

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 9, 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 – Marylee Thomsen

O Holy God who dares to call us beloved, you are our source of wisdom and joy. Your love and mercy transcends the artificial boundaries we have established and even reach beyond time and space to touch us here and call us to healing and unity. In

thanksgiving for your expansive love it is our joy bring you praise here in this place.

Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord!
God has blessed us and brought us to this place.

Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord!
God has stirred our hearts and made us glad.

Praise the Lord! Praise the name of the Lord!
God has shown us the way of truth and life.

For Sixty years, God has nurtured and fed us.
For Sixty years, God has shown us his grace.

For Sixty years, God has given herself in Word and Sacrament.
For Sixty years, God has empowered us with her Holy Spirit.

For Sixty years, God has made us their witnesses in the world.
For Sixty years, God has placed us in loving fellowship with one another. Amen.

GREETING FROM REVEREND SANDY OLEWINE – District Superintendent

Hymn: “Joy Unspeakable”

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Almighty God, we give you thanks for the work you have done in this place. We give you thanks for your love and faithfulness. When we called on your name, you made your presence known to us. When we prayed, you heard us. When we preached your Word and administered your Sacraments, you were in our midst. You have accepted our humble sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving. And you have sent your Holy Spirit to heal and comfort our hurts, our sorrows, our infirmities, and our losses.

Almighty God, break down those prejudices and barriers which divide us, and make us one in Christ.
Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Continue to empower us with your Spirit, O Lord, that we might proclaim your Good News to all people.

We dedicate our lives to your service.

Continue to comfort, heal, and lift up the broken and afflicted among us. By the promise of your presence, bring us your healing love.

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Show us how we might give care and support to the needy, and love and mercy to the broken and forgotten.

We dedicate our lives to your service.

Bring us at last to the joy of your eternal kingdom, where, with the faithful of this church who have gone before us and with all your saints, we may evermore praise your name.

Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Show us new ways of loving one another and those around us.

We dedicate our lives to your service.

Renew us by the Spirit, given at our baptisms, so that we might be challenged to move beyond our ruts, our apathy, and our anxieties of inadequacy.

Hear our prayer, O Lord. Amen.

Anthem: “Joyful, Joyful”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION – Marylee Thomsen

These are your words, O God. Humble us to speak their weight. Strengthen us to hear their truth. Unbind us to live their call. Through the power of your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Marylee Thomsen

Luke 17:11-19

¹¹ On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. ¹²As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, ¹³they called out, saying,

“Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” ¹⁴When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. ¹⁵Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. ¹⁶He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. ¹⁷Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they?” ¹⁸Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” ¹⁹Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”

Message: “Enjoy God!” Rev. Johan Dodge

Questions for Reflection: Rev. Johan Dodge

The Greek word for “Eucharist”—eucharistia—means thanksgiving and is used in Luke 17:16 to describe the Samaritan’s thankful response of faith to Jesus, who had mercy on him. To live a “eucharistic life,” then, is to live a life of thanksgiving to God. How are you glorifying and enjoying God in your daily life? What new habits or practices might cultivate in you a heart full of thanksgiving? The Samaritan leper was doubly outcast from the society around him. Is there someone in your own life whom you feel is an “outcast” to you—or someone you would rather not be associated with for some reason? Who are the “undesirables” in a larger sphere (national, political, or social)? How can you “seek their welfare”? How may you, in faith, reach out to such a one?

Reflection: “Because He Lives” John Fluker, pianist

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING – Marylee Thomsen

Practicing gratitude can change our lives as individuals; it can change our life as a congregation. In the spirit of gratitude to God, our giving is not reduced to ethical duty but is elevated to delight and joy. As we offer to God these measured gifts, let us also offer unmeasured praise.

[Ushers, please come forward]

Offertory: “I’ve Got the Joy (Down in My Heart)” Chris Wade, baritone

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING – Marylee Thomsen

Like the leper healed who returned to Jesus, like the Jews and Gentiles of the early church, like those of this congregation who have gone before us; we praise and glorify your name,
O God. You have given us more than we could have imagined!

The Lord God is goodness itself and has blessed us with sixty years of mission and ministry as Community Church. We are a remembering people, but we are also a people of this day, brought together by God to be a holy fellowship of believers: the Body of Christ, sharing, caring, working in the world, and living in the hope of the world to come.

Our eyes look back with thanksgiving. Our eyes look forward in hope.

Therefore, with thanksgiving for the past and hope for the future, let us dedicate ourselves and our gifts to the mission which God gives us as the Church of Jesus Christ in this place. **AMEN.**

[please stand as you able]

Hymn: “Let There Be Peace on Earth”

BLESSING: Rev. Sandy Olewine, District Superintendent

All the earth, praise God, for our God is an awesome God. May you be blessed with faith and made well. Step forth in joy. Walk out in song. Get up and go on your way, remembering to turn back in praise to God.

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 Greg Burrows in celebration of his Mother, Elaine Burrows, 90th Birthday

Refreshments: Provided by the Fellowship Team and Peggy Coles in celebration of Community Church's 60th Anniversary.

Lantern Newsletter: Copies of the October Lantern are available for pick up this Sunday if you did not receive your copy by email or mail.

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

Joy Unspeakable

Barney Elliott Warren, 1900

$\text{♩} = 113$

1. I have found His grace is all com-plete, He sup- pli - eth ev - 'ry
2. I have found the plea - sure I once craved, It is joy and peace with-
3. I have found that hope so bright and clear, Liv - ing in the realm of
4. I have found the joy no tongue can tell, How its waves of glo - ry

- need; While I sit and learn at Je - sus' feet, I am free, yes, free in - deed.
- in; What a wond-rous bless-ing! I am saved From the aw - ful gulf of sin.
grace; Oh, the Sav - ior's pre - sence is so near, I can see His smil-ing face.
roll! It is like a great o'er - flow-ing well, Spring-ing up with-in my soul.

Refrain

It is joy un-speak-a - ble and full of glo-ry, Full of glo-ry, full of glo-ry, It is

joy un-speak-a - ble and full of glo-ry, Oh, the half has nev-er yet been told.

*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*

Flowing rubato ♩ = 100

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