

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 18, 2024

Sky Sunday



**COMMUNITY
CHURCH LEISURE
WORLD**

Rev. Johan Dodge

Firmament

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 — Phyllis Spencer

Our Father who art in Heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kindom 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 kindom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

HYMN: "Dear Lord, Lead Me Day by Day"

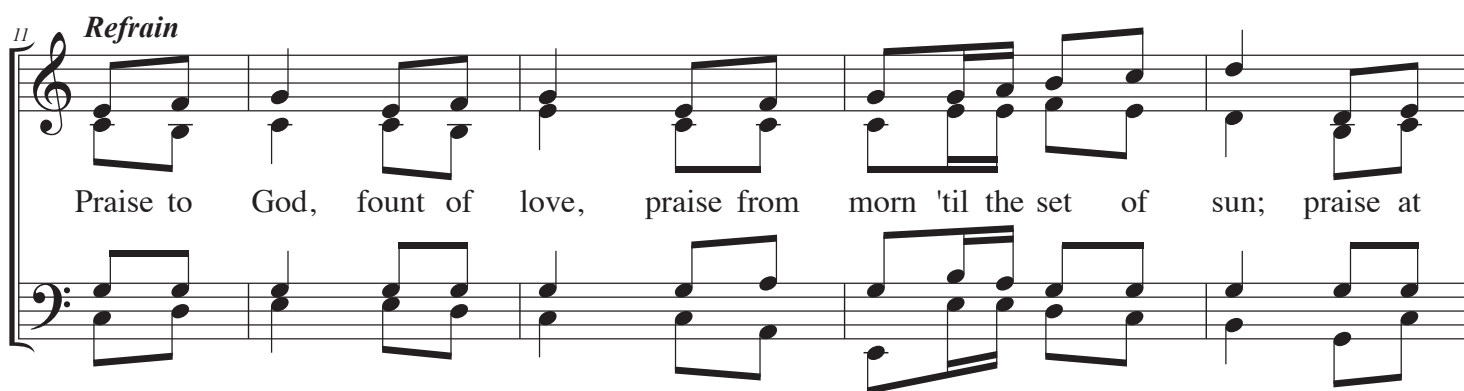
Dear Lord, lead me day by day; make me stead - fast, wise, and strong;
Dear Lord, lead me day by day; help me fol - low and o - bey
Now with con - fi - dence I sing joy - ous prais - es to our God,

6



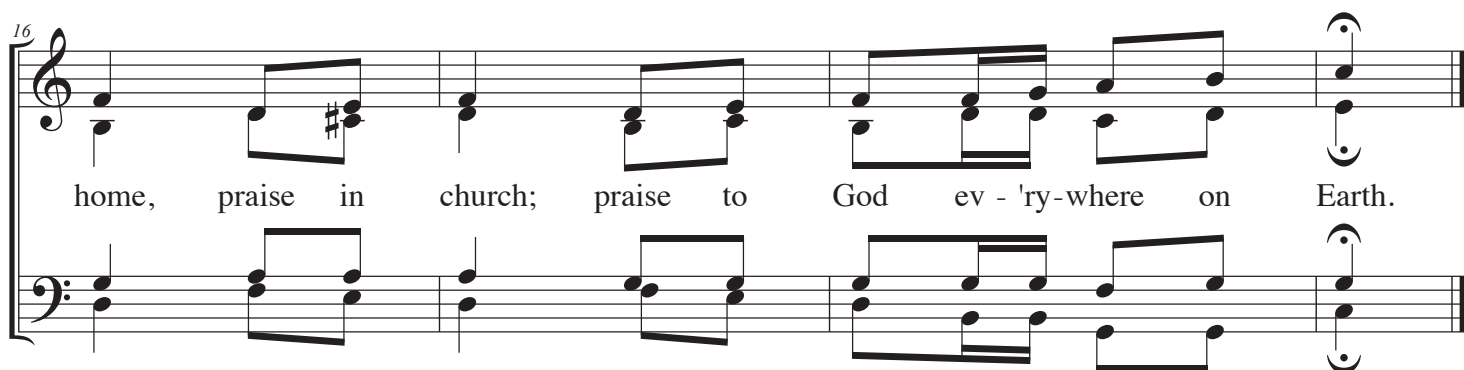
hap - py most of all to know that my dear Lord loves me so.
 faith - ful - ly your words of life, that your love ev - er a - bide.
 and with up - right heart I give ten - der care and sym - pa - thy.

11 *Refrain*



Praise to God, fount of love, praise from morn 'til the set of sun; praise at

16



home, praise in church; praise to God ev - 'ry-where on Earth.

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

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

Faithful God, you are ever mindful of your people and your creation. In your steadfast love, guide us as we pray for the well-being of your church, your world, and your people.

Holy and awesome God, we pray for:

Loving God, grant your church understanding and discernment to faithfully carry out your mission in the world. Cause us to walk in wisdom concerning your creation, mindfully stewarding its provision for all living creatures.

Holy and awesome God, we pray for:

Gracious Lord, give those who govern wise and discerning minds, that your way of justice and compassion may prevail among the communities, cities, counties, states, and countries.

Holy and awesome God, we pray for:

Holy One, guide us to provide food for the hungry, hope for the despairing, and wisdom for the wandering.

Holy and awesome God, we pray for:

O Great Guide, help us make the most of the time we have, walking in your ways, filled with your spirit, living out your love.

Holy and awesome God, we pray for:

Eternal Lord, in your steadfast love, let your wisdom uphold our ancestors in faith, the people in all generations who now rest with you.

Holy and awesome God, we pray for:

Amen.

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor;
Sum - mer and win - ter, and O spring - time and har - vest,
Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,
there is no shad - ow in of turn - ing with Thee.
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,
Thou chang - est not; Thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

13 As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
to Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

17 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by

22 morn - ing, new mer - cies I see. All I have need - ed Thy

27 hand hath pro - vid - ed. Great is Thy faith - ful - ness,

31 1. 2. Lord un - to me! Lord un - to me!

Final

[please be seated]

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Phyllis Spencer

Ever-loving and Eternal God, through the reading of holy Scripture, open our hearts and minds and nourish us with your living word. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Phyllis Spencer

Psalms 19:1-14

¹The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

²Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

³There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

⁴yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. In the heavens he has set a tent for the sun,

⁵which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy, and like a strong man runs its course with joy.

⁶Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and nothing is hid from its heat.

⁷The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul; the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;

⁸the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;

⁹the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.

¹¹Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²But who can detect their errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

¹³Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have dominion over me. Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable to you, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

Jeremiah 4:23-28

²³I looked on the earth, and lo, it was waste and void; and to the heavens, and they had no light. ²⁴I looked on the mountains, and lo, they were quaking, and all the hills moved to and fro. ²⁵I looked, and lo, there was no one at all, and all the birds of the air had fled. ²⁶I looked, and lo, the fruitful land was a desert, and all its cities were laid in ruins before the Lord, before his fierce anger. ²⁷For thus says the Lord: The whole land shall be a desolation; yet I will not make a full end. ²⁸Because of this the earth shall mourn, and the heavens above grow black; for I have spoken, I have purposed; I have not relented nor will I turn back.

MESSAGE: “Firmament” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

The prophet Jeremiah describes a time of darkness — mourning upon the earth. We know that solar eclipses were often thought to be times of God's anger in the past — the same with earthquakes and other natural disasters. Today we understand natural disasters through the lens of science rather than God's wrath. Where else might we need to enlighten our thinking to move away from the ancient understanding of an angry God? Where might a better understanding of our loving God impact how we judge or rather stop judging the world around us?

REFLECTION: "His Eye Is on the Sparrow" — Hannah Yi, *piano*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Phyllis Spencer

With joyful hearts, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God. **Amen.**

Ushers, please come forward]

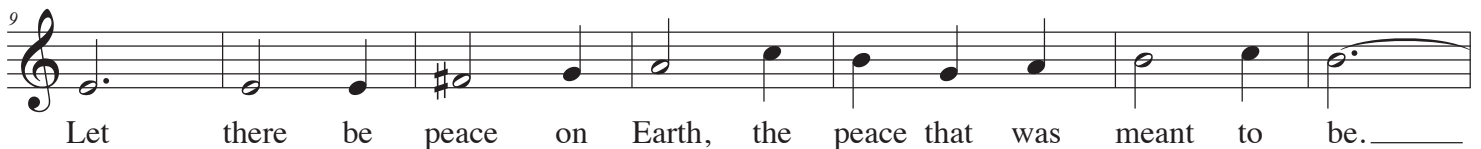
OFFERTORY: "Earth and All Stars" — Jennifer Scoullar, *soprano*

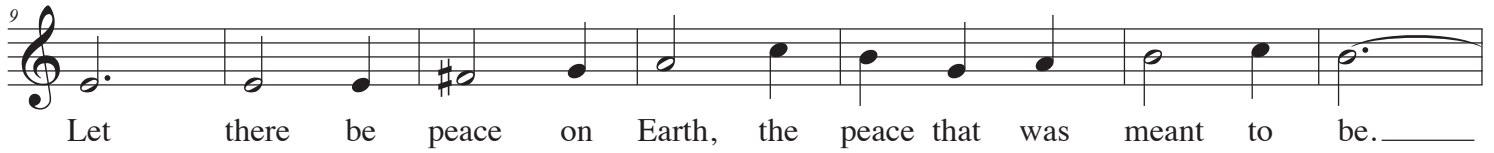
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Phyllis Spencer

Receive, O God, the fruit of our labor and with these gifts accept the offering of our lives. Unite us with Jesus that we may share in his mission, live in his way, and in all things glorify you. Amen.

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: "Let There Be Peace on Earth"

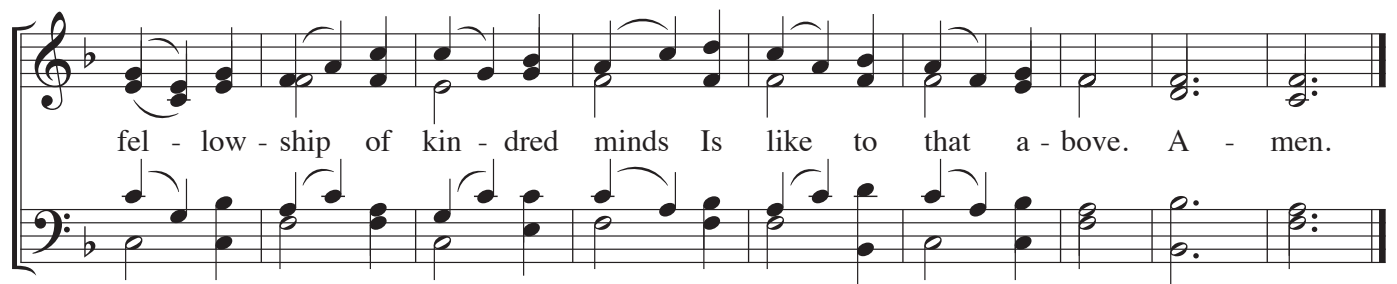




BLESSING — Rev. Johan Dodge

The blessing of God, source of all life; the guidance of Jesus, the way of new life; and the communion of the Spirit, power of life be with you until we meet again. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: “Blest Be the Tie that Binds”



Music Team: Jennifer Scoullar, *soprano*
Hannah Yi, *pianist*

Dave Albulario, *tenor*
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

"Dear Lord, Lead Me Day by Day"
Philippine Folk Melody
Words by Francisca Asuncion, 1983

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
Music by William Marion Runyan
Words by Thomas O. Chisholm

"His Eye Is on the Sparrow"
Music by Charles H. Gabriel
Arranged by Mark Hayes

"Earth and All Stars"
Music by David Johnson, *Harmony by Dale Grotenhuis*, Words by Herbert Brokering

"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. Nægeli, 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.*

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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 provided anonymously, and refreshments are provided by Sandy Cardot. See the sign-up charts to provide refreshments or cover the cost of altar flowers for future services. Altar flowers are \$35. Sandy Walker coordinates arrangements.



August 18, 2024



**GROW
PRAY
STUDY**

Notes from the Service

[illegible]

My Prayers this week:

Prayer Journal

Use these prayers in your time with God each day.

Household Prayer: Morning

Loving God, help me make the most of the time you give this day, to be wise in my decisions and careful in my actions. Let my life be a continual act of thanksgiving for your loving-kindness, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Household Prayer: Midday

I praise you loving God and give you thanks for this day. Fill me with your Holy Spirit and let your wisdom fill my heart. Give me a loving and discerning mind to walk in your way, making the most of the rest of this day as I am out among your people. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Loving God, if I have not lived wisely this day, show me the foolishness of my ways. Fill me with your Spirit that I may know your will and live by your truth, for I long to be faithful to you and to faithfully walk in your way. Amen.