



LA JOLLA
UNITED METHODIST

To Testify to the Truth

Truth Telling

Sunday, November 24, 2024

Christ the King Sunday

www.lajollaunitedmethodist.org

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Gathering Music

Let All Things Now Living

Mark Hayes
©Lorenz Publishing

Call to Worship

One: Children of God, who do you follow?

All: We follow Christ, Ruler of us all.

One: Children of God, what kind of Ruler is Christ?

All: Christ reigns with love and truth, justice and mercy, compassion and peace.

One: Children of God, how will you live in the reign of Christ?

All: We will join Christ in choosing love, truth, justice, mercy, compassion, and peace even when our world tells us not to.

One: Children of God, come, let us worship God whose Love reigns over us, exemplified in Jesus Christ!

All: Come, let us worship! Thanks be to God. Amen.

Introit

At the Name of Jesus

Arr. Donald Moore
©1994 Belwin-Mills Corp.

Welcome

† Opening Hymn

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

UMH 694

1. Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.
2. All the world is God's own field, fruit as praise to God we yield;
wheat and tares together sown are to joy or sorrow grown;
first the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear;
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.
3. For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home;
from the field shall in that day all offenses purge away,
giving angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast;
but the fruitful ears to store in the garner evermore.

4. Even so, Lord, quickly come, bring thy final harvest home;
gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified, in thy presence to abide;
come, with all thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home.

Blessing for Young Hearts

Celebration of Holy Baptism
Isaiah Clark Tracy

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

Jesus, Lord, Hear Our Prayer

Arr. Donald Moore
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WE HEAR OF THE LOVE OF CHRIST

Scripture

John 18:33-37 (CEB)

Pilate went back into the palace. He summoned Jesus and asked, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

Jesus answered, "Do you say this on your own or have others spoken to you about me?"

Pilate responded, "I'm not a Jew, am I? Your nation and its chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?"

Jesus replied, "My kingdom doesn't originate from this world. If it did, my guards would fight so that I wouldn't have been arrested by the Jewish leaders. My kingdom isn't from here."

"So you are a king?" Pilate said.

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. I was born and came into the world for this reason: to testify to the truth. Whoever accepts the truth listens to my voice.”

Scriptural Response

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

All: Thanks be to God! Amen

Anthem

Lord, You Have Been Our Dwelling Place

Hal H. Hopson

Chancel Choir

©1995 H.W. Gray Publications

Sue Boles and Sally Strobl, Flute

Message

To Testify to the Truth

Rev. Bob Rhodes

WE RESPOND TO THE PRESENCE OF CHRIST

Response to the Word

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

We Gather Together

Arr. Jason W. Krug

Dorian Bells

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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: God of Grace, we feel threatened by forces that seem greater than ourselves. As Pontius Pilate taunted Jesus, daring him to spar over earthly power, we are tempted to lower ourselves to compete and compare with one another. Forgive us when we forget that we belong, above all, to your way and your truth. When we feel inclined to fight or flee, let us instead seek refuge in your wisdom and your grace. Guide us not to react badly, but to respond faithfully. Inspire us to answer insult with creative acts of love.

Let us trust not in our own power, but in the strength of your love, which reigns in the heavens and on the earth forevermore. Amen.

One: "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord, the one who loves you and frees you from your sin. 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**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

UMH 327

1. Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
2. Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
3. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.
4. Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

† **Benediction**

Postlude

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

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

Flowers: In loving memory of the love shared by Roger & Flossie Wiggans
Liturgist: Deborah Butera
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

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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