

COMMUNITY CHURCH LEISURE WORLD

LIGHTING
A pathway into community

GROWING
Disciples in God's Love

SENDING
The Hope and Joy of Jesus

Our Vision: To Be Love to Leisure World

14000 Church Place

March 10, 2024

9:50 am

Seal Beach, CA 90740-5307

(562) 431-2503

Expect
Rejection

Do it
Anyway



Rev. Johan Dodge

**COMMUNITY
CHURCH LEISURE
WORLD**

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]

OPENING WORDS – Rev. Johan Dodge

From water to wilderness:

God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

On stone and in hearts:

God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

From the ancestor of nations to the Son lifted up:

God's covenant continues; God's kingdom comes near.

We follow Jesus on the Lenten path, for where he is, we would be also.

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 CONFESSION – Virginia Olejnik

Merciful God, we confess the folly of our actions and the hypocrisy of our complaints. We grumble about the evils in our world, even as we commit injustices and in our pettiness are often no better ourselves. We fret about the scarcity of resources while hoarding earth's goods and cheating you. We protest the problems of our world, but we do not actively work to address them. Merciful God, expose our actions and our inactions before the light of your grace. Heal our hearts and free us from our foolish ways that we me know the joy of eternal life in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS — Rev. Johan Dodge

Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Hymn: “Amazing Grace”

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Sisters and brothers, confident in God's love and mercy, let us pray for the world and for our needs, saying,

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

Holy God, you created us in Christ Jesus for good works. Help those who profess faith in Christ to do good in the world, following the way of life you have prepared for those who believe in him. For the church of Jesus Christ,

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

Your children walk by your light, doing what is true. Yet salvation is not earned by good works, but through trust in your grace. Dispel from your children arrogance of heart, that the world may be drawn to your truth by their humble witness.

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

In every age you call forth people of integrity to lead your world in the way of loving kindness. Help pastors and teachers fulfill their calling; give them courage to speak the truth in love, and shield them from temptation to misuse their authority. For pastors and teachers,

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

God, your reign encompasses all the earth, though the nations may rebel against your justice. Save the nations from the wrath of their disobedience. Help them to dwell in peace and promote the common good. For governments and leaders,

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

You hear the cry of the sick and the afflicted. Save them from their distress, heal them of their disease, and deliver them from the destructive power of suffering. For all who sorrow in distress,

Merciful God, hear our prayer.

O God, in Jesus Christ you have shown your love for the world.

Receive our prayers, grant us what we need, save us from perishing, and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Hymn: "Open My Eyes, That I May See"

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION – Jeanette Williams

Almighty God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, open your Word and illumine our darkened world, that we may see clearly and live faithfully by the light of your truth in Jesus Christ. Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Jeanette Williams

John 3:14-21

¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. ¹⁹And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. ²⁰For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. ²¹But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

Message: “Expect Rejection— Do It Anyway” Rev. Johan Dodge

Questions for Reflection: Rev. Johan Dodge

What does the light of God’s truth reveal about your life? Are there parts of your life that you want to hide from God? Can you imagine what it would be like to live completely transparent to God’s piercing light?

Reflection: “Above All” John Fluker, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING – Jeanette Williams

Church, we have received the immeasurable riches of God’s grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus; let us offer our gifts of gratitude that they may tell of God’s deeds within and beyond our community.

[Ushers, please come forward]

Offertory: “Earth and All Stars” Jennifer Scoullar, *soprano*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING – Jeanette Williams

Merciful God, we thank you for your wonderful works among humankind. Accept this offering with the dedication of our lives and help us be for the world an emblem of your steadfast love, in Jesus Christ. Amen.

[please stand as you able]

Hymn: “Let There Be Peace on Earth”

BLESSING: Rev. Johan Dodge

May the love of God, the grace of Christ, and the light of the Spirit bless you and may you go forth to share this gift with others in the way of truth.

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 Mara Williams –cataract surgery on left eye went well, the right eye is scheduled on 3-19-24.

new Nancy Rees – Relocated to Assisted Living in Huntington Beach. Gratefully she is feeling safe in her new home.

new Nancy Trujillo – fell and broke her left arm last month. It will take another 2 months to heal. She is left-handed so it is quite a challenge. Prayers for continued patience and full healing.

Notes and Announcements:

Coffee Fellowship: Altar Flowers and refreshments are provided by Mo Ashley.

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

Daylight Savings Time begins March 10: Time to “spring forward”. Set your clocks ahead one hour before going to bed Saturday night.

South Side Jazz Concert March 24: You don’t want to miss this upbeat, music from the “Golden Age”, concert in the Sanctuary at 3:00 pm. Light refreshments will follow the performance. A free will offering will be collected at the event. Invite a friend to join you.

Lent Study. This Lenten Season we are pleased to offer an in-depth look at the Journey of Discipleship. Pastor Johan is leading 6-week Lent Study Thursday mornings at 11:00 on Zoom. Please join at any time.

Meeting ID: 834 7260 6096
Passcode: 205414

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.

Please make sure your copy is updated to include the corrected information for:

Gerri Seaton.

1623 Monterey Rd, 20-L, SB 90740-5227, phone: 562-430-6147

Taylor White: email address – tw908686@gmail.com.

March 10, 2024



**GROW
PRAY
STUDY**

Notes from the Service

[illegible]

Prayer Journal

Use these prayers in your time with God each day.

Household Prayer: Morning

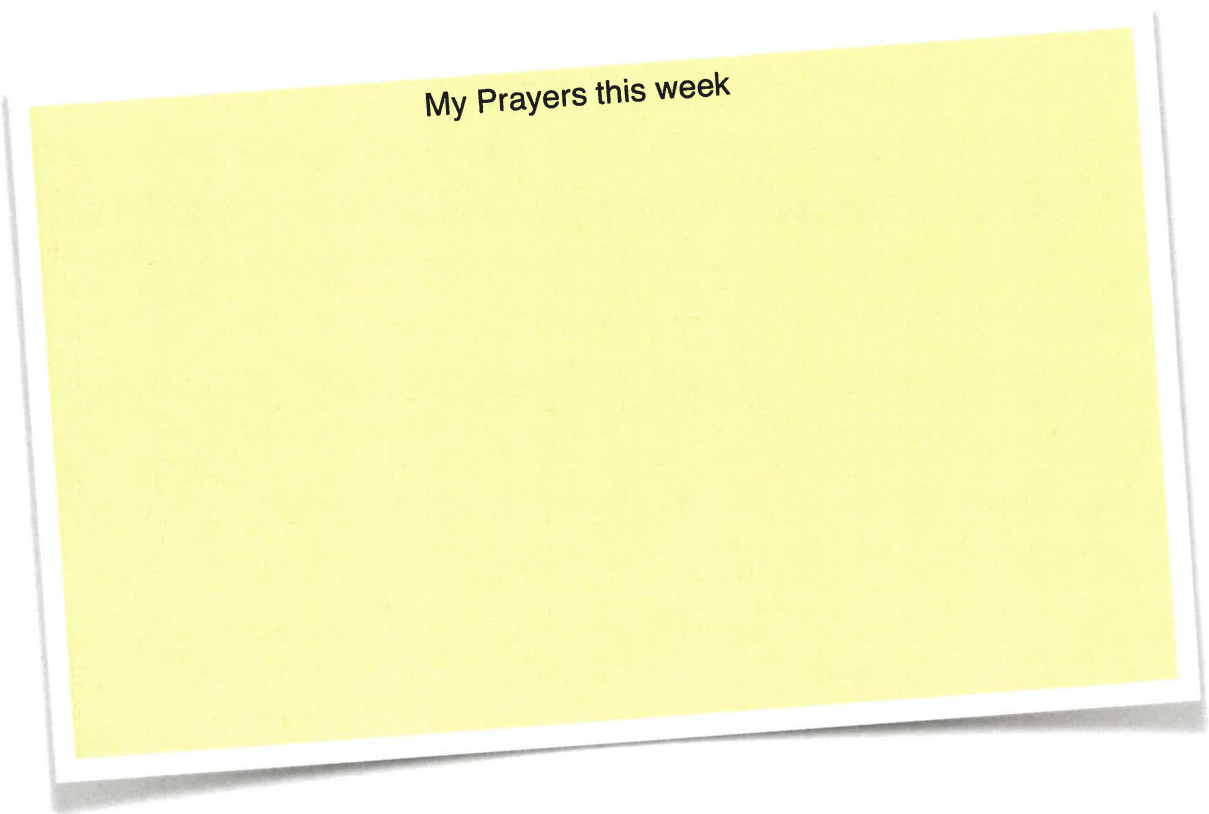
Loving God, draw me to your light, that I may avoid the dangers of sin and receive the freedom of your grace in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Household Prayer: Midday

Almighty God, through Jesus Christ you bring salvation to the world. Give me strength to believe in Jesus that I may share in his love for all of your creation and fulfill the purpose for which you have made me, for your Spirit dwells within me. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord Christ, as shadows of night draw near, sustain me by the light that banishes the fearful claim of death. Help me believe in you with all my heart that I may know the freedom of salvation and at last receive the joy of eternal life. Amen.



My Prayers this week