

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 *November 13, 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 say 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]

LIGHTING OF THE FIRST CANDLE OF ADVENT— “Wisdom”

Leader: As our nights grow longer and our days grow short, we look on these earthly signs — light and green branches — and remember God's promise to our world:

People: Christ, our Light and our Hope, will come.

Leader: Listen to the words of Creation:

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God

called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.
Genesis 1.1-5.

*[Candle is lit while All sing: **Christmas Doxology**]*

Leader: Let us pray.

People: Eternal God, your Word of wisdom goes forth and does not return empty: Grant us such knowledge and love of you that we may perceive your presence in all creation and every creature; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY – Virginia Olejnik

**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.**

Hymn: “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Merciful God, our salvation in whom we trust, you who are eternal, know our daily joys and sorrows and give us grace to bring our needs before you.

We pray for pastors, teachers, new Episcopal leaders and all the saints who lead your church. Inspire them by your Holy Spirit and help us to uphold them.

God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for newly elected officials and for civil servants. Stir them to heed justice and rouse the church to hold them accountable.

God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are sick or in trouble. Comfort them with grace and empower we your church to minister to them.
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for all who suffer the violence of human hands or natural disaster. Shield them with your holy angels and motivate your church to care for them.
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for all those who may live in fear of your judgment, who have known rejection, or who live on the margins of society. Show them the love that casts out fear and enable them to find a place in your church, that we may be a community of reconciliation.
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for our enemies. Empower the church to love them and to look for a day when we may live together in your reconciling love.
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

We pray for all those who suffer for the name of Christ. Let your people in every place be ready to offer testimony to the gospel and bear persecution with the confidence in your truth.
God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of mercy, our strength and our might, receive these prayers, which we offer trusting in your goodness. We ask in weakness according to our need, but you give wisely according to your gracious care for all the world. Therefore, we pray in gratitude and in hope, through our Teacher, Jesus Christ

Anthem: “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION – Virginia Olejnik

Almighty God, as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, reveal to us the way of service in your name, that by the power of

your Holy Spirit, we may not grow weary in working to bring your new heaven to earth. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Virginia Olejnik

Isaiah 65:17-25

¹⁷For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. ¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. ¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. ²⁰No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. ²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²²They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. ²³They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—and their descendants as well. ²⁴Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. ²⁵The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

Luke 21:5-19

⁵When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, ⁶“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.” ⁷They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them. ⁹“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹²“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; ¹⁵for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your souls.

Message: “New Heavens” Rev. Johan Dodge

Questions for Reflection: Rev. Johan Dodge

Jesus speaks of wars, insurrections, earthquakes, famines, and plagues, but instructs his followers, “Do not be terrified!” How does our witness to the gospel include resistance to our natural impulse to be terrorized by evil? What are ways that we might stay energized in the seemingly impossible task of being God’s love for creation?

Reflection: “Lo, How A Rose ‘Ere Blooming” Hannah Yi, pianist

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING – Virginia Olejnik

In a world filled with blessings we celebrate our privilege and our responsibility to share those blessings. Let us celebrate the God of overwhelming blessings by continuing our worship through the offering of our tithes and gifts.

[Ushers, please come forward]

Offertory: “O Little Town of Bethlehem/Forest Green” Jennifer Scoullar

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING – Virginia Olejnik

God of the wolf and the lamb, the lion and the ox, we give thanks for these gifts and pray they might be agents of your peace. May they serve your creation as we seek your new heaven and new earth. Help us take these gifts out into a world filled with distress and calm it. Help us take these gifts out into a world filled with pain and heal it. Help us take these gifts out into a world filled with silence and speak up; In Jesus ’name. Amen.

[please stand as you able]

Hymn: “Let There Be Peace on Earth”

BLESSING: Rev. Johan Dodge

And now may the God of our salvation, our strength and our comfort, guard your hearts and minds this day and evermore. Go out into the world in peace. Give thanks. Work for what is right.

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 Marylee Thomsen- in honor of all the Thomsens who have gone before.

Refreshments: Provided by the Fellowship Team & Jeanette Williams in celebration of Rodney's US Citizenship. Congratulations!
Veteran's Day will also be celebrated with gratitude for all who served.

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

Tree of Gratitude: Spend some time in prayer reflecting on the ways that God has blessed you this past year. Jot that note of gratitude on a leaf and stick it to the tree in the Narthex. Leaves will also be available to fill out in the office to be mounted on the tree. The last day to present a leaf is November 20.

Wednesday Matinee: Join us on Wednesday, November 17 at 1:00 for movie and popcorn. The movie, "I Am" will be shown in the Fellowship Hall. Invite a friend!

Pledge Cards: Thank you to all who have pledged for the coming year. Pledge cards are available at the table in the Narthex if you haven't had the opportunity to turn one in yet. Thank you for completing the card and returning it to the financial office.

Christmas Crafts: Join us every Monday at 10:00 am in Edgar Hall through November 28. Crafts and Chrismons (tree decorations) will be created in preparation for the Community Church Christmas Bazaar on December 3. Please bring a bagged lunch and a friend and enjoy the fellowship.

Sock It To 'Em: The annual sock drive for Veterans concludes this week. New men's and women's white socks (or cash/check offerings) will be collected before and after Worship or at the church office during the week. You may also provide a cash/check offering toward the bulk discounted purchase of socks.

Christmas Doxology

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

Words by
THOMAS KEN;
adapt. Dale A. Schoening

Traditional German Carol
O TANNENBAUM

$\text{♩} = 100$

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow, in ev-'ry gen - er - a - tion. Praise

6

God, all crea - tures here be-low, who gives to us sal - va - tion. Praise

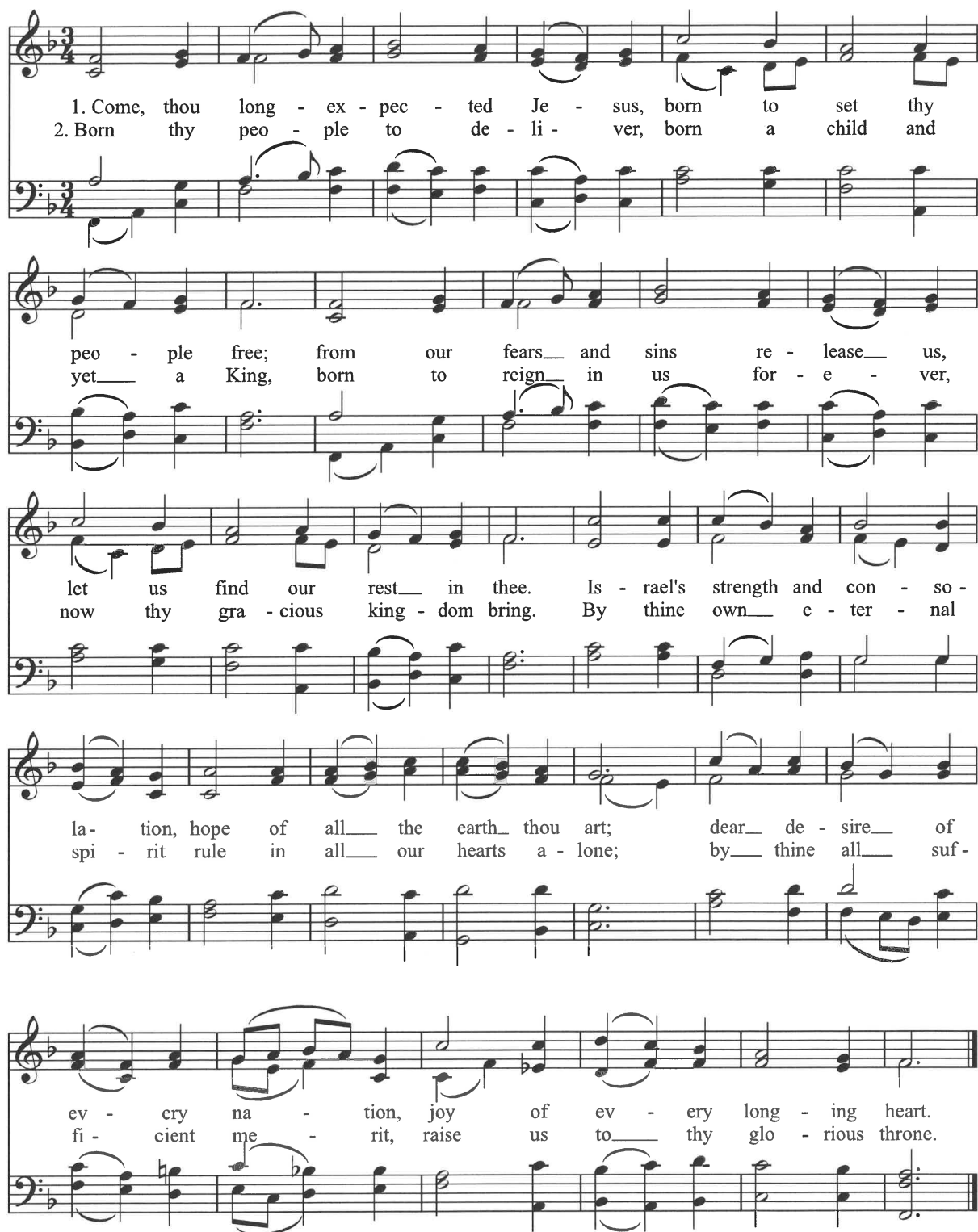
10

God a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host, Cre - a - tor, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Let

14

all cre-a - tion praise the Lord with love and ad - or - a - tion.

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus



1. Come, thou long - ex - pec - ted Je - sus, born to set thy
2. Born thy peo - ple to de - li - ver, born a child and

peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re - lease us,
yet a King, born to reign in us for - e - ver,

let us find our rest in thee. Is - rael's strength and con - so -
now thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By thine own e - ter - nal

la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art; dear de - sire of
spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone; by thine all suf -

ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
fi - cient me - rit, raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Text: Charles Wesley, 1744
Tune: Rowland H. Prichard, 1830;
harm. from *The English Hymnal*, 1906



87 87D
HYFRYDOL
www.hymnary.org/text/come_thou_long_expected_jesus_born_to

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

