



LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST

Anticipation

The Days are Surely Coming

Sunday, November 23, 2025

Reign of Christ Sunday

www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Gathering Music

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Arr. Hal H. Hopson
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Call to Worship

One: Dawn has broken; light has come.

All: Christ shines upon our lives.

One: The darkness is fading; new life is emerging.

All: Christ calls us forward in faith.

One: Come, let us be made strong in the strength of Christ's glorious power.

All: Christ bestows the power of love, bringing justice for all.

One: Truly, I tell you, we are already with God when we live this truth.

All: Christ is present as we worship this day!

Congregational Introit

We Are the Body of Christ

TFWS 2227

One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you, we are the body of Christ.

One goal, one vision: To see you exalted. We are the body of Christ.

And to this we give our lives to see you glorified.

One heart, one Spirit, one voice to praise you, we are the body of Christ.

One goal, one vision: To see you exalted. We are the body of Christ.

Welcome

† Opening Hymn

We Gather Together

UMH 131

1. We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known.
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.
2. Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine!

3. We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

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 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 the glory forever	
For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power and 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.	

WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Scripture

Jeremiah 23:1-6 (NRSVue)

¹Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. ²Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful

and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The Lord is our righteousness.”

Scriptural Response

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

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

Anthem

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Dale Wood

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Message

Anticipation

Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Arr. Bill Wolaver

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† **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: **Triune God, imagining your reign can be difficult. It is difficult to picture a world governed by your justice and righteousness alone. Our minds are held captive by the**

worst images of human kings, rulers, and powers. When nobler visions fail and we settle for kingdoms of our own making, correct and forgive us. Free the borders of our imaginations, that we may envision your greater good and celebrate the coming of your reign on earth as in heaven. Amen.

One: Hear the prophecy of Zechariah: Tender mercy and forgiveness are the ways of God. 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

Crown Him with Many Crowns

UMH 327

1. Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
2. Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
3. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.
4. Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

† Benediction

Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God

J.S. Bach/Arr. Hal H. Hopson
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Liturgical elements from *Discipleship Ministries (UMC)* and *The Abingdon Worship Annual*.

Flowers: from Marjorie Slankard in thankful appreciation of family and LJUMC friends
Liturgist: Joyce Theilacker
Organist: Rebecca Cosford
Pianist: Robert Wuertz
Ushers: Cindy Rushing, Gail Chatfield, Ann Davis, Ann Gonsalves,
Janet Lind, Leigh Kramer, Jean Thomas
Tech Team: AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

LJUMC Ministry Team

Rev. Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director;
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