



**Reaching Up, Reaching Out
Welcoming Everyone,
Serving in God's Love**

September 17, 2023
9:30 AM

Order of Worship

September 17, 2023

"It's not an easy journey, to get to a place where you forgive people. But it is such a powerful place because it frees you." ~Tyler Perry

Boldface type: The congregation speaks in unison

WELCOME

PRELUDE

In the Garden
David Atkins, Pianist

(arr. Hayes)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Love one another as you have been loved by God.

Love has brought us here.

Forgive one another and self as fully as God forgives us.

Forgiveness has brought us here.

Put on Christ Jesus and let love and forgiveness guide the way.

Love and forgiveness have brought us here.



HYMN

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide; strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

#140 vs.1-3

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon, and stars in their courses above join with all nature in manifold witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain: Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

UNISON PRAYER

God of holy light, come to us in the midst of our gloom and despair. Teach us to lay aside the works of darkness, and to put on the armor of light. Help us love one another, even as you have loved us. Help us follow Jesus' commandment to love our neighbor as we love ourselves. Bring us into the light of your morning, that we may wake from the darkness of ignorance, and walk in the fullness of life. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Canon
Glory Bells

(Pachelbel)



Joseph's Brothers Go to Egypt

When Jacob learned that there was grain in Egypt, he said to his sons, 'Why do you keep looking at one another? I have heard, he said, 'that there is grain in Egypt; go down and buy grain for us there, that we may live and not die.' So ten of Joseph's brothers went down to buy grain in Egypt. But Jacob did not send Joseph's brother Benjamin with his brothers, for he feared that harm might come to him. Thus the sons of Israel were among the other people who came to buy grain, for the famine had reached the land of Canaan. Now Joseph was governor over the land; it was he who sold to all the people of the land. And Joseph's brothers came and bowed themselves before him with their faces to the ground. When Joseph saw his brothers, he recognized them, but he treated them like strangers and spoke harshly to them. 'Where do you come from?' he said. They said, 'From the land of Canaan, to buy food.' Although Joseph had recognized his brothers, they did not recognize him. Joseph also remembered the dreams that he had dreamed about them. He said to them, 'You are spies; you have come to see the nakedness of the land!' They said to him, 'No, my lord; your servants have come to buy food. We are all sons of one man; we are honest men; your servants have never been spies.' But he said to them, 'No, you have come to see the nakedness of the land!' They said, 'We, your servants, are twelve brothers, the sons of a certain man in the land of Canaan; the youngest, however, is now with our father, and one is no more.' But Joseph said to them, 'It is just as I have said to you; you are spies! Here is how you shall be tested: as Pharaoh lives, you shall not leave this place unless your youngest brother comes here! Let one of you go and bring your brother, while the rest of you remain in prison, in order that your words may be tested, whether there is truth in you; or else, as Pharaoh lives, surely you are spies.' And he put them all together in prison for three days. On the third day, Joseph said to them, 'Do this and you will live, for I fear God: if you are honest men, let one of your brothers stay here where you are imprisoned. The rest of you shall go and carry grain for the famine of your households, when they came to their father Jacob in the land of Canaan, they told him all that had happened to them, saying, 'The man, the lord of the land, spoke harshly to us, and charged us with spying on the land. But we said to him, "We are honest men, we are not spies. We are twelve brothers, sons of our father; one is no more, and the youngest is now with our father in the land of Canaan." As they were emptying their sacks, there in each one's sack was his bag of money. When they and their father saw their bundles of money, they were dismayed.



And their father Jacob said to them, 'I am the one you have bereaved of children: Joseph is no more, and Simeon is no more, and now you would take Benjamin. All this has happened to me!' Then Reuben said to his father, 'You may kill my two sons if I do not bring him back to you. Put him in my hands, and I will bring him back to you.' But he said, 'My son shall not go down with you, for his brother is dead, and he alone is left. If harm should come to him on the journey that you are to make, you would bring down my grey hairs with sorrow to Sheol.'

*HYMN

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

#400 vs.1-3

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams
of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of
loudest praise. Teach me some melodious
sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount
of thy redeeming love.

2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by thy
help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good
pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus
sought me when a stranger, wandering
from the fold of God; he, to rescue me
from danger, interposed his precious
blood.

3. O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm
constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a
fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to
leave the God I love here's my heart, O
take and seal it, seal it for thy courts
above.

SECOND SCRIPTURE

Matthew 18:21-22

Forgiveness

Then Peter came and said to him, 'Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?' Jesus said to him, 'Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.'

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal God, from the reading of the Scriptures, may your Word be heard; in the meditations of our hearts, may your Word be known; and in the faithfulness of our lives, may your Word be shown. Amen.



SERMON

A Journey to Forgiveness

Rev. B.J. Beu

RESPONSE

Sweet Hour of Prayer

#496 vs.1

PASTORAL PRAYER**LORDS PRAYER****PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS****OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Loving God, bless these gifts, that they may bring love and grace to your world. Bless our efforts to bring love and grace to your world. May this church be a shining light of love and grace for your world. In gratitude, we pray. Amen.

HYMN**To God Be the Glory**

#98 vs.1-3

1. To God be the glory, great things he hath done! So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

3. Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done, and great our rejoicing thru Jesus the Son; but purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God; the vilest offender who truly believes, that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice! O come to the Father thru Jesus the Son, and give him the glory, great things he hath done!

BLESSING**PEOPLES RESPONSE** **Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place**

#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 angel's wings, I see glory on each face, Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place

POSTLUDE

God of Grace
Richard Warne, Organist

(arr. Manz)

Prayer Request

... for Stephanie, a 39 year old just diagnosed with acute aggressive Leukemia.



Worship Leaders for Today

Worship Leader/Liturgist-

Pendra LaFee

Cantors-

Scott Bonhard , Sharon Holmes,
Laddie Perez, Priscilla Capulong,
Marilyn Nicolas, Sherry & David

Atkins, Laura Daillak

Pianist-

David Atkins

A/V Tech-

Scott Andrews

Laguna Country Staff



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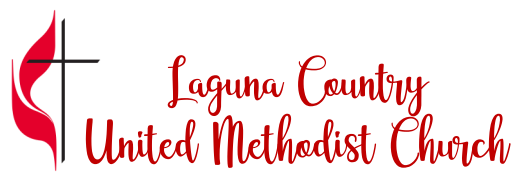
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