



  
LA JOLLA  
UNITED METHODIST

# Faith to Change

Standing on the Shoulders of Giants

Sunday, October 5, 2025  
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost  
[www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org](http://www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org)

# WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Gathering Music

*Adagio*

Baldassare Galuppi/Arr. Hopson  
©2006 Hope Publishing Co.

## Call to Worship

One: Destruction and violence are everywhere; strife and contention are all around

**All: The needs of the world are so great; O Lord, increase our faith.**

One: The law is slack, and justice does not prevail.

**All: The needs of the world are so great; O Lord, increase our faith.**

One: How many threats surround us; warfare, homelessness, loneliness, loss.

**All: The needs of the world are so great, but you, O God, are greater still—the One in whom all things are possible. O Lord, increase our faith in you!**

## Congregational Introit

*God Will Make a Way*

*CCLI Song# 458620*

© 1990 Integrity's Hosanna Music  
Church CCLI License # 1590922

God will make a way Where there seems to be no way  
He works in ways we cannot see He will make a way for me

He will be my guide Hold me closely to His side  
With love and strength For each new day  
He will make a way He will make a way

God will make a way Where there seems to be no way  
He works in ways we cannot see He will make a way for me

He will be my guide Hold me closely to His side  
With love and strength For each new day  
He will make a way He will make a way

## Welcome

### † Opening Hymn

*Praise the Source of Faith and Learning*

TFWS 2004

1. Praise the source of faith and learning that has sparked and stoked the mind with a passion for discerning how the world has been designed. Let the sense of wonder flowing from the wonders we survey keep our faith forever growing and renew our need to pray:

2. God of wisdom, we acknowledge that our science and our art and the breadth of human knowledge only partial truth impart. Far beyond our calculation lies a depth we cannot sound where your purpose for creation and the pulse of life are found.
3. May our faith redeem the blunder of believing that our thought has displaced the grounds for wonder which the ancient prophets taught. May our learning curb the error which unthinking faith can breed lest we justify some terror with antiquated creed.
4. As two currents in a river fight each other's undertow till converging they deliver one coherent steady flow, blend, O God, our faith and learning till they carve a single course, till they join as one, returning praise and thanks to you, their Source.

### **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**

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 (NRSVue)

“Hear, O Israel: The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. Keep these words that I am commanding you today in your heart. Recite them to your children and talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise. Bind them as a sign on your hand, fix them as an emblem on your forehead, and write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates.

Luke 17:5-10 (CEB)

The apostles said to the Lord, “Increase our faith!”

The Lord replied, “If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.

“Would any of you say to your servant, who had just come in from the field after plowing or tending sheep, ‘Come! Sit down for dinner?’ Wouldn’t you say instead, ‘Fix my dinner. Put on the clothes of a table servant and wait on me while I eat and drink. After that, you can eat and drink?’ You won’t thank

the servant because the servant did what you asked, will you? In the same way, when you have done everything required of you, you should say, ‘We servants deserve no special praise. We have only done our duty.’”

### Scriptural Response

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

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

### Anthem

*Lord, Listen to Your Children*

Ken Medema/Arr. Schrader  
©1983 Crescendo Publications, Inc.

### Message

*Faith to Change*

Rev. Bob Rhodes

## WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

### Response to the Word

### Invitation to the Offering

### Offertory

*Peaceful Piano #25*

Mark Hayes  
©2023 Lorenz Publishing Co.

### † 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: We confess our compassion to you, creator God, and ask only that you increase it. Let our intimate knowledge of weeping expand into concern and caring for a world so often wracked with tragedy. Let us not worry that we have to fix it all. Let us rather be encouraged, in compassion, to do the things we know we ought to do. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.**

One: Know that sincere faith—even faith the size of a tiny seed—can work wonders in all of us.  
Embrace the compassion and the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus. 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 <b>Our Father</b>	who art in heaven, <b>who art in heaven,</b>
Hallowed be Thy name.	<b>Hallowed be Thy name.</b>
Thy kingdom come,	<b>Thy kingdom come,</b>
thy will be done,	<b>thy will be done,</b>
on earth <b>on earth</b>	as it is in heaven. <b>as it is in heaven.</b>
Give us this day <b>Give us this day</b>	the food we need <b>the food we need;</b>
And forgive our sins	<b>And forgive our sins</b>
as we forgive those	<b>as we forgive those</b>
who sin against us all,	<b>who sin against us all.</b>
And lead us not <b>And lead us not</b>	into temptation <b>into temptation</b>
But deliver us <b>But deliver us</b>	from evil <b>from evil</b>
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory forever	
<b>For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and the glory forever</b>	
And ever <b>And ever</b>	And ever <b>And ever</b>

Our Father <b>Our Father</b>	who art in heaven, <b>who art in heaven,</b>
<b>Hallowed be Thy name.</b>	

**Communion Song** *Deck Thyself, My Soul, with Gladness* UMH 612

1. Deck thyself, my soul, with gladness, leave the gloomy haunts of sadness.  
Come into the daylight's splendor; there with joy thy praises render  
unto Christ, whose grace unbounded hath this wondrous banquet founded.  
High o'er all the heavens he reigneth, yet to dwell with thee he deigneth.
2. Sun, who all my life dost brighten; Light, who dost my soul enlighten;  
Joy, the best that any knoweth; Fount, whence all my being floweth;  
at thy feet I cry, my Maker, let me be a fit partaker  
of this blessed food from heaven, for our good, thy glory, given.
3. Jesus, bread of life, I pray thee, let me gladly here obey thee;  
never to my hurt invited, be thy love with love requited.

From this banquet let me measure, Lord, how vast and deep its treasure;  
through the gifts thou here dost give me, as thy guest in heaven receive me.

## Prayer After Communion

### WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

#### † Closing Hymn

*Faith of Our Fathers*

UMH 710

1. Faith of our fathers, we will love both friend and foe in all our strife;  
and preach thee, too, as love knows how by kindly words and virtuous life.

#### *Refrain*

Faith of our fathers, holy faith! We will be true to thee till death.

2. Faith of our fathers, living still, in spite of dungeon fire, and sword;  
O how our hearts beat high with joy when'er we hear that glorious word!

#### *Refrain*

Faith of our fathers, holy faith! We will be true to thee till death.

3. Faith of our fathers, we will strive to win all nations unto thee;  
and through the truth that comes from God, we all shall then be truly free.

#### *Refrain*

Faith of our fathers, holy faith! We will be true to thee till death.

#### † Benediction

#### Postlude

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

Arr. Hal Hopson  
©2006 Hope Publishing Co.

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

**Flowers:** Donated by Rebecca & Tom Tseng Smith in celebration of brother Robert Smith

**Liturgist:** Lon Showley

**Organist:** Robert Wuertz

**Pianist:** Rebecca Cosford

**Ushers:** Beau Brandon, Don Lincoln, Peter McCreight, Don Rushing, Lon Showley

**Communion Servers:** Paul, Colin & Evan Crowder

**Tech Team:** AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

---

**LJUMC Ministry Team**

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