

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 25, 2024
Mountain Sunday

Rev. Johan Dodge



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 — Virginia Olejnik

In the name of God, who creates mountains,
the name of Christ, crucified on a mountain,
and the name of the Spirit, deep in the mountains. Amen.

ALL: Holy! Holy! Holy! Earth is filled with God's presence.

Christ, as we come to into this sanctuary today,
we enter the holy mountain of God.

ALL: Holy! Holy! Holy! This mountain is filled with your presence.

HYMN: "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

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.

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.]***

Faithful God, there is no one like you in heaven or on earth. The highest heaven cannot contain you, yet you have chosen to dwell in our midst and shower your creation with your love. O God, let your church stand firm in the strength of your power, overcoming evil and proclaiming the gospel of peace.

Loving God, bless us to care for your creation, the sanctuary you have provided to nourish, sustain, and shelter humanity and all living things.

Holy One, may the rulers, authorities, and cosmic powers of this present world yield to your reign of love, peace, justice, and goodness for all.

Creator God, guide us to hear the cry of the stranger and the forgotten. Help us to protect and comfort the weak, the young, and the old.

Eternal One, strengthen our faith, deepen our love, empower our witness as we name those on our hearts today.

Lord God, you are our sun and shield, our strength and hope. With Joy to share our prayers with you and each other as we are gathered in your name.
Amen.

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: "Wonderful Words of Life"

Sing them o - ver a - gain to me,
Christ, the bless - ed one, gives to all, won - der - ful words of life, —
Sweet - ly ech - o the Gos - pel call,

Let me more of their beau - ty see, Words of life and
Let us list to the lov - ing call, won - der - ful words of life; All so free - ly
Of - fer par - don and peace to all, Je - sus Christ our

beau - ty teach me faith and du - ty.
giv - en, woo - ing us — to Hea - ven. Beau - ti - ful words, won - der - ful words,
bro - ther, sanc - ti - fy us for - ev - er.



[please be seated]

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Virginia Olejnik

Lord Jesus, as we hear the reading of Holy Scripture, speak to us your words of spirit and life. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Virginia Olejnik

Isaiah 65:17-25

¹⁷For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. ¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. ¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. ²⁰No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. ²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²²They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. ²³They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—and their descendants as well. ²⁴Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. ²⁵The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

Mark 16:14-18

¹⁴Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. ¹⁵And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. ¹⁶The one who believes and is baptized will be saved; but the one who does not believe will be condemned. ¹⁷And these signs will accompany those who believe: by using my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; ¹⁸they will pick up snakes in their hands, and if they drink any deadly thing, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover.”

MESSAGE: “The Mountain Top” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Isaiah speaks of a new heaven and a new earth, and we have taken those words as a prediction of the future, but in Mark’s Gospel we hear the risen Jesus upbraid his eleven disciples for not believing the women at the tomb. Jesus calls out their stubbornness and their unwillingness to believe the words of others. Where does your stubbornness get the better of you? Where are you dismissive of what you are hearing because of who is saying it? Where might you need to hear the corrective words of Jesus and open your heart to the way of love?

REFLECTION: “Over the Rainbow” — John Fluker, *piano*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Virginia Olejnik

Our God has bestowed us with favor and honor through Christ, who has given us the words of eternal life. From this fullness, let us now offer our gifts of thanksgiving in the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

[Ushers, please come forward]

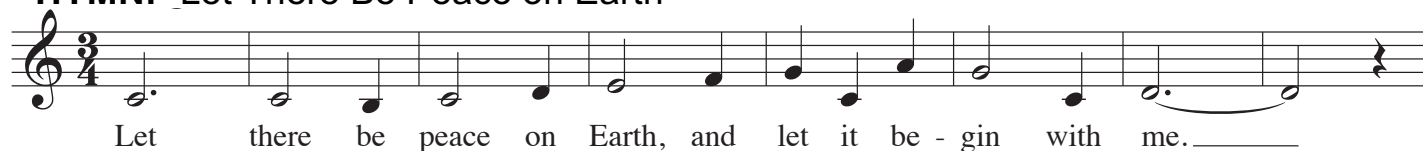
OFFERTORY: “You’ll Never Walk Alone” — Jennifer Scoullar, *soprano*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Virginia Olejnik

Living God, we give thanks for Jesus who taught his first followers a new way to go through this world, and who still guides us through the Holy Spirit. Endow these gifts with your power, that they may express your steadfast love and impart your sustaining strength to all those in need. Amen.

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: “Let There Be Peace on Earth”



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

May the Spirit of God blowing from the mountains, fill you with the knowledge of God's presence in earth and the pulsing of Christ within you. Christ calls you to follow him down the mountain and meet the world in the valleys of life. Go in the power of God to raise up those around you. **Amen.**

SENDING FORTH: "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: Jennifer Scoullar, *soprano* Dave Albulario, *tenor*
 John Fluker, *pianist* Hannah Yi, *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

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"
Welsh Melody from *Canaidau y Cussegr*,
1839; adapt. by John Roberts, Words by
Walter Chalmers Smith, 1867 (1 Tim. 1:17)

"Wonderful Words of Life"
Music and Words by Philip Paul Bliss, 1874
Public Domain

"Over the Rainbow"
Music by Harold Arlen,
Words by Yip Harburg

"You'll Never Walk Alone"
From the musical *Carousel*, Music by Richard
Rodgers, Words by Oscar Hammerstein, II.

"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

John Fluker – Today we welcome back to Community Church, our wonderful pianist, John, who recently traveled to Michigan to join his family to remember his beloved sister, Sharyn McIntyre, who passed away on July 20th. Continued prayers of love, comfort, & strength for him and his family, and peaceful rest for Sharyn.

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Today's flowers are provided by Jon Sofian, in remembrance of his mother's passing. Refreshments are provided by Phyllis Spencer. 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 25, 2024



**GROW
PRAY
STUDY**

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 are no margins, text, 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

Living God, give me strength for this day. Let your truth surround me, your righteousness defend me, your gospel guide me, your trustworthiness shield me, and your salvation protect me that in every moment i may stand by the power of your Spirit and live by your holy Word. Amen.

Household Prayer: Midday

Living God, your Son Jesus has the words of eternal life. Grant that I may come to him in faith this afternoon to follow him in this world. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Loving God, as the day ends and the night begins, be near the brokenhearted, save the crushed in spirit, and redeem the life of your servants. You are our shield by day. Be our refuge by night so that we may rest in the confidence of your grace; through Christ our Lord. Amen.