



**COMMUNITY
CHURCH** LEISURE
WORLD

Our Vision: To Be Love to Leisure World

LIGHTING
A pathway into community

GROWING
Disciples in God's Love

SENDING
The Hope and Joy of Jesus

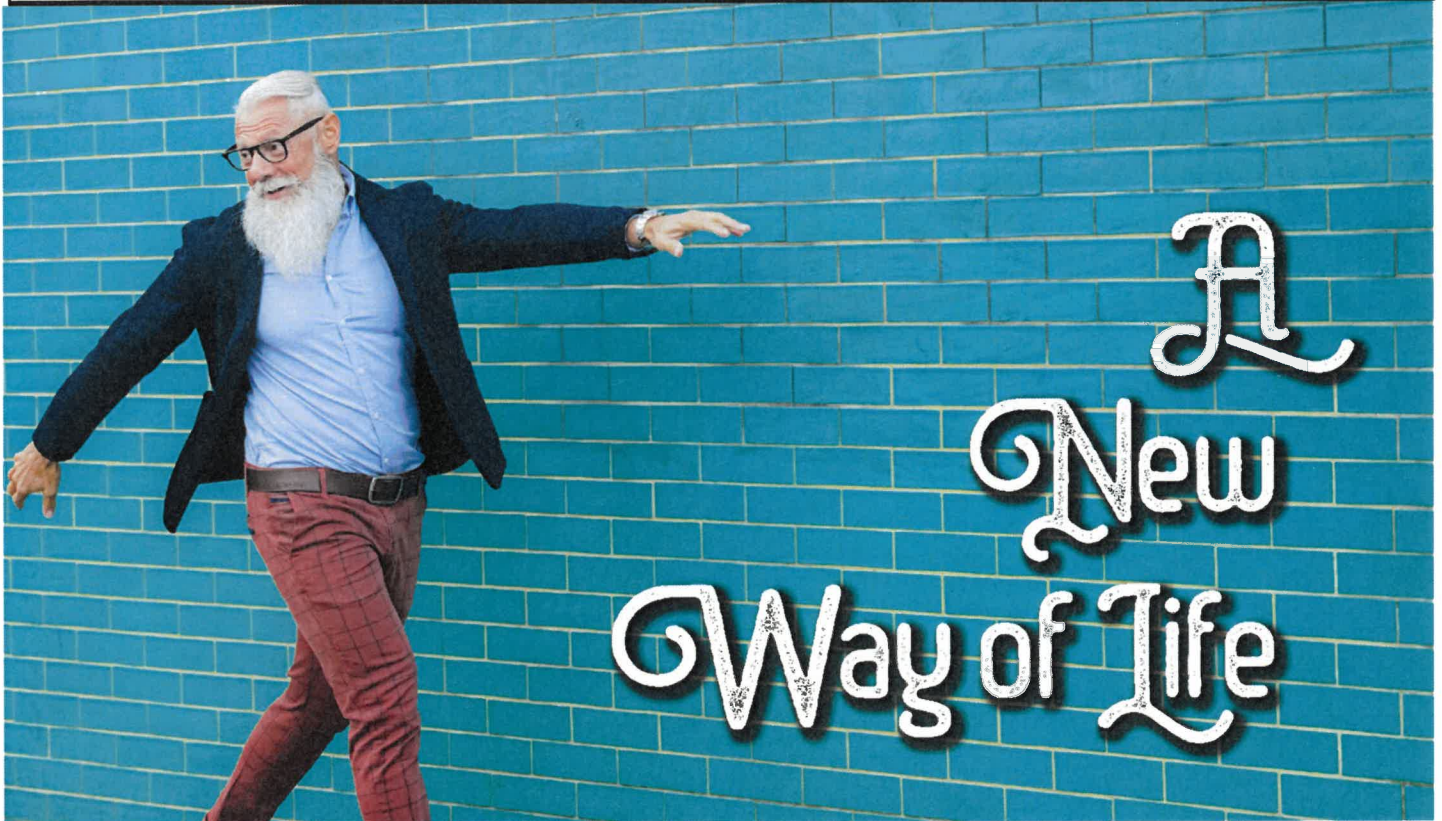
14000 Church Place

Seal Beach, CA 90740-5307

February 4, 2024

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 is said 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.

[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 – 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: “On Eagle’s Wings”

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

God of the universe, you sit above the circle of the earth, and so we
pray for the oceans and mountains, inland water and the air we
breathe.

Save and protect them, we pray.

Since the beginning of our faith, we have looked to you to gather the
outcasts, heal the brokenhearted and bind up their wounds.

So we pray for the poor of the world, the sick and the lonely.

God, you build up Jerusalem,
**and so we pray for our country, for all the countries of the world,
and for all of our leaders. May we all come to see that your
delight is not in the strength of the military but in those who
hope in your steadfast love.**

How good it is to sing praises to you, O God.

**We pray for your church, here and around the world. Empower
us to go from mutual to mutual, living the love of Christ.**

**Everlasting God, Creator of the ends of the earth, we bless you,
for you are gracious.**

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all
glory and honor are yours, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn: “Lord of the Dance” (“Simple Gifts”)

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION – Virginia Olejnik

Holy God, speak to us what has been told from the beginning, your Word that is the foundation of the world. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Virginia Olejnik

Mark 1:29-39

²⁹As soon as they left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰Now Simon’s mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³²That evening, at sundown, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him. ³⁵In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷When they found him, they said to him, “Everyone is searching for you.”

³⁸He answered, “Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.”

³⁹And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

Message: “A New Way of Life” Rev. Johan Dodge

Questions for Reflection: Rev. Johan Dodge

In the Gospel lesson Jesus takes Simon’s mother-in-law by the hand and lifts her up. She who is nameless, even as Jesus and the first disciples are named then rises, is healed and begins to serve them. Here again the author of Mark’s Gospel uses the miracle of healing to transform lives. Where have you experienced healing in your life? Has your healing prompted you to live differently? What was the difference? How might you share your story with a neighbor this week?

Reflection: “10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)” Hannah Yi, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING – Virginia Olejnik

Gracious God, you call us to follow Christ and spread the good news of your love for all people. Help us to offer all things to all people that we might become many through your good news.

[Ushers, please come forward]

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. Before the mountains were brought forth, or you had formed the earth, from everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God. You created light out of darkness and brought forth life on the earth. 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. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets. And so, with

your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

People: (Sung Response)

The musical score is written on four staves in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er, God of might, Heav - en and Earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Pastor: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, in whom you have revealed yourself, our light and our salvation. In his baptism and in table fellowship he took his place with us. 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. 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.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, 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."

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: (Sung Response)



Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and fruit of the vine. 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.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, 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 for ever. 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.

Offertory: "Come to the Table" David Albulario, *tenor*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING – Virginia Olejnik

We sing to you, God, with thanksgiving, making melody to you with our praise. Use these gifts to spread your gospel near and far, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

[please stand as you able]

Hymn: "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

BLESSING: Rev. Johan Dodge

May the Spirit of Jesus take your hand and lift you up so that you may spread the Good News of God's love for all of God's creation.

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.

*Music Team: Jennifer Scoullar, *soprano*; Dave Albulario, *tenor*;
John Fluker/Hannah Yi, *pianist*

PRAYER REQUESTS
FOR PERSEVERANCE: new Nancy Westcott – dear family friend, Shannon, cancer spread to liver and lungs. Will have a lung removed soon. Prayers for comfort and recovery. new Nancy Westcott – new neighbor, Rue, had heart surgery at Sanford on 1/29. Prayers for full recovery.

Notes and Announcements:

Coffee Fellowship: Altar Flowers are provided by Marylee Thomsen. Refreshments are provided by Jeanette Williams. See the sign-up charts to provide refreshments or cover cost of altar flowers. Altar flowers are \$35. Sandy Walker coordinates arrangements.

2024 Offering Envelopes: Please help yourself to a packet of Monthly Offering Envelopes in the narthex on the table. You do not have to be a member of Community Church to use them. Thank you.

Souper Bowl Sunday is just around the corner on **February 11**. Instead of bringing in cans of soup and nonperishable food items, this year The Missions Team will collect socks. Starting this Sunday, and continuing on Super Bowl Sunday, February 11, please come to Sunday worship prepared with **new men's or women's athletic socks** to deposit in the bin representing your favorite Super Bowl team. You may also give cash/checks toward the purchase of new socks. Please mark the green envelope and check memo line "Socks". The team will buy socks with the funds. Donated and purchased socks will be delivered to the VA Hospital.

2024 Church Directory: Copies of the church phone directory are available for pick up this Sunday. If you have any corrections or additions, please contact the church office.

February Lantern: Copies of the February Lantern newsletter are available for pick up if you did not receive yours by mail or email.



Notes from the Service

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There is no text or other markings on the paper.

Prayer Journal

Use these prayers in your time with God each day.

Household Prayer: Morning

In the morning, while it was still very dark, Jesus got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. Mark 1:35 As I turn to you in prayer this morning, God, bless me with a sense of purpose. As I go out into this day, show me what I am to do. Amen.

Household Prayer: Midday

God, you are everlasting to everlasting and the creator of all that is. Your compassion is beyond measure and so I confess to you that I have failed to be your love to you and my neighbors. I lift that one neighbor up who just gets on my last nerve. Help me to find and live your compassion for me as I share community with them. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Everlasting God, you have been here from the foundations of the earth. I give to you this day now ending, with all its gifts and failings. As I rest through the night, renew my strength and, in my dreams, lift me up on the wings of eagles. Amen.

My Prayers this week