

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.

Leisure World Community Church
in Worship October 2, 2022

14000 Church Place
Seal Beach, CA 90740-5307

9:50 am
(562) 431-2503

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 – “Doxology”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY – Taylor White

God of our salvation, we thank you for the gift of faith. We thank you for all those who have taught us the good news. Kindle in us always this gift, this good treasure, that we may live the life to which you have called us, according to your purpose and grace. We pray in the

name of the one who abolished death and brought life to light through the gospel, our Savior Christ Jesus. Amen.

Hymn: "It's Me, It's Me, O Lord"

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Let us pray for the needs of the world, saying,
Great is your faithfulness; O God, we hope in you.

God of grace and God of glory, you care for the whole earth; even now you are reconciling all things to yourself. We thank you for the ancient grace given in Christ Jesus before the ages began. As age has succeeded age to this present day your grace is with us still. We rely on your power for all things.

Great is your faithfulness; O God, we hope in you.

We bring before you now the cares of the world. We pray for people enduring the devastation of war and oppression from enemies. We pray for cities and for public life that has suffered destruction and ruin. Bring restoration, we pray, and an end to conflicts that divide and destroy. Return us to your ways of justice and truth. Give us compassionate hearts and resolute spirits as we work to repair community and offer solace where now there is no resting place.

Great is your faithfulness; O God, we hope in you.

God of tender mercy, you hear the cries of the one who is suffering, of the one trying to recover, of the one who has been hurt by another, of one at risk in a complex and impersonal system. Enfold each one in your steadfast love. Take special care of those who do not, or cannot, cry out, but wait quietly in hope. Give voice to those who should not wait quietly; empower them with strength and support all around: the powerless one who suffers abuse; the person who is lonely, with no one to help; the one who wanders homeless among us, unnoticed; the one carrying an old burden, a silent grief, or an unvoiced fear. With the gift of life given in the soaring light of your gospel abolish the daily death they bear,

Great is your faithfulness; O God, we hope in you.

We pray for your church, so in need of healing and reconciliation. Rekindle in us the sincere faith of Christ and make us willing and faithful servants. In unmerited grace, in startling new mercy, you chose to call us not servants, but friends. You have opened to us a place at your table of grace. We would be good stewards of your grace and glad of the company you call us to keep around your table, which is larger than we have yet imagined. In gratitude for the bread and cup you share, we will honor you by sharing our bread with others, by offering without reserve the cup you bless.

Great is your faithfulness; O God, we hope in you.

In the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

Anthem: "Taste and See"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION – Taylor White

Holy God, through Christ Jesus you bring the light of the gospel into our lives as grace revealed. Help us to guard this treasure and to share it with others, too, so that the faith that has lived in our ancestors and now lives in us may come to life in every new generation. We pray with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Taylor White

Luke 17:5-10

⁵ The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶ The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. ⁷ "Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? ⁸ Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? ⁹ Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰ So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

Message: "Go Jump In the Lake" Rev. Johan Dodge

Questions for Reflection: Rev. Johan Dodge

In Luke 17:5–10, the disciples ask Jesus to increase their faith. How has the gift of faith in your own life changed over time? Was there a particular time when your faith weakened? Can you recall a time when the strength of your faith helped you endure? God often uses special people in our lives to help us grow in faith and understanding. Who has helped you grow in faith? Who would say you have helped to grow in their understanding of faith?

Reflection: “Come Thou Fount” Hannah Yi, pianist

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION:

We are pleased to offer both white and red grape juice. If you are afraid of spilling red grape juice, a limited number of cups with white grape juice are provided.

Invitation to Communion (Pastor Johan Dodge)

Here at Community Church we celebrate “Open Communion”.

Anyone who wishes to commune may come to our Lord’s Table. You do not have to be sinless; God forgives you. You do not have to be perfect; but God is encouraging you to grow. You need not belong to this or any church; God Invites all people to this meal. It is enough to love the Lord and follow Him with all your heart. This is what God asks us to do. Come to our Lord’s Table in faith this day. Go from this place to live, and never be the same again. Let us commune as brothers and sisters in Christ.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. In the beginning your Spirit moved over the face of the waters. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath

of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, Your love remained steadfast. Your Spirit came upon prophets and teachers, anointing them to speak your Word. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. At his baptism in the Jordan your Spirit descended upon him and declared him your beloved Son. With your Spirit upon him he turned away the temptations of sin.

Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people.

He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to this your Church, You delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, baptizing us with the Holy Spirit and with fire, as on the Day of Pentecost.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you O God, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; This is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

On the day you raised him from the dead Jesus was recognized by his disciples.

In the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit, this your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup.

And so, in remembrance of these Your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood and empowered by the gifts of the Spirit.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, showing forth the fruit of the Spirit until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

[Ushers, please distribute the elements]

The Sharing of the Bread

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

The Sharing of the Cup

The bread which we have eaten is a sharing in the bread of Christ. The cup over which we give thanks is the sharing in the cup of Christ.

Unison Prayer

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING – Taylor White

Before us is a world in great need, waiting in hope. We are a people holding treasure meant to be given away: the good news of Christ; resources of time, talents, and money. If we are to participate in God's steadfast love and mercy, we must give sacrificially to the needs of God's people.

[Ushers, please come forward]

Offertory: “Always” Jennifer Scoullar, soprano

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING – Taylor White

Gracious God, you are good news for a weary world. You are hope for people in despair, and you are home to exiles. Accept, we pray, the offerings we bring this day. Use them according to your own purpose and grace. In Christ’s name we ask it. Amen.

[please stand as you able]

Hymn: “Let There Be Peace on Earth”

BLESSING: Rev. Johan Dodge

May the steadfast love of God be upon you. May the grace of Christ Jesus our Lord be within you. May the abiding presence of the Holy Spirit uphold you. May you fulfill your holy calling by serving God and serving neighbor without thought of reward.

Blessed Be the Tie that Binds

Pursue loving kindness, godliness, faith, loyalty, endurance, gentleness. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called.

Notes and Announcements:

Flowers: Provided by Mary Martinez in honor of Karen Martinez

Refreshments: Provided by Virginia Olejnik

See the sign up charts to provide refreshments or cover cost of altar flowers. Altar flowers are \$35. Sandy Walker coordinates arrangements

60th Anniversary Tickets: On sale now before and after worship. \$25 each. Tickets are also available at the church office.

60th Anniversary Worship Service: Join us next Sunday, October 9 in worship as we celebrate God’s faithfulness to Community Church over the last 60 years and into the next season.

COMMUNITY
CHURCH Leisure
WORLD
60th
Anniversary

Blast Back to the 60's
for a GROOVY Celebration

OCT 7th COME IN YOUR BEST 60'S
ATTIRE ITS GOING TO BE GROOVY

\$25 Per ticket
Pre-Sale Tickets Only

Dinner:

Chicken Pot Pie, mashed potatoes and gravy,
wedge salad, Jello salad

Dessert:

Pineapple Upside-down Cake
& All kinds of other special touches!

Entertainment:

Select Theatre Club Singers

4.30 MOCKTAILS
5.00 DINNER

It's Me, It's Me, O Lord

(Standing in the Need of Prayer)

Transcribed and Adapted by David Albulario for Leisure World Community Church, Seal Beach, California

arr. by William Farley Smith

Traditional
African-American Spiritual

Refrain

It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, stand - ing in the need of pray'r.

It's me (it's me), it's me, O Lord, stand - ing in the need of pray'r. Hal - le - lu - jah, Lord, it's me! *Fine*

1. Not my broth - er, not my sis - ter,
2. Not the preach - er, not the deac - on,
3. Not my fath - er, not my moth - er, } but it's me, O Lord,

stand - ing in the need of pray'r. { Not my broth - er, not my sis - ter,
Not the preach - er, not the dea - con,
Not my fath - er, not my moth - er, } but it's

me, O Lord, stand - ing in the need of pray'r. *D.C. al Fine*

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

