



LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST

Choosing How We Should Live

Uncommon Wisdom

Sunday, September 8, 2024
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost
www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Gathering Music

Come, Christians Join to Sing

Mark Hayes

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Call to Worship

One: Welcome, Beloved! Why have you gathered today?

All: We have come to worship God, who is the maker of us all!

One: What do you seek from God, our Creator?

All: We seek God's wisdom to guide us and show us how to live.

One: Are you ready to follow when God's wisdom leads down unexpected paths?

All: We will trust, and we will follow wherever God's wisdom leads us.

One: Well then, Beloved of God, what are you waiting for?

All: Come! Let us worship and seek God's uncommon wisdom together! Amen.

Congregational Introit

The Family Prayer Song

TFWS 2188

1. Come and fill our homes with your presence;
you alone are worthy of our reverence.

Refrain

As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.
We will serve the Lord.

2. Lord we vow to live holy,
bowing our knees to you only.

Refrain

As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.
As for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.
We will serve the Lord.

Welcome

1. Lord, whose love through humble service
bore the weight of human need,
who upon the cross, forsaken,
offered mercy's perfect deed:

we, your servants, bring the worship
not of voice alone,
but heart, consecrating to your purpose
every gift that you impart.

2. Still your children wander homeless;
still the hungry cry for bread;
still the captives long for freedom;
still in grief we mourn our dead.

As, O Lord, your deep compassion
healed the sick and freed the soul,
use the love your Spirit kindles
still to save and make us whole.

3. As we worship, grant us vision,
till your love's revealing light
in its height and depth and greatness
dawns upon our quickened sight,

making known the needs and burdens
your compassion bids us bear,
stirring us to tireless striving
your abundant life to share.

4. Called by worship to your service,
forth in your dear name we go
to the child, the youth, the aged,
love in living deeds to show;

hope and health, good will and comfort,
counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom
may your mercy know, and live.

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

Amen

UMH 904

WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Scripture

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 (CEB)

A good reputation is better than much wealth;
high esteem is better than silver and gold.
The rich and the poor have this in common:
the Lord made them both.

Those who sow injustice will harvest evil;
the rod of their fury will come to an end.
Happy are generous people,
because they give some of their food to the poor.

Don't steal from the poor, because they are poor.
Don't oppress the needy in the gate.
The Lord will take up their case
and press the life out of those who oppress them.

Scriptural Response

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

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

Anthem

Anthem of Fellowship

Jay Althouse

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WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

You Raise Me Up
Lisa Corpron and Sue Boles

Graham/Lovland
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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: Gracious God, we come before you today knowing that we often fall short of your call to love one another well. We allow ourselves to be blinded by wealth and power. We ignore those around us who suffer injustice, poverty, and rejection. We tune out the cries of the poor and those on the edges of our communities. Help us to see your great generosity, hear your word of mercy, and feel your great love for all who need your redemptive grace.

One: Our God of grace strengthens us to reach out in service to those who are in need. The lens of God's infinite love makes us aware of those outside our own communities, that we may see them as God's precious children and serve them in humility and joy. May we continue to grow in grace as we learn how to serve the One who calls us all. 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

Forth in Thy Name

UMH 438

1. Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go,
my daily labor to pursue;
thee, only thee, resolved to know
in all I think or speak or do.
2. The task thy wisdom hath assigned,
O let me cheerfully fulfill;
in all my works thy presence find,
and prove thy good and perfect will.
3. Thee may I set at my right hand,
whose eyes mine inmost substance see,
and labor on at thy command,
and offer all my works to thee.
4. For thee delightfully employ
whate'er thy bounteous grace hath given;
and run my course with even joy,
and closely walk with thee to heaven.

† Benediction

Postlude

Toccata in C Major

Zipoli/Edited Hopson
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Liturgical elements from *Discipleship Ministries (UMC)* and *The Abingdon Worship Annual*.

- Flowers:** In Gratitude for the Choir
Liturgist: Lisa Copron
Organist: Bob Wuertz
Pianist: Rebecca Cosford
Ushers: Cindy Rushing, Gail Chatfield, Ann Davis, Ann Gonsalves,
Janet Lind, Leigh Kramer, Jean Thomas, Betsy Witt
Tech Team: AJ Prat, Cam Rhodes

LJUMC Ministry Team

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