

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 *January 22, 2023*

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]

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 – Phyllis Spencer

**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: "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Loving God, your light reveals the needs of our world and your salvation offers hope to the lost. Therefore, we pray for our world and our community.

For your holy church, that all the baptized may live in harmony with one another, and pastors and teachers may be wise and gracious ministers of the gospel;

God of light, hear our prayer.

For the world and for all who suffer the rod of oppression: break the yoke of violence, and free all people from the burden of war and domestic strife;

God of light, hear our prayer.

For the leaders of the nations, that they may be just and faithful in their duty and serve the good of all creation;

God of light, hear our prayer.

For those who suffer disease of body and mind, that they may know the power of your healing grace;

God of light, hear our prayer.

For those who have died and for those who will die this day, that they may find eternal rest; and for those who care for the dying that they may find peace and comfort.

God of light, hear our prayer.

For other concerns we offer in silence...

[Silence is kept to allow additional intercessions.]

God of light, hear our prayer.

Hear, O Lord, the cries of your people. Be gracious to us and answer us, for you are our salvation; through Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Anthem: “Shine, Jesus, Shine”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION – Phyllis Spencer

God, illumine our minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed our eyes may see your kingdom, our ears may hear the call of Jesus, and our hearts may know the joy of your salvation. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Phyllis Spencer

Isaiah 9:1-4

¹ But there will be no gloom for those who were in anguish. In the former time he brought into contempt the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea, the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations. ²The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. ³You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. ⁴For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian.

Matthew 4:12-23

¹² Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. ¹³He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, ¹⁴so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: ¹⁵“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles— ¹⁶the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” ¹⁷From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

¹⁸As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. ¹⁹And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” ²⁰Immediately they left their nets and followed him. ²¹As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat

with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them.

²²Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

²³Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Message: “Called Up to the Show” Rev. Johan Dodge

Questions for Reflection: Rev. Johan Dodge

What does Jesus mean when he calls his follower to be “fishers of people”? What must I leave behind to be a faithful disciple of Jesus?

Reflection: “In Christ Alone” Hannah Yi, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING – Phyllis Spencer

God, our light and our salvation, Jesus announced the nearness of your kingdom and called his disciples to be fishers of people. Give us courage to follow in the way of Jesus, that in joyful response to all good things, God has given us; we now offer our gifts, the fruit of our labors, and the dedication of our hearts for loving service in the name of Christ.

[Ushers, please come forward]

Offertory: “Christ, Be Our Light” Lisa Margaroli, *alto*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING – Phyllis Spencer

God of our salvation, receive these gifts we offer and bless them for the work of your kingdom, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

[please stand as you able]

Hymn: “Let There Be Peace on Earth”

BLESSING: Rev. Johan Dodge

Christ calls us to be fishers of people for the sake of his beloved kingdom. May the grace of Christ who calls us go with you. May the power of the Holy Spirit who empowers us sustain you. May the

salvation of God who loves us encourage you to invite others to come and see.

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:

Note: Coffee Fellowship following Sunday Worship is on hold until further notice. "Grab & Go" refreshments will be provided.

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

2023 Offering Envelopes: 2023 offering envelope packets are available in the Narthex. Please contact Virginia Olejnik if you have any questions.

January Lantern Newsletter: If you did not receive your copy by mail or email, please pick up your January Lantern at the sign in table in the Narthex.

Building repairs/upgrade help: Our 60-year-old building is wearing out and needs attention! Your assistance and support are requested. If you would like to donate financially (separate from your pledge) toward the current roof drain/repair bill of \$6872, please use a green envelope and mark "Roof Repair" on the envelope and memo line of your check .

Memorial Service for Rev. Kathleen Binder: A Celebration of Life Service will be held for former LWCC beloved pastor, Kathleen Binder, on Saturday, January 21 at 2:00 pm. Torrance First UMC 1551 El Prado Ave. Torrance

The WHOA Group! - Lay Leader, Prince Pierson and Chair SPRT, Taylor White are introducing the WHOA Group.

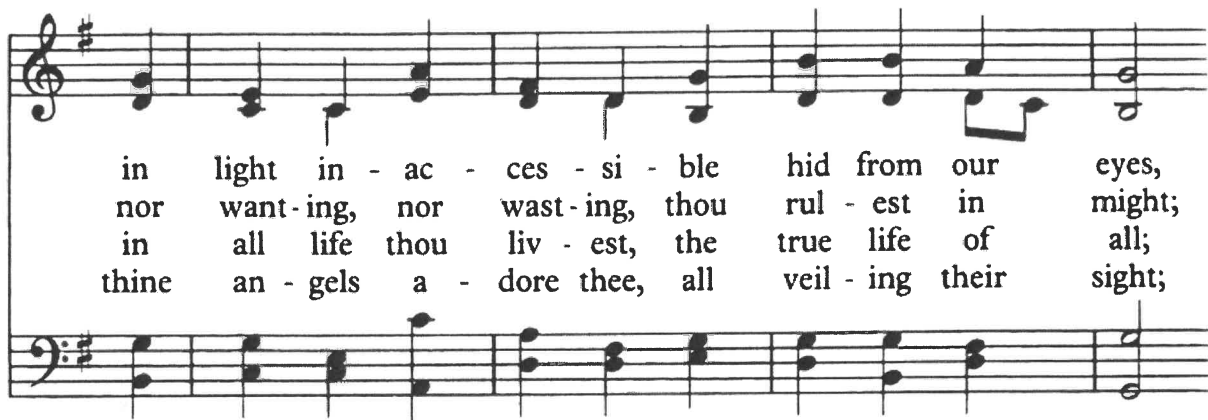
.... TO ENCOURAGE DIALOGUE AND FRIENDSHIP AMONG OUR CONGREGATION! ALL ARE WELCOME TO EXPRESS THEIR IDEAS AND CONCERNS

An initial monthly breakfast tea is planned for Friday January 27th, 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall.

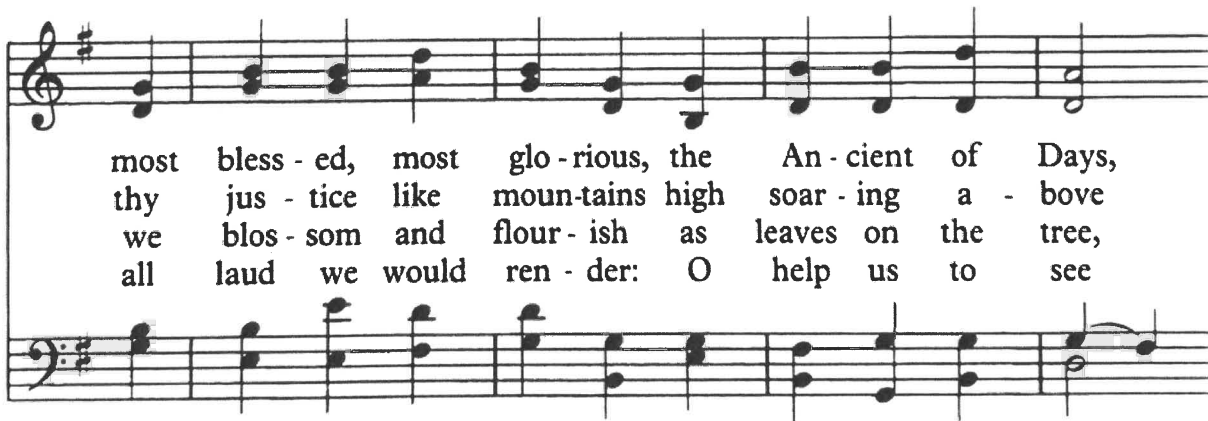
Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise 103



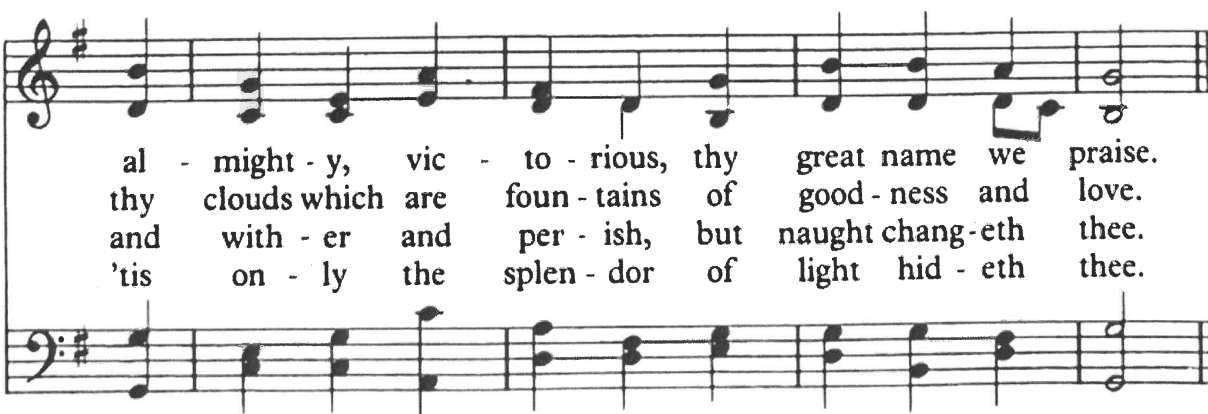
1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
 2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
 3. To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
 4. Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;



in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
 nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
 in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
 thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;



most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
 thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
 we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,
 all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see



al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
 thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
 and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
 'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

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

