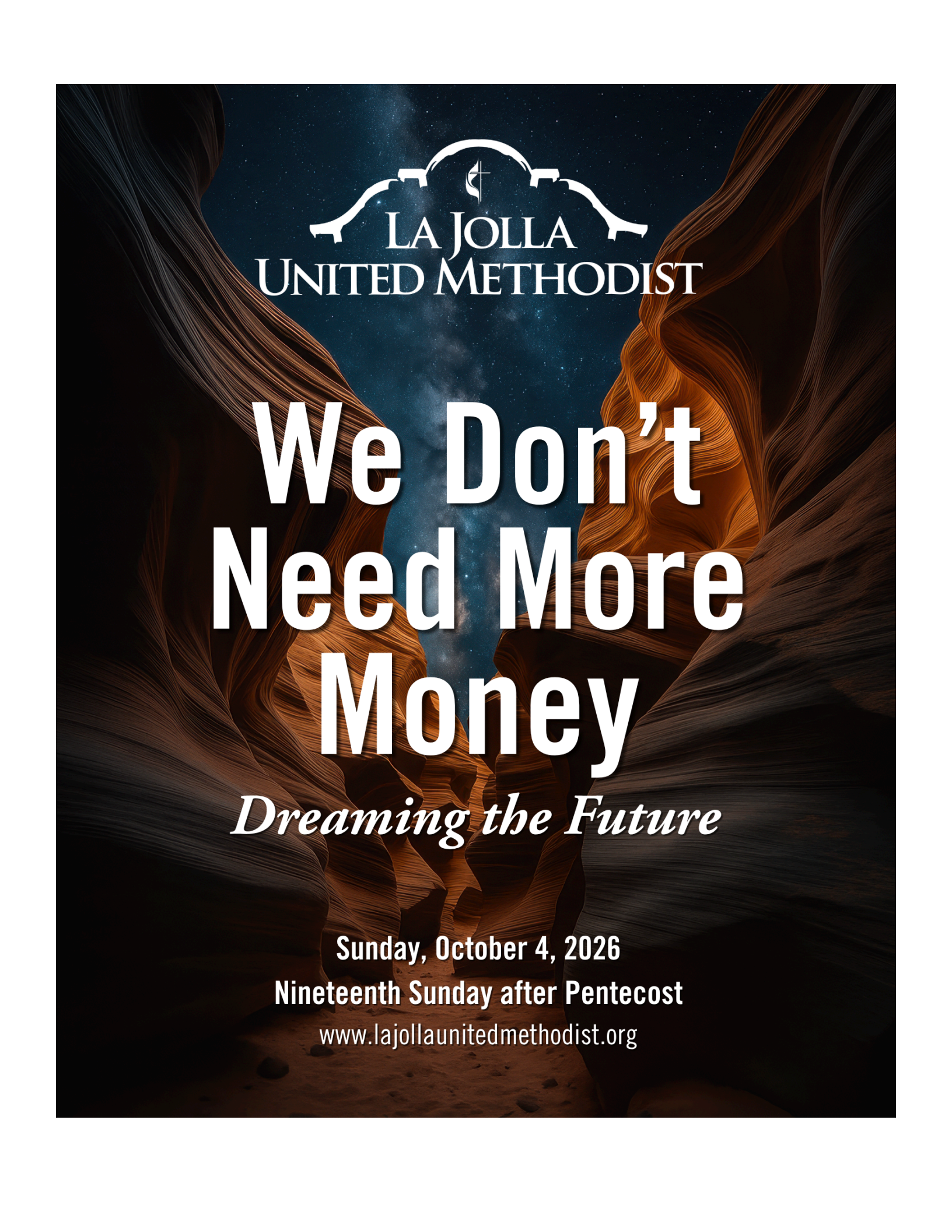




LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST

We Don't Need More Money

Dreaming the Future

Sunday, October 4, 2026

Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Gathering Music

Albumblatt 1

Andy Zhan

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Call to Worship

One: At Gibeon, God comes to Solomon in a dream and says, “Ask whatever you wish, and I’ll give it to you.”

All: Give us a listening heart.

One: Happy are those who find wisdom and those who gain understanding. Her profit is better than silver, and her gain better than gold.

All: Give us a listening heart.

One: Her ways are pleasant; all her paths are peaceful.

All: Give us a listening heart.

One: As God met Solomon in a dream, come, let us dream together of what God is doing among us.

All: We bring our prayers and our gifts, and we ask for a listening heart. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Congregational Introit

Covenant Prayer

W & S 3115

1. Lord, I am not mine, but yours alone. Let your will be done and not my own.
Put me where you will, and let me serve; in everything I do, let me endure.

Refrain

This is my prayer, Lord, to you.
My promise and my vow, strong and true.
And the covenant I make on earth,
let it be fulfilled in heaven. Amen.

Welcome

† Opening Hymn

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

UMH 103

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;
thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
4. Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render: O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hidest thee.

Blessing for Young Hearts

Elementary aged children will be excused for a time of teaching.

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

Proverbs 3:13-18 (CEB)

Happy are those who find wisdom
and those who gain understanding.
Her profit is better than silver,
and her gain better than gold.
Her value exceeds pearls;
all you desire can't compare with her.
In her right hand is a long life;
in her left are wealth and honor.
Her ways are pleasant;
all her paths are peaceful.
She is a tree of life to those who embrace her;
those who hold her tight are happy.

1 Kings 3:5-12 (CEB)

The Lord appeared to Solomon at Gibeon in a dream at night. God said, “Ask whatever you wish, and I’ll give it to you.”

Solomon responded, “You showed so much kindness to your servant my father David when he walked before you in truth, righteousness, and with a heart true to you. You’ve kept this great loyalty and kindness for him and have now given him a son to sit on his throne. And now, Lord my God, you have made me, your servant, king in my father David’s place. But I’m young and inexperienced. I know next to nothing. But I’m here, your servant, in the middle of the people you have chosen, a large population that can’t be numbered or counted due to its vast size. Please give your servant a discerning mind in order to govern your people and to distinguish good from evil, because no one is able to govern this important people of yours without your help.”

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had made this request. God said to him, “Because you have asked for this instead of requesting long life, wealth, or victory over your enemies—asking for discernment so as to acquire good judgment— I will now do just what you said. Look, I hereby give you a wise and understanding mind. There has been no one like you before now, nor will there be anyone like you afterward.

Scriptural Response

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

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

Anthem

Praise the Source of Faith and Learning

TFWS 2004

Message

We Don’t Need More Money

Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Arr. J.P. Taylor
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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: Keeper of the Covenant, we say we want wisdom, and we squander what we already know of your ways. We ask you for more, and we forget to listen. Forgive us. Give us listening hearts, and teach us to pray before we choose how to use what you have given us. Turn our greed to gratitude and our pettiness to praise, through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

One: Hear the good news: wisdom is a tree of life to those who embrace her. God hears our prayers and answers with grace. 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, 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.

Communion Song *Come, Share the Lord* TFWS 2269

1. We gather here in Jesus' name,
his love is burning in our hearts like living flame;
for through the loving Son the Father makes us one:
Come, take the bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.
2. No one is a stranger here, everyone belongs;
finding our forgiveness here, we in turn forgive all wrongs.
3. He joins us here, he breaks the bread, the Lord
who pours the cup is risen from the dead;
the one we love the most is now our gracious host:
Come, take the bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.

4. We are now a family of which the Lord is head;
though unseen he meets us here in the breaking of the bread.
5. We'll gather soon where angels sing;
we'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King.
now we anticipate the feast for which we wait:
Come, take the bread; come, drink the wine; come, share the Lord.

Prayer After Communion

WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

† Closing Hymn

Be Thou My Vision

UMH 451

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.
2. Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.
3. Great God of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

† Benediction

Postlude

Psalm 19

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

Flowers: in gratitude for the choir for their inspiring music
Liturgist: Joyce Theilacker
Organist: Robert Wuertz
Pianist: Rebecca Cosford
Ushers: Beau Brandon, Dan Martin, Lon Showley, Don Rushing
Communion Servers: Paul, Colin & Evan Crowder
Tech Team: AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

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 Wyer, NS Executive Director