

**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 29, 2024
19th Sunday after Pentecost



**Pray
Without
Ceasing**

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: "The Lord's Prayer" — Virginia Olejnik

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: "What A Friend We Have in Jesus"

What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?

5

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged — take it to our God in prayer.
 Pre - cious Je - sus, still our ref - uge — take it to our God in prayer.

9

Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, oh, what need - less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful, who will all our sor - rows share?
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to our God in prayer.

13

all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!
 Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness — take it to our God in prayer.
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a sol - ace there.

[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.]***

Scripture promises us that the prayers of God's people are powerful and effective. In this hope we call upon God this day. Pour out your healing grace, O God; send forth your Spirit to breathe through us.

For those who are sick and suffering.

For those who are burdened by pride and doubt.

For nations, crumbling in conflict.

For neighbors, divided by fear.

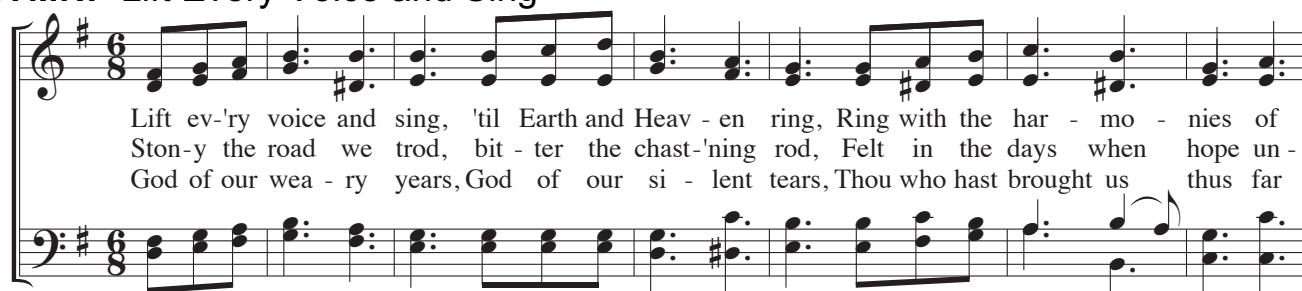
For the church, longing for renewal.

For the earth, groaning for peace.

God of new life, raise us up in the power of the risen Jesus so that we may lift our hearts again in songs of thanks and praise; Through Jesus your anointed one we pray. **Amen.**

[please stand as you are able]

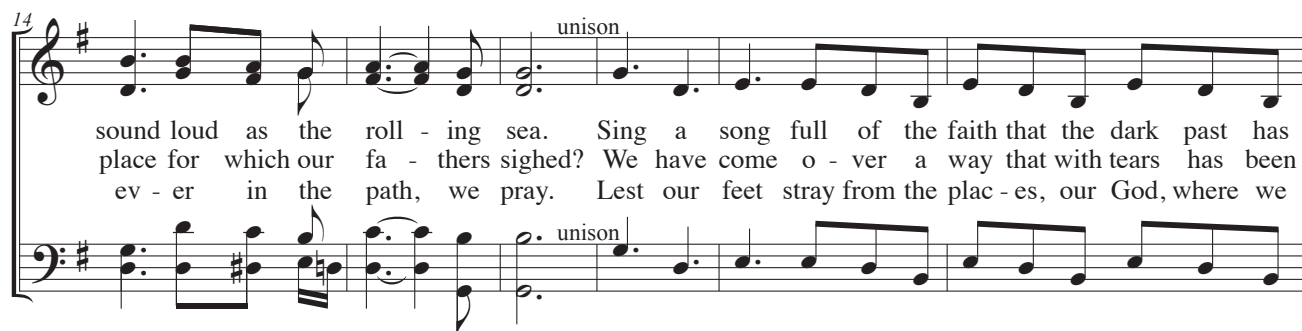
HYMN: "Lift Every Voice and Sing"



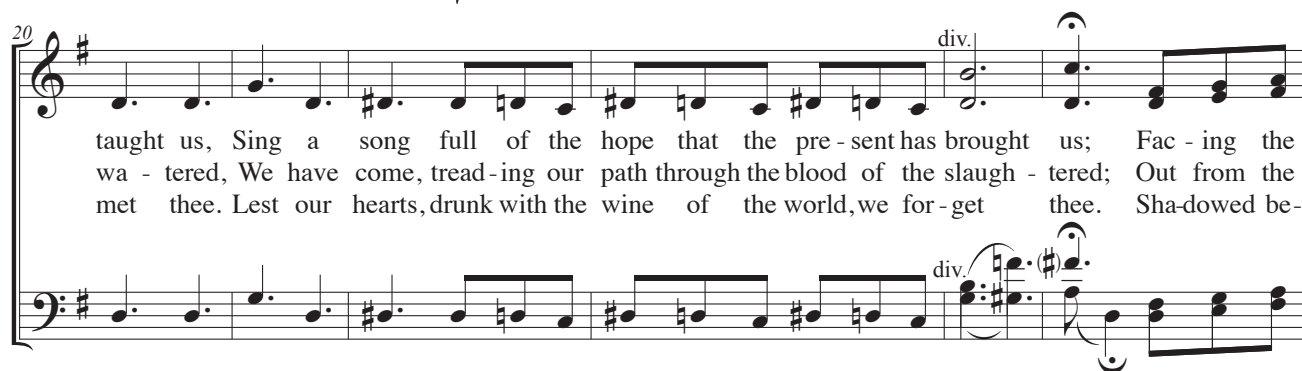
Lift ev-ry voice and sing, 'til Earth and Heav - en ring, Ring with the har - mo - nies of
Ston-y the road we trod, bit - ter the chast-'ning rod, Felt in the days when hope un -
God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears, Thou who hast brought us thus far



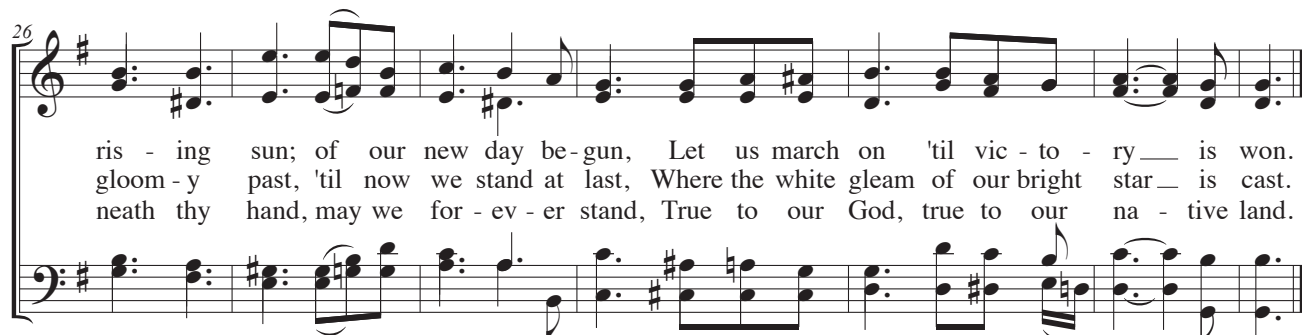
lib - er - ty; Let our re - joic - ing rise, high as the list -'ning skies, Let it re -
born had died; Yet with a stead - y beat, havenot our wea - ry — feet, Come to the
on — the way; Thou who hast by thy might, led us in - to the — light, Keep us for -



sound loud as the roll - ing sea. Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has
place for which our fa - thers sighed? We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been
ev - er in the path, we pray. Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we



taught us, Sing a song full of the hope that the pre - sent has brought us; Fac - ing the
wa - tered, We have come, tread-ing our path through the blood of the slaugh - tered; Out from the
met thee. Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee. Sha-dowed be -



ris - ing sun; of our new day be - gun, Let us march on 'til vic - to - ry — is won.
gloom - y past, 'til now we stand at last, Where the white gleam of our bright star — is cast.
neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand, True to our God, true to our na - tive land.

[please be seated]

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Virginia Olejnik

Loving God, by the power of your Holy Spirit, enlighten our eyes, instruct our minds, rejoice our hearts, and revive our souls so that our lips and our lives may bear witness to your work of love in the world. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Virginia Olejnik

(James 4:11-5:12)

James 5:13-20

¹¹Do not speak evil against one another, brothers and sisters. Whoever speaks evil against another or judges another, speaks evil against the law and judges the law; but if you judge the law, you are not a doer of the law but a judge. ¹²There is one lawgiver and judge who is able to save and to destroy. So who, then, are you to judge your neighbor? ¹³Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town and spend a year there, doing business and making money." ¹⁴Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes. ¹⁵Instead you ought to say, "If the Lord wishes, we will live and do this or that." ¹⁶As it is, you boast in your arrogance; all such boasting is evil. ¹⁷Anyone, then, who knows the right thing to do and fails to do it, commits sin.

^{5:1}Come now, you rich people, weep and wail for the miseries that are coming to you. ²Your riches have rotted, and your clothes are moth-eaten. ³Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against you, and it will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure for the last days. ⁴Listen! The wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. ⁵You have lived on the earth in luxury and in pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. ⁶You have condemned and murdered the righteous one, who does not resist you. ⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹Indeed we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful. ¹²Above all, my beloved, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your "Yes" be yes and your "No" be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

^{5:13}Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. ¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

MESSAGE: "Pray Without Ceasing" — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

How is your prayer life? Are you talking or listening more? How does breath prayer sound to you? Consider trying breath prayer during the time of reflection and see if it gives you a new view of heaven come to earth.

REFLECTION: "It Is Well" — Hannah Yi, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Virginia Olejnik

Through loving deeds and generous acts, we become a blessing to others and give honor to Christ's name. What greater reward could we ask than to share in God's revolution of love? **Amen.**

[Ushers, please come forward]

OFFERTORY: "Breathe On Me, Breath of God" — Dave Albulario, *tenor*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Virginia Olejnik

Your gift of life, O God, is more precious than gold and sweeter than honey to our lips. Receive these gifts of our lives: refine and purify them, and met them be for the world a sign of your goodness and grace; through Jesus we pray. Amen.

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: "Let There Be Peace on Earth"



9

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

16

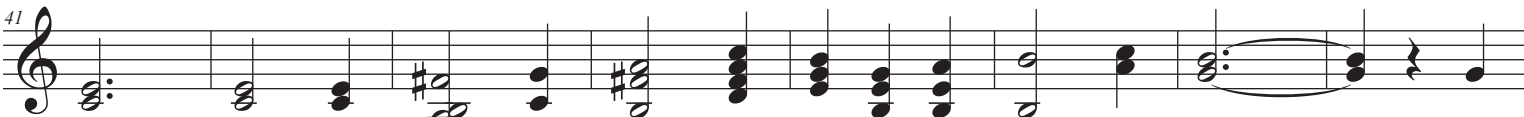
 _____ With God, our Cre - a - tor, _____ we are fam - i - ly._____

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

May God, who is our strength, help us celebrate the freedom we have received, and remember God's great deeds and grow in trust. May Jesus, in whose name we find power, help us to honor his name with everything we do and say. And may the Holy Spirit, who helps us pray, motivate in us the practice of prayer, discovering while praying, that there is indeed power in the name of Jesus. **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: Dave Albulario, *Tenor / Music Dir.*
 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

"What A Friend We Have in Jesus"
 Music by Charles C. Converse
 Words by Joseph M. Scriven

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"
 Music by John Rosamond Johnson
 Words by James Weldon Johnson
 aka "The Black National Anthem"

"It Is Well"
 Tune: *VILLE DU HAVRE* by Philip P. Bliss,
 Words by Horatio G. Spafford,
 Piano arrangement by Mark Hayes

"Breathe on Me, Breath of God"
 Music by Robert Jackson,
 Words by Edwin Hatch, based on John 20:22

"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

Joanna Matos – Joann Arlene (Deeter) Matos passed away on Friday, September 13, 2024, at the age of 94 years. She led an adventurous, fulfilling life, and has been a kind and vibrant member of Community Church for many years. She will be missed. A celebration of Joanna's life will take place at LWCC on Saturday, November 16, 2024, at 11:00 AM. Prayers of comfort and strength to her family, and peaceful rest for Joanna.

Jo Rousey – Jo is on the mend from a recent fall and has been back in church with us at LWCC for a few weeks now. Prayers for continued healing.

Susie Perslow – Susie had a fall recently and is now on the mend. Prayers for a speedy recovery.

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Flowers for today's service are provided by Gerri Seaton, and refreshments for Fellowship are provided by Steve Martinez. 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: Ready? THIS-COMING SATURDAY IS our "Fall Fling Bazaar!" 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. Also, ***WE LOVE VOLUNTEERS*** and ***WE NEED YOU!*** We can use your help setting up Friday night, or being one of our sellers on Saturday – please contact Taylor White, Carol Burge, Mara Williams, or Patty Jo Schmitz!

LWCC ANNIVERSARY: SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2024, is the **62nd Anniversary** of **Leisure World Community Church!** We'll celebrate after service, next Sunday. Join us in observation of this momentous occasion with a delicious lunch during Fellowship in Edgar Hall.

What if I told you that waiting
on Jesus to return is a
deception to distract you from
discovering Christ within you?

What if I told you that who you
are waiting on, is waiting for
you?

September 29, 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 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

May the first words in my mouth today be the sound of the name of Jesus. Lead me to reflect on his power as I seek to live my day, honoring the One who taught me the way of love and new life. Amen.

Household Prayer: Midday

God of unquenchable fire and overflowing grace, cast out the fear that consumes me; remove the obstacles that cause me to stumble. Lead me into your realm of new life here and now, and season me with your love; in the name of Jesus I pray. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

God, was I an agent of hope and restorer of your love to others this day? As the day winds down, help me to think about those times during the day when I lived in your grace and the times when I failed to be salt in your world. Please, keep on working in my life, through the power of your Holy Spirit, so that I may become more like Jesus. Amen.