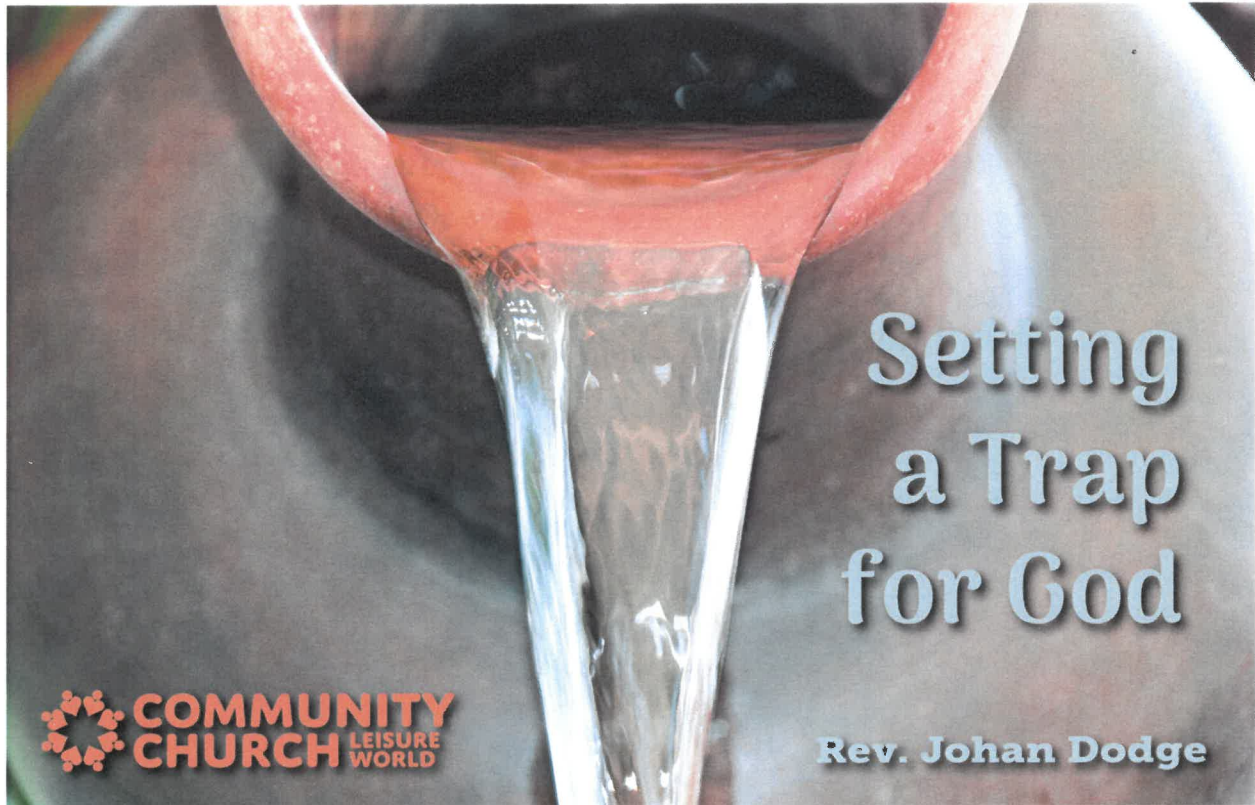




Setting a Trap for God

Rev. Johan Dodge



Leisure World Community Church in Worship *July 24, 2022*

14000 Church Place
Seal Beach, CA 90740-5307

9:50 am
(562) 431-2503

Our Vision:

To Be the Lantern to Leisure World

Our Mission:

Lighting a pathway into Community.

Growing disciples in God's Love.

Sending the Hope and Joy of Jesus into the Community.

Opening Announcements — Rev. Johan Dodge

Good Morning and Welcome to Worship!

Worship is often the first place that new people come into contact with this growing community of faith. And so if you are joining us for the first time, I say to you what I saw every Sunday. You are

welcome here. Here is a place where all are welcome. For such is the love of God for God's Very Good Creation. And if you are enjoying this worship experience, I invite you to give to God in support of this growing faith community.

[please stand as you are able]

CALL TO WORSHIP – “The Lord’s Prayer”

PRAYER OF THE DAY – Marylee Thomsen

Jesus Christ, teach us to pray, and to trust the hospitality of God for our daily bread, as our ancestors who ate manna in the wilderness. Let us likewise be hospitable, and as God gives the gift of the Holy Spirit to us, let us give good gifts to those who are in need. Amen.

Hymn: “Seek Ye First”

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

O God most high, you care for the lowly, but look down on the haughty. In your steadfast love, fulfill your purpose for us.

Gracious God, may we show your hospitality to strangers and be good neighbors of those in need.

We pray for the church and for all who work to give hospitality to others.

Gracious God, may we show your hospitality to strangers and be good neighbors of those in need.

We pray for peace among nations, religions, ideologies, and people.

Gracious God, may we show your hospitality to strangers and be good neighbors of those in need.

We pray for those injured by war, natural disaster, or financial collapse, all who cry out for help.

Gracious God, may we show your hospitality to strangers and be good neighbors of those in need.

We pray for those oppressed because of class, age, gender, ability, or sexual orientation.

Gracious God, may we show your hospitality to strangers and be good neighbors of those in need.

We pray for those afflicted by illness or overcome by the fear of death.

Gracious God, may we show your hospitality to strangers and be good neighbors of those in need.

Amen.

Anthem: "On Eagle's Wings"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION – Marylee Thomsen

God of Love and Justice, we are grateful for inheriting the tradition of the Scriptures. By your Holy Spirit, speak to us through your Word, that we may know the love and grace of Jesus Christ, your living Word made flesh among us.

SCRIPTURE: Marylee Thomsen

Colossians 2:6-19

⁶ As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, ⁷rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. ⁸See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. ⁹For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, ¹⁰and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. ¹¹In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; ¹²when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

¹³And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, ¹⁴erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. ¹⁵He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it.

¹⁶Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. ¹⁷These are only a shadow of what is to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. ¹⁸Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, ¹⁹and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.

Luke 11:1-13

¹ He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” ²He said to them, “When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. ³Give us each day our daily bread. ⁴And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial.” ⁵And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; ⁶for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ ⁷And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ ⁸I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. ⁹“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ¹⁰For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ¹¹Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? ¹²Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? ¹³If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

Message: “Setting a Trap for God” Rev. Johan Dodge

Question for Reflection: Rev. Johan Dodge

How does the translation of the Lord’s Prayer into Aramaic open the Scriptures for you? The author of Colossians will offer a list of rules in other parts of the letter, but here the author instructs the recipients

of the letter to not be burdened by the rules that have been the guide for some of God's people in the past. These now rejected rules had been used to exclude people for who they were. The author of Colossians, at least here, speaks an encouraging word for those who have been discriminated against and made to feel inferior. Where have we had rules that have discriminated or made others to feel inferior? Did those rules serve God's love for all of God's creation or did they serve humanities desire for power and control over others? What is one rule you might let go of today in service to God's love for all of God's creation?

Reflection: "El Shaddai" Hannah Yi, pianist

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING – Marylee Thomsen

Jesus teaches us that if we ask, it will be given to us. Let us participate in God's purpose, then, by giving generously for all who are in need.

[Ushers, please come forward]

Offertory: "In Christ Alone" Lisa Margaroli, alto

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING – Marylee Thomsen

Holy One, we give you thanks for your steadfast love and faithfulness. Bless these offerings and transform them into gifts of hospitality for those who need them most. Amen.

[please stand as you able]

Hymn: "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

BLESSING: Rev. Johan Dodge

May the love of God surround us and, fill us with divine creativity so that we may be empowered to bear the fruit of God's mission.

May the grace of Christ endow us with the wisdom to produce and share what each being needs to grow and flourish.

And may the Holy Spirit untie the tangled threads of destiny that bind us, as we release others from the entanglement of past mistakes, this day and forevermore.

Blessed Be the Tie that Binds

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love. The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above. Amen.

Notes and Announcements:

Flowers: Provided by Taylor White

Refreshments: Provided by Fellowship Team

See the sign up charts to provide refreshments or cover cost of altar flowers. Altar flowers are \$35. Carol Burge will coordinate arrangements in Sandy's absence.

Exploring Membership: Wednesday, July 27 at 11 am in the Fellowship Hall. This is not a commitment, simply an opportunity to meet others who are new to Community Church and learn about our history, our mission and our vision for who God is calling us to become.

From here, we will offer additional sessions as needed for those who attended this session and are interested in pursuing membership.

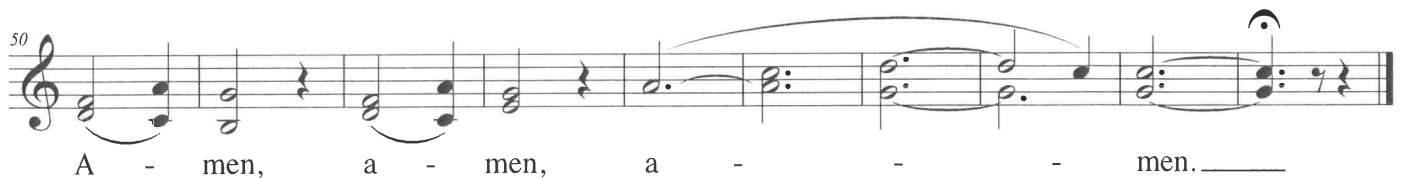
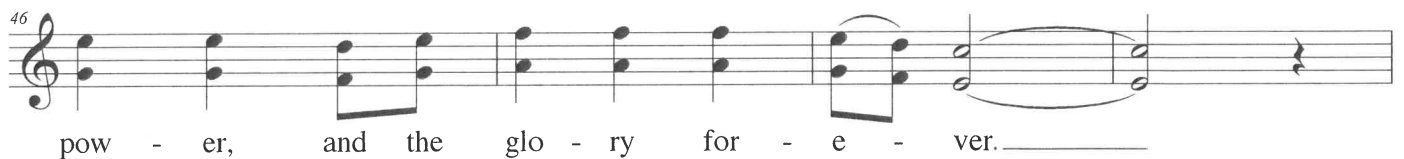
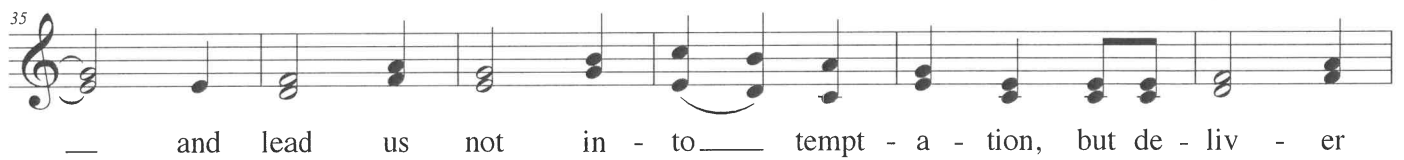
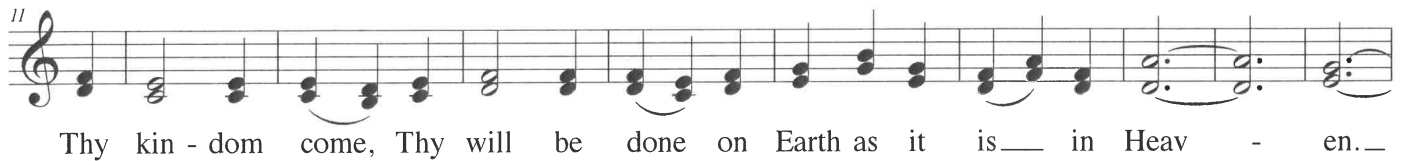
Please contact Pastor Johan or the church office if you plan to attend.

Please wear a mask: Due to the rising Covid cases in LW, we are returning to a masking indoors.

Reminder: If you have not yet received your second Covid booster, vaccines are readily available at the local pharmacies. Online appointments may be required. The LW Health Care Center no longer provides vaccines.

The Lord's Prayer

Transcribed and Arranged for Leisure World Community Church by David Albulario

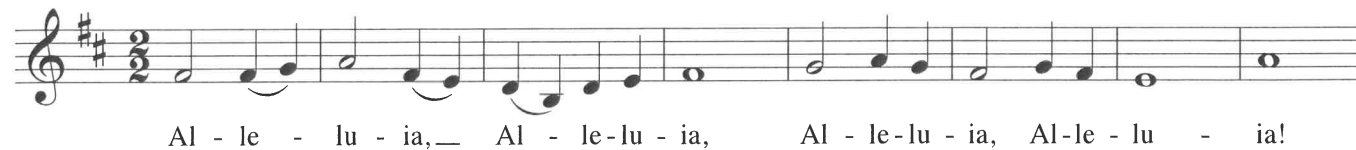


Seek Ye First

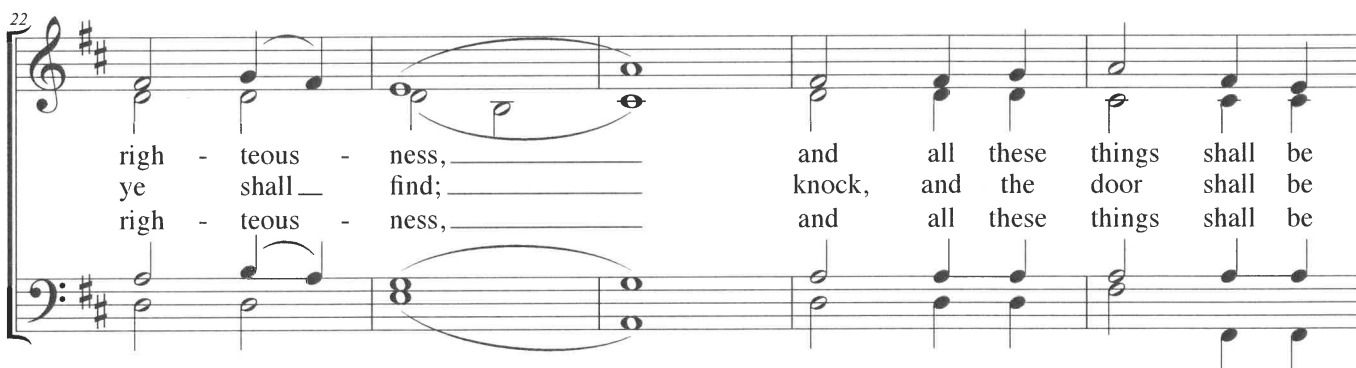
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Text Based on
MATTHEW 6:33; 7:7

Music and Words by
KAREN LAFFERTY



Seek ye first the kin - dom of Heav'n and seek God's
Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and God's
Seek ye first the kin - dom of Heav'n, and seek and God's



righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be
ye shall find; and knock, and all these things shall be
righ - teous - ness, and all these things shall be



add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, Al - le - lu - ia!
o - pened un - to you: Al - le - lu, Al - le - lu - ia!
add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, Al - le - lu - ia!

Let There Be Peace on Earth

*Transcribed for Leisure World Community Church by David Albulario
with hope for peace and refuge for the people of Ukraine, and for all the World*

Music & Words by
SY MILLER and JILL JACKSON

Flowing rubato ♩ = 100

