

A close-up photograph of a Scrabble board. The wooden tiles are arranged to spell out 'THE POWER WORDS' in a zig-zag pattern. The tiles are light-colored wood with black letters and numbers indicating their point values. The board has a grid of squares, some of which are colored blue or pink to indicate special scoring zones. A semi-transparent dark grey rectangle is overlaid on the top half of the image, containing a church logo and the text 'LA JOLLA UNITED METHODIST'.

LA JOLLA  
UNITED METHODIST

Sunday, May 12, 2024  
Seventh Sunday of Easter  
[www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org](http://www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org)



## WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

**Gathering Music**

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

Beethoven/Arr. Larson  
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### Call to Worship

One: In the knowledge of all we have been,

**All: In the hope of all we will become,**

One: You are God... In the stillness,

**All: You are God.**

One: In the unknowing,

**All: You are God.**

One: In the hoping,

**All: You are God.**

One: In the fear,

**All: You are God.**

One: In the brokenness,

**All: You are God.**

One: In the grieving,

**All: You are God.**

One: In the living,

**All: You are God.**

One: In the losing,

**All: You are God.**

One: In the finding, in the frustration, in the relationships, in the joy, in the solitude, in community,

**All: You are God.**

One: Yesterday, today, and always,

**All: You are God.**

### Introit

*Confession*

W & S 3138

Chancel Choir and Congregation

Congregation:

We humbly ask the mercy of your love.

Choir:

For words we've said and haven't said.

Congregation:

We humbly ask the mercy of your love.

Choir:

For what we've done and left undone.

Congregation:

We humbly ask the mercy of your love.

Choir:

For harm we've planned and scars we've left.

Congregation:

We humbly ask the mercy of your love.

Choir:

For promises we haven't kept.

Congregation:

We humbly ask the mercy of your love.

Choir:

For words we've said and haven't said.

Congregation:

We humbly ask the mercy of your love.

## Welcome

### † Opening Hymn

*O Christ, When You Ascended*

W & S 3087

1. O Christ, when you ascended, you took your rightful throne;  
Your time on earth had ended — yet we weren't left alone.  
You reign o'er earth and heaven; your Spirit guides our way.  
Your prayers uphold your people; you lead your church each day.
2. We look at earthly rulers and see what they command:  
We note their years of power, the borders of their land.  
Yet, Lord, you are not bounded by things like time and space;  
Your reign is never-ending, you rule in every place.
3. We're tempted, Lord, to leave you in stories nicely told;  
Sometimes we don't believe you and say your ways are old.  
Sometimes we feel so lonely and live in doubt and fear—  
But your ascension means, Lord, you're present with us here.
4. It's often quite a challenge to follow in your Way;  
We're easily distracted! It's hard, Lord, to obey.

Sometimes we give you Sundays—an hour, maybe two—  
But your ascension means, Lord, all life belongs to you.

5. One day, O Lord we'll know you, as we are fully known;  
one day this world of sinners will bow before your throne.  
One day, God's whole creation will sing and praise your name;  
on earth as no in heaven, we'll celebrate your reign.

## **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, 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**

*Let the Words of My Mouth*

Arr. Donald Moore  
©1994 Belwin-Mills Publishing Co.

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

### **Scripture**

Psalm 46: 1-5, 9-10 (NRSVue)

<sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,

<sup>3</sup>though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult. *Selah*

<sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.

<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.

<sup>9</sup>He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;  
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;  
he burns the shields with fire.

<sup>10</sup>“Be still, and know that I am God!  
I am exalted among the nations;  
I am exalted in the earth.”

John 17: 7-11 (NRSVue)

(Jesus prayed...)

<sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me comes from you. <sup>8</sup>For I gave them the words you gave me and they accepted them. They knew with certainty that I came from you, and they believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I pray for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given me, for they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All I have is yours, and all you have is mine. And glory has come to me through them. <sup>11</sup>I will remain in the world no longer, but they are still in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one.”

### Scriptural Response

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

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

### Anthem

*There Is a Redeemer*  
Chancel Choir, Sue Boles, Flute

Melody Green/Arr. Benjamin Harlan  
©2000 BMG Songs, Inc.

### Message

“...and know that I am God.”

Rev. Tara Limbaugh

## WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

### Response to the Word

### Invitation to the Offering

### Offertory

*Nocturn*

Mark Dorian  
©2007 Dorian Music

### † 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

One: Let us join our hearts and voices in prayer.

**All: Gracious God, we bring ourselves before you knowing that we yearn to trust you more than we actually do. We can be stubborn and sure our ideas are best, and we fail to trust that you may show us another way of thinking. Today we acknowledge our distrust, nodding to it as a former acquaintance, then we step away and put our trust in the knowledge that we are loved beyond measure.**

One: Beloved of God, hear and believe the good news: Wisdom is calling to us even now. Hear her beckon us back to God. Trust in God's love. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

## WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

### † Closing Hymn

*Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise*

UMH 312

1. Hail the day that sees him rise, Alleluia!  
To his throne beyond the skies, Alleluia!  
Christ, awhile to mortals given, Alleluia!  
Blessings on his church below, Alleluia!
2. There the glorious triumph waits; Alleluia!  
Lift your heads, eternal gates, Alleluia!  
Christ hath conquered earth and sin, Alleluia!  
Take the King of glory in, Alleluia!
3. See! the heaven its Lord receives, Alleluia!  
Yet he loves the earth he leaves, Alleluia!  
Though returning to his throne, Alleluia!  
Still he calls the world his own, Alleluia!
4. See! he lifts his hands above, Alleluia!  
See! he shows the prints of love, Alleluia!  
Hark! his gracious lips bestow, Alleluia!  
Blessings on his church below, Alleluia!

### † Benediction

### Postlude

*To God Be the Glory*

Mark Hayes  
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**Elements of this Worship service were drawn from services that took place at the postponed 2020 General Conference of The United Methodist Church.**

<b>Call to Worship</b>	Opening Worship <i>Rev. Dr. Robert Lopez, Rio Texas Conference</i>
<b>Blessing for Young Hearts</b>	Young People's Address <i>Alejandra Salemi &amp; Senesie Arunab Rogers, Florida Conference &amp; West Africa Conference</i>
<b>Pastoral Prayer</b>	Day 3 Morning Worship <i>Rev. Vienna Mutezo &amp; Rev. Dr. Stephanie Moore, Zimbabwe West Conference &amp; Western North Carolina Conference</i>
<b>Invitation to the Offering</b>	Day 7 Morning Worship <i>Bishop David Wilson, Great Plains Episcopal Area</i>
<b>Prayer of Confession</b>	Day 2 Morning Worship <i>Rev. Erica Robinson-Johnson, New England Conference</i>
<b>Benediction</b>	Day 5 Morning Worship <i>Bishop Karen Oliveto, Mountain Sky Conference</i>

<b>Flowers:</b>	Charlie & George Ann Wurster in memory of parents Charles & Dorothy Wurster and Frank & Ruth Stewart
<b>Liturgist:</b>	Lisa Corpron
<b>Organist:</b>	Robert Wuertz
<b>Accompanist:</b>	Rebecca Cosford
<b>Ushers:</b>	Rod Betts, Dave Grundies, Peter McCreight, Lon Showley
<b>Tech Team:</b>	AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

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**LJUMC Ministry Team**

Rev. Bob Rhodes, Lead Pastor; Rev. Tara Limbaugh, Pastor of Connexion;  
Bob Wuertz, Music Ministries Director; Theresa Erb, Office Manager;  
Emilio Valente, Information Technology Director; Erin Wyer, NS Executive Director