



LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST

The Weight
of the Word

Worship with Rejoicing

Sunday, August 4, 2024

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Gathering Music

He Leadeth Me

Melody Bober
2008 Alfred Music

Call to Worship

One: Family of God, what is our story?

All: We are part of God's good creation, created and sustained by the Triune God.

One: Family of God, what is our story?

All: Though created by our loving God, we have sinned and harmed ourselves, one another, and creation.

One: Family of God, what is our story?

All: While we were yet sinners, God sent Jesus to show us how to turn away from sin and toward the love of God.

One: Family of God, what is our story?

All: We carry the weight of the Word in our hearts, our hands, and our voices, proclaiming with our lives the good news of God's love and the mercy of God's grace.

One: Family of God, this is our story and our song!

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

Congregational Introit

Surely the Presence

UMH 328

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,
I see glory on each face;
surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Welcome

† Opening Hymn

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

UMH 382

1. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Thou art the potter; I am the clay.
Mold me and make me after thy will,
while I am waiting yielded and still.
2. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Search me and try me, Savior today!

- Wash me just now, Lord, wash me just now,
as in thy presence humbly I bow.
3. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Wounded and weary, help me I pray!
Power, all power, surely is thine!
Touch me and heal me, Savior divine!
 4. Have thine own way, Lord! Have thine own way!
Hold o'er my being absolute sway.
Fill with thy Spirit till all shall see
Christ only, always, living in me!

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

2 Samuel 11:26-12:13a (NRSVue)

When the wife of Uriah heard that her husband was dead, she made lamentation for him. When the mourning was over, David sent and brought her to his house, and she became his wife and bore him a son.

But the thing that David had done displeased the Lord, and the Lord sent Nathan to David. He came to him and said to him, "There were two men in a certain city, the one rich and the other poor. The rich man had very many flocks and herds, but the poor man had nothing but one little ewe lamb that he had bought. He brought it up, and it grew up with him and with his children; it used to eat of his meager fare and drink from his cup and lie in his bosom, and it was like a daughter to him. Now there came a traveler to the rich man, and he was loath to take one of his own flock or herd to prepare for the wayfarer who had come to him, but he took the poor man's lamb and prepared that for the guest who had come to him." Then David's anger was greatly kindled against the man. He said to Nathan, "As the Lord lives, the man who has done this deserves to die; he shall restore the lamb fourfold because he did this thing and because he had no pity."

Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house and your master's wives into your bosom and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah, and if that had been too little, I

would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and have taken his wife to be your wife and have killed him with the sword of the Ammonites. Now, therefore, the sword shall never depart from your house, for you have despised me and have taken the wife of Uriah the Hittite to be your wife. Thus says the Lord: I will raise up trouble against you from within your own house, and I will take your wives before your eyes and give them to your neighbor, and he shall lie with your wives in broad daylight. For you did it secretly, but I will do this thing before all Israel and in broad daylight.” David said to Nathan, “I have sinned against the Lord.”

Scriptural Response

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

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

Special Music

Power in His Touch
Lisa Corpron and Jayson Coleman

Colette Call
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Message

The Weight of the Word

Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

Peaceful Piano #15

Mark Hayes
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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: **Continue, O Lord, to extend your grace and mercy to us, your unworthy servants. We have failed you because you depended on us to be your witnesses, but we were too**

embarrassed to testify about your faithfulness. We were too busy to speak a word in your name. We are neither anxious nor ready to sit and reflect deeply on Holy Scriptures. Holy God, extend your grace and mercy as we ask your forgiveness. In order to receive your forgiveness, we know that we need to forgive everyone who has offended us. Help us to hold nothing against anyone, for that may jeopardize our gift of forgiveness from you. Set us free to live fully in you, and to love all unreservedly. We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

One: In Christ's grace, our hearts are cleansed and our lives are made whole. 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 *For the Bread Which You Have Broken* UMH 614

1. For the bread which you have broken,
for the wine which you have poured,
for the words which you have spoken,
now we give you thanks, O Lord.
2. By this pledge that you do love us,
by your gift of peace restored,
by your call to heaven above us,
hallow all our lives, O Lord.
3. With our sainted ones in glory
seated at the heavenly board,
may the church that's waiting for you
keep love's tie unbroken, Lord.

4. In your service, Lord, defend us,
in our hearts keep watch and ward;
in the world where you have sent us,
let your kingdom come, O Lord.

Prayer After Communion

WE FOLLOW CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

† Closing Hymn

Make Me a Captive, Lord

UMH 421

1. Make me a captive, Lord, and then I shall be free.
Force me to render up my sword, and I shall conqueror be.
I sink in life's alarms when by myself I stand;
imprison me within thine arms, and strong shall be my hand.
2. My heart is weak and poor until it master find;
it has no spring of action sure, it varies with the wind.
It cannot freely move till thou hast wrought its chain;
enslave it with thy matchless love, and deathless it shall reign.
3. My power is faint and low till I have learned to serve;
it lacks the needed fire to glow, it lacks the breeze to nerve.
It cannot drive the world until itself be driven;
its flag can only be unfurled when thou shalt breathe from heaven.
4. My will is not my own till thou hast made it thine;
if it would reach a monarch's throne, it must its crown resign.
It only stands unbent amid the clashing strife,
when on thy bosom it has leant, and found in thee its life.

† Benediction

Postlude

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

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

Flowers: In honor of Hayden Wuertz celebrating her 5th birthday, Happy Birthday from Grandpa Bob

Liturgist: Rebecca Tseng Smith

Organist: Robert Wuertz

Pianist: Rebecca Cosford

Ushers: Dave Grundies, Don Lincoln, Peter McCreight, Don Rushing, Russell Toppi

Communion Servers: Deborah Butera, Sal Butera, Debbie Lynn

Tech Team: AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

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