Davis, Cyrus Ebrahimi, Randy Seward  
**Tech Team:** AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

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**LJUMC Ministry Team**

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