

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
Seal Beach, CA 90740-5307

Sunday Service: 9:50 AM
562-431-2503

August 4, 2024
🌍 *Earth Sunday* 🌍

Be Less Offended

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]

CALL TO WORSHIP: Doxology

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all crea - tures

here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye Heav'n - ly

host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY — Taylor White

Loving Creator, thank you for the beauty of this day. May we see your creation spark in the eyes of those we have gathered with today. Guide our hearts in this time together that we may learn how to go beyond our minds and our perceived offenses to see the diversity and power of your story. Amen.

HYMN: "Make Me A Channel of Your Peace"

Make me a chan - nel of your peace. { Where
Where

there is hat - red, let me bring your love. Where there is in - ju -
there's des - pair in life, let me bring hope. Where there is dark - ness,

ry, your par - don, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in
on - ly light, and where there's sad - ness, ev - er

20 1. 2.
 you. joy. Oh, Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er
 25 seek so much to be con - soled as to con - sole,
 30 to be un - der - stood as to un - der - stand, to be
 35 loved as to love with all my soul. Make me a
 40 chan - nel of your peace. It is in par - don - ing that we are
 45 par - doned, in giv - ing of our - selves that we re - ceive,
 50 and in dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life. Oh,
 55 Mas - ter, grant that I may nev - er seek so much to be con -
 60 soled as to con - sole, to be un - der - stood as to un - der -
 65 stand, to be loved as to love with all my soul.
 70 Make me a chan - nel of your peace. Where
 75 there is hat - red, let me bring your love. Where there is in - ju -
 80 ry, your par - don, Lord, and where there's doubt, true faith in you. *rit.*

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

***[A time of silence is kept between intercessions —
please use that time to lift those on your heart this day.]***

Loving God, open our eyes to the diversity and intimate connection between all aspects of your creation. Remind us of our interconnectedness with each other and every created thing.

Forgive our actions and inactions that have harmed the earth and your creation. Grant us courage and hope in the face of our warming planet to find creative ways to reverse the trend and do what is necessary to bring balance back to creation.

Strengthen us to go beyond our minds and act as your agents of change to restore all that has been harmed on earth and accept this prayer. **Amen.**

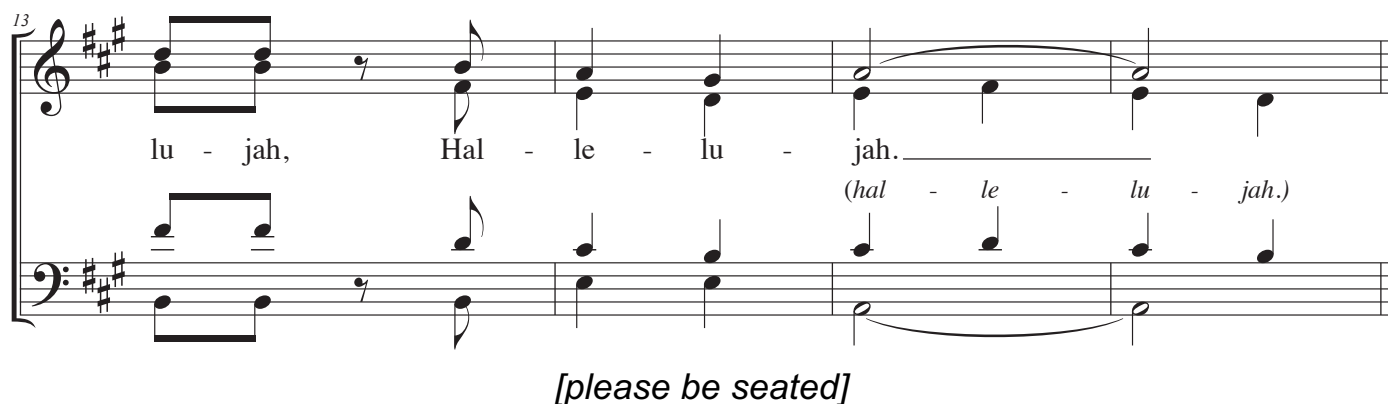
[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: “Halle, Halle, Halle!”

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah.
(hal - le - lu - jah.)

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jah. Hal - le -



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Taylor White

Creator of unity, Body of peace, Spirit of community, bind us together around your Word and send us out to do your justice, show your mercy, and embody your redeeming love, glorifying you, Holy Trinity. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Taylor White

Genesis 1:1-25

¹In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, ²the 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.

³Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

⁶And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

⁹And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. ¹²The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

¹⁴And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness.

And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, "Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky." ²¹So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²God blessed them, saying, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth." ²³And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

²⁴And God said, "Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind." And it was so. ²⁵God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

John 1:1-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

MESSAGE: "Be Less Offended" — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

The adage — everything old is new again comes to mind as we reflect upon the Scriptures for today. How do these insights impact your understanding of the Scriptures and how do the scriptures inform your willingness to see new things with an open willingness rather than with offended judgement?

REFLECTION: "All to Christ" — Hannah Yi, *pianist*

THE LORD'S SUPPER | HOLY COMMUNION | THE EUCHARIST:

We 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 — Rev. Johan Dodge

Here at Community Church, we celebrate "Open Communion." Anyone who wishes to commune may come to God's Table. You do not have to be sinless; God forgives you. You do not have to be perfect; God encourages you to grow. You need not belong to any church; God invites all people to this meal. It is enough to love and follow God with all your heart. This is what God asks us to do. Come to God's Table in faith this day. Go from this place to live, and never be the same again. Let us commune as siblings in Christ.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

[Ushers, please come forward and distribute the elements]

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:





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 our slavery to empire, 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:



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 a profound sign of hope in the midst of human darkness, that we may be transformed into the resurrected body of Christ at work in the world.

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 forever. **Amen.**

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.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Taylor White

Holy one, loving God, receive our thanksgiving for the wonders and beauty of your creation. **Amen.**

[Ushers, please come forward]

OFFERTORY: “Fill My Cup, Lord” — Dave Albulario, *tenor*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Taylor White

We give our gratitude to God this day for the wonder of creation: for our fellow creatures — the eagles that swoop and soar — the squirrels that leap and run — the fish in the ocean and the landscape in which we live. May the gifts we bring today serve to heal and restore your beloved creation, O God. Amen.

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: “Let There Be Peace on Earth”

Let there be peace on Earth, and let it be - gin with me. _____

Let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be. _____

_____ With God, our Cre - a - tor, _____ we are fam - i - ly. _____

25

 Let us walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny.

33

 Let peace be - gin with me, let this be the mo - ment now;

41

 With ev - 'ry step I take, let this be my sol - emn vow: To

49

 take each mo - ment and live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly;

57

 Let there be peace on Earth, and let it be - gin with me.

BLESSING — Rev. Johan Dodge

Be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit as it guides you out of ignorance and into greater acceptance and love for God's creation. Love with God's love, be at peace with yourself and with those around you; and may the Holy Spirit fill you with the love of God until we meet again. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris - tian love: The

fel - low - ship of kin - dred minds Is like to that a - bove. A - men.

Music Team: Dave Albulario, *tenor*
Hannah Yi, *pianist*

Jennifer Scoullar, *soprano*
John Fluker, *pianist*

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone,
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known ...
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:

"All are welcome in this place."

Doxology (*Old Hundredth LM*)

Music by Louis Bourgeois, 1551
Words by Thomas Ken, 1674

"Make Me A Channel of Your Peace"

Music by Sebastian Temple, Words adapted
from the *Prayer of St. Francis*, Matt. 6:12-15

"Halle, Halle, Halle!"

Traditional Caribbean, Vocal arr. by John
Bell and Graham Maule. Verses, alternate
harmony & accompaniment by Marty Haugen

"All to Christ" (aka "Jesus Paid It All")

Music by John Grape,
Piano Arrangement by Mark Hayes

"Fill My Cup, Lord"

Words and Music by Richard Blanchard,
© 1964 (Renewed) Word Music, Inc. All Rights
Reserved Used by Permission

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Music & Words by Sy Miller & Jill Jackson
© 1955, 1983; Arr. Copyright © 1991 by Jan
Lee Music, Beverly Hills, California

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds" (Dennis SM)

Music by Johann G. Nageli, 1768-1836
Words by John Fawcett, 1740-1817
Arr. by Lowell Mason, 1792-1872

*All music herein transcribed & adapted by
D. Albulario for Leisure World Community
Church, Seal Beach, California.*

LEISURE WORLD COMMUNITY CHURCH

14000 Church Pl, Seal Beach, CA 90740
562-431-2503
CCLI License No. 1872250

PRAYER REQUESTS

*If you are in need of prayer for any specific concerns or challenges, please contact the
Church Office at 562-431-2503. We'll include your prayer request in this space.*

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Today's flowers are anonymously provided, and refreshments are provided by Jeanette Williams. See the sign-up charts to provide refreshments or cover cost of altar flowers for future services. Altar flowers are \$35. Sandy Walker coordinates arrangements.

SOUTH SIDE JAZZ: Back by Popular Demand! **South Side Jazz** plays it all: cool jazz, funky jazz, and more. A group of versatile entertainers who love to branch out to play all different genres. They've been known to sneak in a little bit of rock-n-roll when needed – just a touch to keep the crowd moving. Mark your calendars for Sunday, August 11th at 3 PM. Don't miss out on this fun afternoon ... *and bring your dancing shoes!*

**"RETURNING HATE FOR HATE
MULTIPLIES HATE, ADDING
DEEPER DARKNESS TO A
NIGHT ALREADY DEVOID OF
STARS. DARKNESS CANNOT
DRIVE OUT DARKNESS;
ONLY LIGHT CAN DO
THAT. HATE CANNOT
DRIVE OUT HATE,
ONLY LOVE CAN
DO THAT."**

MLK

**MISS
REVOL
UTION
ARIES**

**"Control
how you
respond to
things sent
to destroy
your peace."**

Unknown

I have no energy
for hate- I either love you,
wish you well, or hope
you heal.

@_PAMMY_DS



**Power of
POSITIVITY**

**Why do we
only rest in peace?
Why don't we live
in peace too?**



**Power of
Positivity**

August 4, 2024



**GROW
PRAY
STUDY**

Notes from the Service

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

My Prayers this week:

Prayer Journal

Use these prayers in your time with God each day.

Household Prayer: Morning

Loving God thank you for this beautiful day that you have created. I awaken to the knowledge of your love for me and for the world. I ask that your Holy Spirit would abide with me and keep my heart generous as I am about this day.

Household Prayer: Midday

Take a few moments to experience this prayer in a natural setting; maybe it's your patio, maybe it's a garden. Be glad that you are outside and away from climate control for even a little while. Notice the bugs and the sounds around you. Maybe there is a bird singing in a tree or on a rooftop. Consider this question: are you a part of nature or are you separate from nature? After a time of reflecting upon the flowers, the bugs, and animals around you, pray this prayer — Source of all life, help me to see my place in your creation and to find balance and harmony with the life all around me. Let the sound of your creation lead me in singing a song of praise. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Eternal God, creator of the light and the darkness from which light came, this day has run its course and evening is now upon me. I know you are with me even now unseen and have walked this day with me. I am certain there are things I have done or failed to do for which I deserve your anger and yet I know you meet my mistakes with love. Help me to dwell in your love this night that I too may forgive those who turn my heart tomorrow. Amen.