



Wesleyan  
Vile-tality



The Respectable  
Church

Sunday, June 14, 2026

Third Sunday after Pentecost

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

# WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Gathering Music

*"Anitra's Dance" Op. 46, No. 3*

Edvard Grieg

## Call to Worship

One: We come with our songs and our offerings, our buildings and our customs, sure that God is pleased.

**All: Let justice roll down like waters.**

One: But God takes no delight in our festivals when justice is missing. God seeks righteousness, not the noise of our songs.

**All: Let justice roll down like waters.**

One: Do not trust in deceptive words, "This is the temple of the Lord." The first Methodists were never meant to be respectable, but faithful.

**All: Let justice roll down like waters.**

One: People of God, will we settle for being a respectable church, or will we become a faithful one?

**All: We come to be made faithful again. Take away the noise of our worship, open our hands to the poor, and let justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. Amen.**

## Congregational Introit

*What Does the Lord Require of You*

Jim Strathdee  
CCLI License # 456859

What does the Lord require of you?  
What does the Lord require of you?  
Justice, kindness, walk humbly with your God.

To seek justice and love kindness  
and walk humbly with your God.  
To seek justice and love kindness  
and walk humbly with your God.

## Welcome

### † Opening Hymn

*O Day of God Draw Nigh*

UMH 730

1. O day of God, draw nigh in beauty and in power;  
come with thy timeless judgment now to match our present hour.

2. Bring to our troubled minds, uncertain and afraid,  
the quiet of a steadfast faith, calm of a call obeyed.
3. Bring justice to our land, that all may dwell secure,  
and finely build for days to come foundations that endure.
4. Bring to our world of strife thy sovereign word of peace,  
that war may haunt the earth no more, and desolation cease.
5. O day of God, draw nigh as at creation's birth;  
let there be light again, and set thy judgments on the earth.

### **Blessing for Young Hearts**

### **Prayers of the People**

### **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**

*Peace of Our Praying*

W&S 3022

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

### **Scripture**

Amos 5:18-24 (NRSVue)

Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord!  
Why do you want the day of the Lord?  
It is darkness, not light,  
as if someone fled from a lion  
and was met by a bear  
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall  
and was bitten by a snake.  
Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light,  
and gloom with no brightness in it?  
I hate, I despise your festivals,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.  
Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,  
I will not accept them,  
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals  
I will not look upon.  
Take away from me the noise of your songs;  
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.  
But let justice roll down like water  
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Jeremiah 7:1-11 (NRSVue)

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: Stand in the gate of the Lord's house, and proclaim there this word, and say, Hear the word of the Lord, all you people of Judah, you who enter these gates to worship the Lord. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Amend your ways and your doings, and let me dwell with you in this place. Do not trust in these deceptive words: "This is the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord, the temple of the Lord."

For if you truly amend your ways and your doings, if you truly act justly one with another, if you do not oppress the alien, the orphan, and the widow or shed innocent blood in this place, and if you do not go after other gods to your own hurt, then I will dwell with you in this place, in the land that I gave to your ancestors forever and ever.

Here you are, trusting in deceptive words to no avail. Will you steal, murder, commit adultery, swear falsely, make offerings to Baal, and go after other gods that you have not known and then come and stand before me in this house, which is called by my name, and say, "We are safe!"—only to go on doing all these abominations? Has this house, which is called by my name, become a den of robbers in your sight? I, too, am watching, says the Lord.

### Scriptural Response

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

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

### Anthem

*Hymn of Devotion*  
Chancel Choir, Aurora Eichberger, Cello

Mary McDonald  
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### Message

*The Respectable Church*

Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response to the Word

## Invitation to the Offering

**Offertory** *Allamande* J.S. Bach  
Aurora Eichberger, Cello

† **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:** God of justice, we confess that we have loved our comfort more than your call. We have trusted in our buildings and our reputation, our budgets and our customs, and we have called it faithfulness. We have offered you the noise of our worship while ignoring the cries in our streets. We have protected the institution and forgotten the people it was built to serve. You ask for justice to roll down like waters, and we have offered you a trickle. Forgive us. Strip away what we hide behind, and rekindle in us the fire of those who first followed your call. Make us a church that is faithful before it is respectable. Amen.

**One:** Hear the good news: God has never wanted our offerings as much as God has wanted us. The God who tears down our false shelters does so to set us free, and the call to faithfulness stands open before us still. 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** *Christ for the World We Sing* UMH 568

1. Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring,  
with loving zeal; the poor, and them that mourn,  
the faint and overborne, sin-sick and sorrow-worn,  
whom Christ doth heal.
2. Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring,  
with fervent prayer; the wayward and the lost,

- by restless passions tossed, redeemed at countless cost,  
from dark despair.
3. Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring,  
with one accord; with us the work to share, with us reproach to dare,  
with us the cross to bear, for Christ our Lord.
  4. Christ for the world we sing, the world to Christ we bring,  
with joyful song; the newborn souls,  
whose days, reclaimed from error's ways,  
inspired with hope and praise, to Christ belong.

† **Benediction**

**Postlude**

*Allegro*

Henry Purcell/Arr. Hopson  
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**Liturgical elements from *Discipleship Ministries (UMC)* and *The Abingdon Worship Annual*.**

**Flowers:** in honor of those who volunteered in the Fireside Library this year  
**Liturgist:** Colin Crowder  
**Organist:** Bob Wuertz  
**Pianist:** Rebecca Cosford  
**Ushers:** Beau Brandon, Dave Grundies, Don Lincoln, Peter McCreight  
**Tech Team:** AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

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**LJUMC Ministry Team**

Pastor Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Pastor Rob Shearer, Director of Children & Youth Ministries  
Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director; Theresa Erb, Office Manager;  
Emilio Valente, Information Technology Director; Erin Wyr, NS Executive Director