

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 22, 2024
18th 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



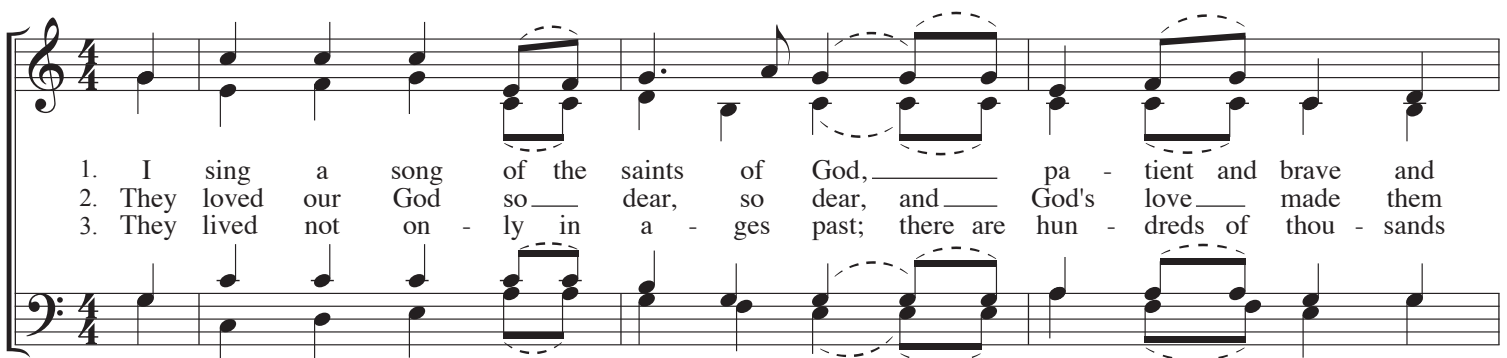
Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures
here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye Heav'n - ly
host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system covers measures 1-5, the second system covers measures 6-9, and the third system covers measures 10-13. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with some words hyphenated across measures. The score includes various musical notations such as whole, half, quarter, and eighth notes, rests, and bar lines.

PRAYER OF THE DAY — Phyllis Spencer

God of the first and the last, give us the strength of mind, that we might walk the path of discipleship without waisting our time thinking about who is more important. Instead, guide our thoughts and our emotions that we may be like your son who taught the world a new relationship with you, welcoming all with hospitality and love. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

HYMN: "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"



1. I sing a song of the saints of God, pa - tient and brave and
2. They loved our God so dear, of so dear, and God's love made them
3. They lived not on - ly in a - ges past; there are hun - dreds of thou - sands

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system covers measures 1-8, and the second system covers measures 9-16. The lyrics are printed below the staves, with some words hyphenated across measures. The score includes various musical notations such as whole, half, quarter, and eighth notes, rests, and bar lines. Some measures in the second system have dashed boxes around them, possibly indicating a repeat or a specific musical phrase.

4

true, strong; still. who and they The toiled did world and what was is fought right bright and for with the lived Je - joy and sus' - ous died sake saints for our the who

7

God, whole love whom of their good to do Je - and lives sus' knew. long. will. And one was a doc - tor, and And one was a sol - dier, and You can meet them in school, on the

10

one was a queen, and one was a shep - herd - ess on the green; they were one was a priest, and one was slain by a fierce house the wild next door; and there's street, in the store, in church, by the sea, in the house next door; they are

13

all of them saints of God, and I mean, God help - ing, to be one too. not an - y rea - son, no, not the least, why I should-n't be one too. saints of God, wheth - er rich or poor, and I mean to be one too.

[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 understanding, through the Word read and proclaimed, and through your Word incarnate, Jesus Christ, you give us the direction we need and show us that there is nowhere else to go but to you with our joys and concerns.

We pray for our world that too often follows the advice of wickedness that leads to war, to violence, to conflict between ethnicities, to fear.

We pray for the women in this world who, as payment for their devotion and love as capable wives, daughters, sisters, girl-friends, mothers, receive rejection, abuse, heartbreak and hate.

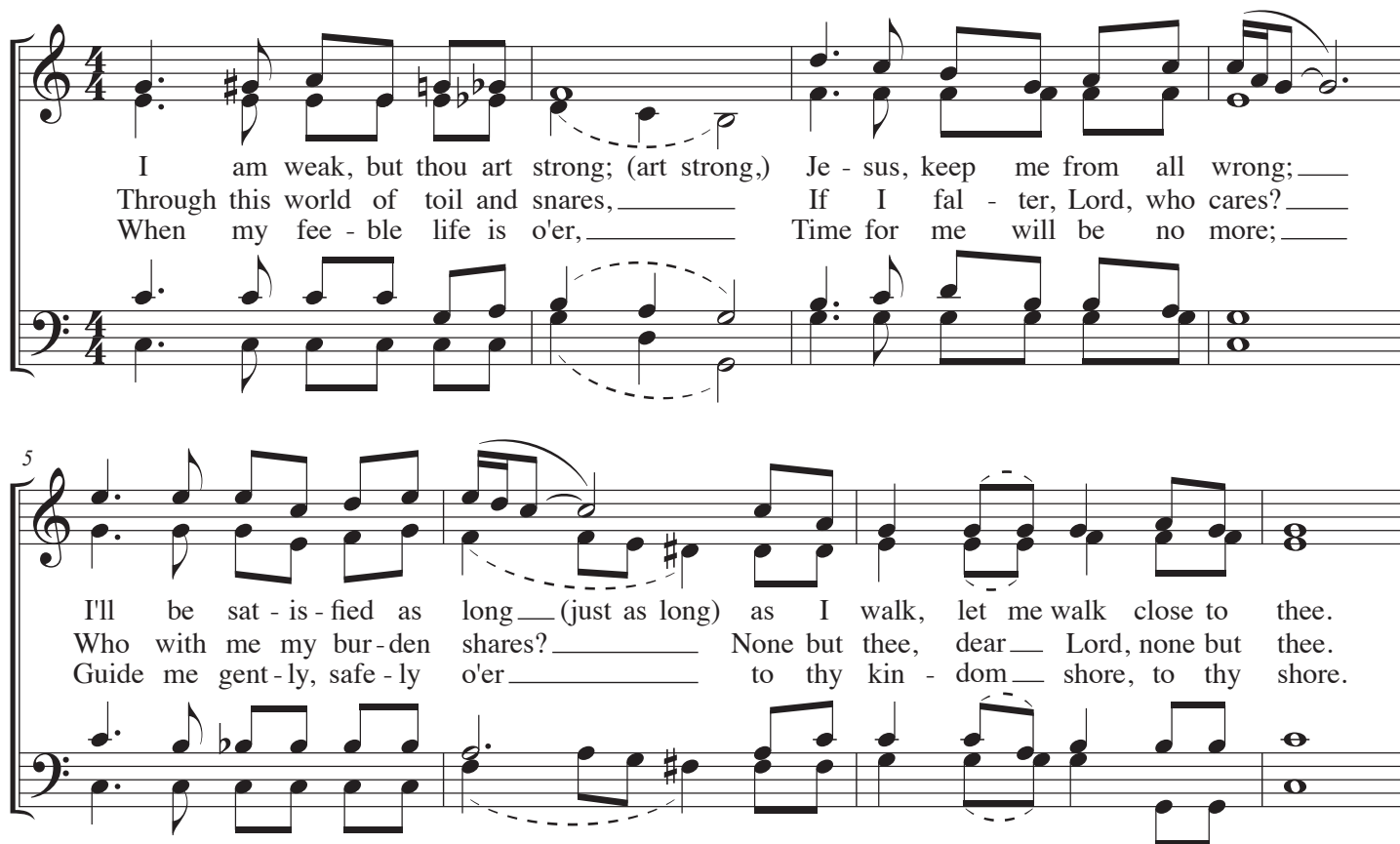
We pray for relationships that are brokenly conflicts and dispute, by murder and deceit, and that cannot find a way back to restoration and healing.

We pray for our children who have been called the first in God's heart and kindom but are not welcomed, loved or spoken to.

We believe in you, God of justice and mercy, and we ask, trusting in your power, to heal wounded hearts, to restore the brokenness of the world, and to lead us to everlasting peace. **Amen.**

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"



I am weak, but thou art strong; (art strong,) Je - sus, keep me from all wrong; ____
Through this world of toil and snares, ____ If I fal - ter, Lord, who cares? ____
When my fee - ble life is o'er, ____ Time for me will be no more; ____

I'll be sat - is - fied as long (just as long) as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
Who with me my bur - den shares? ____ None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
Guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er ____ to thy kin - dom shore, to thy shore.

9

Just a clos-er walk with thee, (with thee,) Grant it, Je-sus, is my plea, —

13

Dai - ly walk-ing close to thee, — (to thee,) Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

[please be seated]

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Phyllis Spencer

Your Word is our wisdom; it gives us insight, strength, and courage. Open our hearts and our minds this day, that we might receive what you want to give. Speak, Lord! Your People listen! **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Phyllis Spencer

James 3:13-4:8

^{3:13}Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

^{4:1}Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁴Adulterers! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world becomes an enemy of God. ⁵Or do you suppose that it is for nothing that the scripture says, "God yearns jealously for the spirit that he has made to dwell in us"?

⁶But he gives all the more grace; therefore it says, “God opposes the proud, but gives grace to the humble.” ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.

MESSAGE: “A Harvest of Loving Kindness” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Give yourself a moment right now and each day in the coming week to sit quietly with your eyes closed. Visualize Jesus kneeling down, opening his arms, and bringing you closer to his heart. Let yourself be a child who is welcomed. What do you notice?

REFLECTION: “Bridge Over Troubled Water” — John Fluker, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Phyllis Spencer

We have been made capable of being good stewards of what God has given us. Let us, with gratitude in our hearts, give from what has been given to us, by grace. **Amen.**

[Ushers, please come forward]

OFFERTORY: “On Eagle’s Wings” — Music Team: Jennifer Scoullar, *soprano*
Dave Albulario, *tenor*
John Fluker, *pianist*

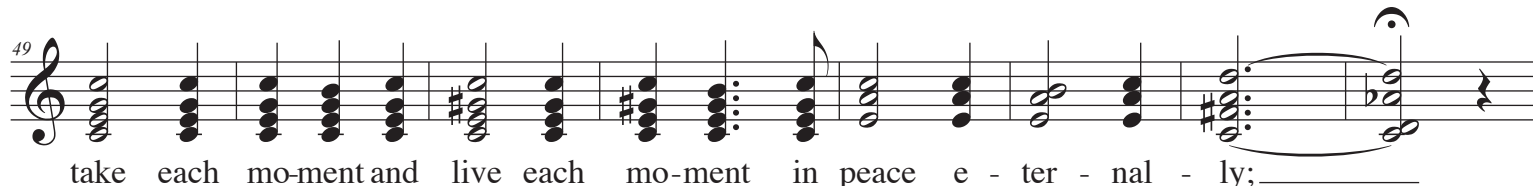
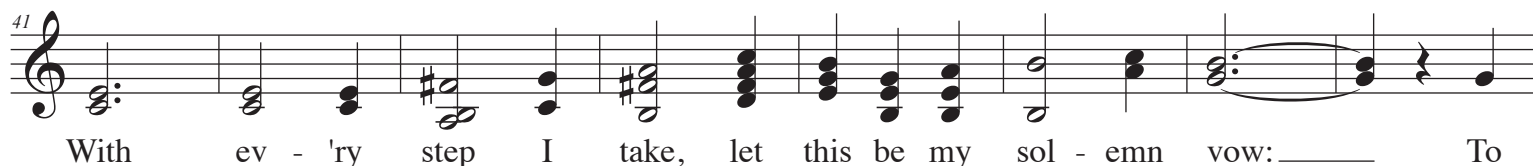
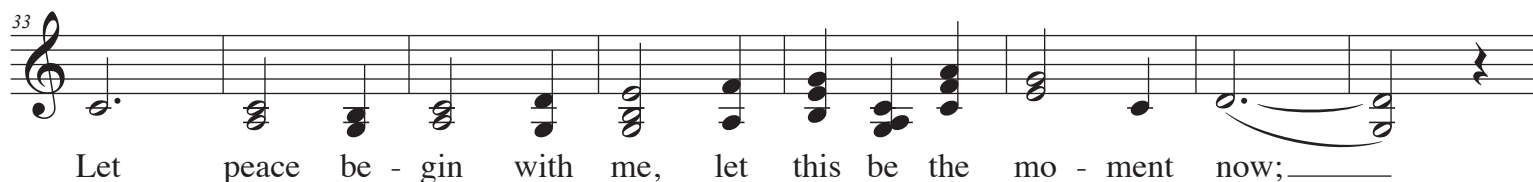
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Phyllis Spencer

**O Great Gardener,
We are like trees planted by streams of water that yield their fruit in season and prosper in you. We are grateful for all that you have provided, and we dedicate our first fruits to you and to the work of your church, now and forever. Amen.**

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: “Let There Be Peace on Earth”





BLESSING — Rev. Johan Dodge

May God who watches over all, give you the gifts needed to be a disciple. May Jesus the Christ, who welcomes everyone, give you the loving heart of a child so that you can welcome others unconditionally. May the Holy Spirit, who gives us the understanding we need to love God and to love others, give us unselfish and generous hearts, to heal relationships and to live in peace. **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*
 John Fluker, *Pianist*

Dave Albulario, *Tenor / Music Director*
 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

"I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"
 Music by John H. Hopkins, Jr.,
 Words by Lesbia Scott

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee"
 Traditional African-American Folk Song,
 Additional Music & Lyrics by Kenneth Morris

"Bridge Over Troubled Water"
 Music by Paul Simon
 Piano arrangement by John Fluker

"On Eagle's Wings"
 Words and Music by Michael Joncas, based
 on Psalm 91, Arranged by Lloyd Larson

"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.*

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: Flowers for today's service and refreshments for Fellowship are provided by Sandy Walker. 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.



The (original) Matterhorn, in Zermatt, Switzerland, is part of the Alps, and is partially located in Italy, where it is known as Cervino.

September 22, 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, 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

Gracious God, you give life and, in your Word, it is beautiful. Thank you for this new day. In each coming hour, help me see beneath the ever-present difficulties and superficial joys into the mysteries that you have set out for your people. Guide me toward those I meet today in a way that welcomes them and, in turn, grants me a welcome, in Jesus name. Amen.

Household Prayer: Midday

Loving God, we work without realizing that all we do can be a song of love to you and to the ones with whom you have surrounded us. Lead me, O God, so that everything that I do in my life can be done in praise to you. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

This day is nearly over, Merciful God, and I am tired. I have been unable to do all that I had hoped; I have done some things I would take back if I could. Forgive me for my failures. Bring me into the warmth and security of your embrace now, and fill me with new vision so that I may rise to meet tomorrow with vigor, in the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.