

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

September 15, 2024
17th Sunday after Pentecost



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: "The Lord's Prayer" — Taylor White

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: "Be Thou My Vision"

Be Thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
Be Thou my wis - dom, and Thou of my true word;
Rich - es I heed not, nor Thou vain, emp - ty praise;
Rul - er of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

5 B♭

naught be all else to me, save that Thou art—
 I ev - er with Thee and Thou now with me, Lord.
 Thou mine in her i - tance, O bright Heav'n's ways:
 may I reach Heav - en's joys, O bright Heav'n's sun!

9 A♭ E♭ C m A♭ B♭

Thou my — best — thought, — by day or by night; —
 Thou my — Cre - a - tor; Thine own may I be, —
 Thou and — Thou on - ly first in my heart, —
 Heart of — my — own heart, what ev - er be - fall, —

13 E♭ C m A♭ F m E♭

wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy — pres - ence my light.
 Thou in me dwell - ing and — I one with Thee.
 Ru - ler of Heav - en, my — treas - ure Thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O — Rul - er of all.

[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.]***

God of love, you gave your only Son to reveal your great love for us and to reveal you are not the cause of our suffering. We believe that you understand the sufferings of the world and our own suffering. Believing that you are the source of all love in the world and the way we turn from selfishness, we offer our prayers to you.

We pray for wisdom, that we can communicate effectively with love, shalom, and compassion and strive to live in connectedness and understanding.

We pray for courage so that we can live out our faith giving witness with our words and actions that you are the Messiah.

We pray for the will to take up the work of Jesus and to follow wherever you may lead.

And we pray for love, your love in us so that we can live with the intentionality to know each other by name and have the deep relationships that you want us to have with you and with each other.

Through Jesus Christ, who lives in unity with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: "How Great Thou Art"

1. O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der Con - sid - er
2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der And hear the
3. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me

all the worlds Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the roll - ing
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble a - dor -

thun - der, Thy power through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played:
grand - eur, And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze: Then sings my
a - tion, And there pro - claim, "My God, how great Thou art!"

9

soul, my Sav-ior God, to Thee:— How great Thou art!— How great Thou art!— Then sings my

13

soul, my Sav-ior God, to Thee:— How great Thou art! How great— Thou art!—

[please be seated]

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Taylor White

You speak to us Lord, with tongues of wisdom. Let your Holy Spirit now open us to hear with greater clarity the teachings of today, that we may hold dear in yet new ways what it is you will for us. In the name of Jesus. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Taylor White

James 3:1-12

^{3:1}Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. ²For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. ³If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. ⁴Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. ⁵So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits. How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! ⁶And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. ⁷For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, ⁸but no one can tame the tongue—a restless evil, full of deadly poison. ⁹With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. ¹⁰From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. ¹¹Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? ¹²Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

Mark 8:27-38

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” ²⁸And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” ²⁹He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, “If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

MESSAGE: “The Secret to Happiness” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

How do you seek God’s wisdom in your life? What are the signs and symbols of God’s presence that surround your everyday life?

REFLECTION: “What a Friend We Have in Jesus” — Hannah Yi, *piano*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Taylor White

God has given us the sun and made us stewards of all creation. God has given us our lives and our very beings. Let us give to God, from what God has blessed us with. **Amen.**

[Ushers, please come forward]

OFFERTORY: “You Raise Me Up” — Jennifer Scoullar, *soprano*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Taylor White

God of wisdom, may this offering serve as a powerful witness to this world in need. Guide us as we administer the gifts you have blessed us with for the building of your kin-dom. In the name of Jesus we pray. 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._____

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

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

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

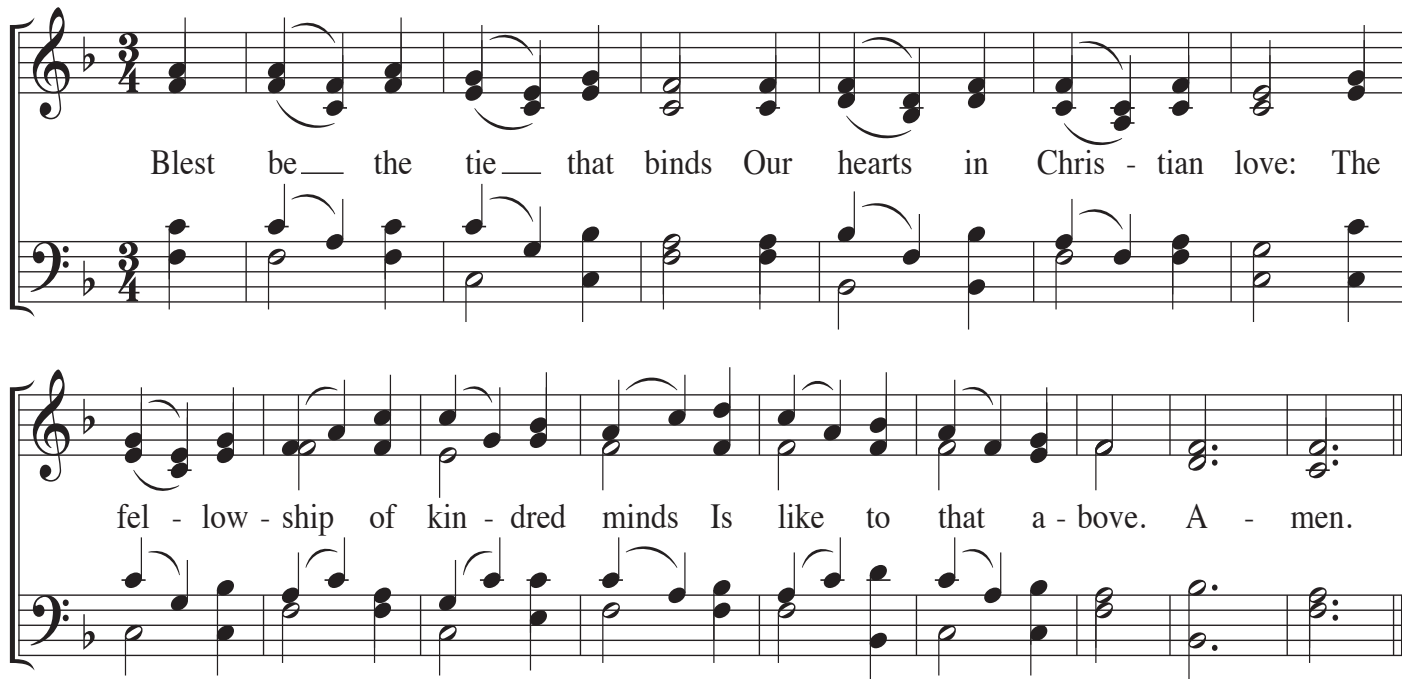
take each mo-moment and live each mo-moment in peace e - ter - nal - ly;_____

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

BLESSING — Rev. Johan Dodge

May God, our wisdom, pour out God's thoughts in you and make God's words known to you. May Jesus Christ, our Messiah, give you the strength to be the hands and feet of Jesus. And may the Holy Spirit guide our words and actions; as we strive to bless the world and speak the love of God.
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*
Hannah Yi, *pianist*

Dave Albulario, *tenor*
John Fluker, *pianist*

Doxology (*Old Hundredth LM*)
Music by Louis Bourgeois, 1551
Words by Thomas Ken, 1674

"Be Thou My Vision"
8th Century Irish Melody *SLANE*,
Arr. by Jack Schrader, Trans. By Mary E.
Byrne, Vers. Eleanor H. Hull

"How Great Thou Art"
Traditional Swedish Melody *O STORE GUD*
Words by Carl Boberg and Stuart K. Kine

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"
Music by Charles Converse
Piano arrangement by Mark Hayes

"You Raise Me Up"
Words and Music by Rolf Løvland
and Brendan Graham

"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. Nägeli, 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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562-431-2503
CCLI License No. 1872250

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."

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: Flowers for today's service and refreshments for Fellowship are provided by Taylor White. 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.

FALL FLING: Mark your calendar for our "Fall Fling Bazaar" on Saturday, October 5, 2024, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. We'll feature a variety of vendors, a yummy Bake Sale with plenty of sweets & treats, creative craft tables, collections of old and new items from "Granny's Attic," and Sandy's Café will be serving lunch.

LWCC ANNIVERSARY: LW Community Church's 62nd Anniversary is Sunday, October 6, 2024. After Sunday service, we'll celebrate the momentous occasion together during Fellowship in Edgar Hall.



This photo (recently posted on social media by John Koehlor) was taken of miners at the end of their shift, during the Gilded Age before they were unionized. Somewhere, there were people at the top of the company who felt there was nothing wrong with this picture. As a belated observation of Labor Day (which was September 2, 2024), consider and remember the blood, sweat, and tears that those before us paid, to give the working class the basic rights we enjoy today.

September 15, 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 extend across the width of the page. There are no margins 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

As I open my eyes, I can see the heavens that tell of your glory. Allow me to be a part of this creation that proclaims your handiwork and your presence in the world. Amen.

Household Prayer: Midday

God of love, you have taught me a life journey that calls me to deny what is unhealthy and unloving. Hold me on that path as I journey the rest of this day. Awaken me to ever-new abundance that is mine through your love, and help me to see your face in the faces of those who suffer around me. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

As the day winds down, allow me to find satisfaction in the thought that I have served your creation with love in my heart and upon my tongue. Allow me to rest in the knowledge that I did not act as if I was ashamed of you or your love for me and all those around me. Allow me to find solace in the night and arise to new mercies in the morning. Amen.