

COMMUNITY CHURCH LEISURE WORLD

LIGHTING
A pathway into community

GROWING
Disciples in God's Love

SENDING
The Hope and Joy of Jesus

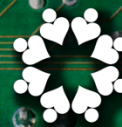
Our Vision: To Be Love to Leisure World

14000 Church Place
Seal Beach, CA 90740-5307

Sunday Service: 9:50 AM
562-431-2503

November 24, 2024

3rd Sunday of Extended Advent



**COMMUNITY
CHURCH LEISURE
WORLD**

HARD

RESET

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.

ADVENT 3: Ruler of Nations — Phyllis Spencer

As our nights grow longer and our days grow short,
we look on these earthly signs — light and signs of abundance — and
remember God's promise to our world:

ALL: Christ, our Light and our Hope, will come.

Listen to these words from the Revelation to John:

"And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those
who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name,
standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands. And they
sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb:

'Great and amazing are your deeds,'. — Revelation 15:2-3a

[As the candles are lit, all stand as you are able and sing:]

CALL TO WORSHIP: Doxology for Advent ("O Come, O Come, Emmanuel")

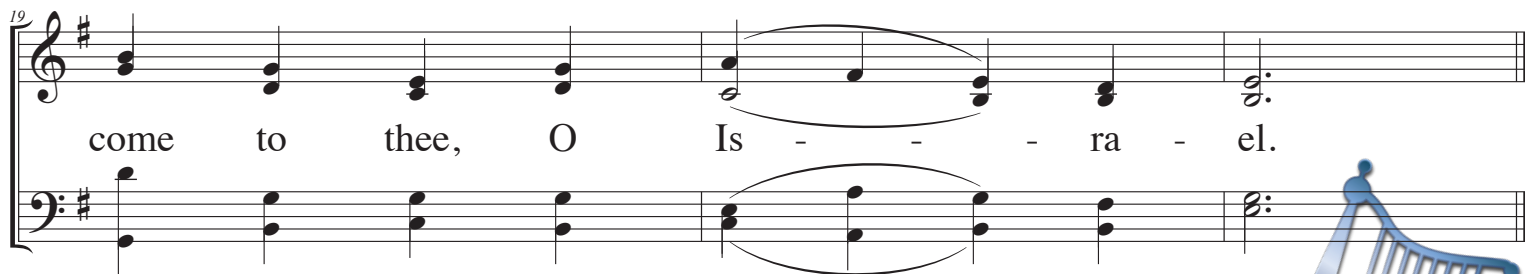


Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise
O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in

God, all crea - tures here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye
one the hearts of hu - man - kind; bid thou our sad di -

heav'n - ly host: Cre - a - tor, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.
vi - sions cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall



Liturgist — Phyllis Spencer
Let us pray ...



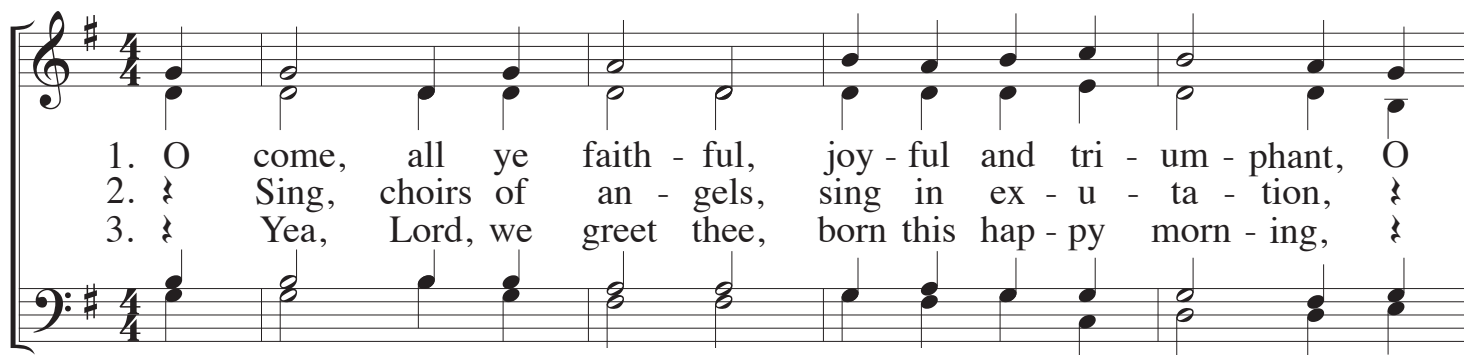
ALL: O Lord our God, you gave us, your creation, the earth upon which to thrive and share in your gifts of abundance. And yet we have turned to ourselves and held our desires above yours. Place into our hearts a love for others, even as we grow in our understanding of your love for us and all of your creation. May the light that we light today remind us that we are not to place ourselves first as we labor together to build the new earth in your name. Amen.



HYMN: "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

*Adéste fidèles, laeti triumphantes,
Veníte, veníte in Béthlehem:
Natum videte Regem angelórum:
Veníte, adorémus,
Veníte, adorémus
Veníte, adorémus Dóminum!*

Come faithful, joyful triumphant,
Come, come to Bethlehem,
Behold the birth of the King of angels
Come, let us worship,
Come, let us worship
Come, let us worship the Lord!



11

hold him, born the King of an - gels;
 God, all glo - ry in the high - est; O come, let us a -
 Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

15

dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O

18

come let us a - dore him, — Christ, — the Lord!

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

[A time of silence is kept after each petition.]



Holy God, you invite us into life with you and so are here because we want to live into your kin-dom. Receive us now in our frailty, our complacency, our desire.

We pray for your church all over the world. May the life we discover in you bind us to each other and the world you love, for no need is beyond the strength of your call and no child of yours is expendable. Merciful God, give us wisdom and courage beyond our imagining.

We pray for each leader who might be an instrument of peace in a troubled land. By the movement of your reconciling spirit, bless your people with the courage to reach past old wounds and persistent fears. God of resurrection, bring life where hope has died.

We pray for friends and strangers in the grip of addiction. Make us able companions for each other, and bless us with hope that bears fruit.

We pray for unsettled economies and those whose needs are overlooked in the choices of the powerful. May we, who know so much privilege, bear our responsibilities with open eyes and open hands.

We pray for all who stand at the thresholds of life: your children who have just been born and your children who are soon to go home.

We give thanks for new faces to love, ideas to ponder, work to do — and we marvel at the sturdy friendships and persistent memories that sustain us when the way is difficult. May each be a reminder of your love and your provision.

We thank you for the gift of song — for notes that speak when words fail, and singers who practice at the end of long days. Give strength to leaders who force the best from us and invite us to breathe together.



[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: "The First Noel"

The first no - el the an-gel did say was to cer-tain poor
They look - ed up and saw a star shin-ing in the
This star drew nigh un - to the north-west; o - ver Beth - le -
shep-herds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keep-ing their
east be - yond them far; and to the Earth it gave great
hem it took its rest; and there it did both stop and

13



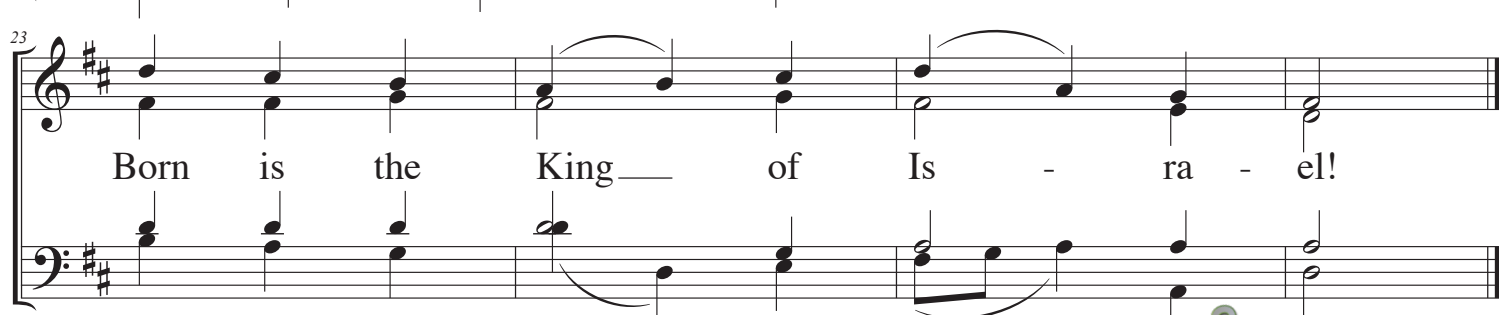
sheep light, stay, on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
right o - ver the place where Je - sus lay.

18



No - el, no - el, no - el, no - el!

23



Born is the King of Is - ra - el!

[please be seated]



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Phyllis Spencer

Spirit of truth, move now in ancient words and cluttered hearts that we might hear your voice and live, for we long to be glad servants of your hidden, holy reign. We pray in the name of Jesus, the prince of peace. Amen.

SCRIPTURE — Phyllis Spencer

John 18.33-37

³³Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."



MESSAGE: “Hard Reset” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Jesus said that his kingdom is not of this world, and that belonging to his way of life means a constant attentiveness to his voice. How are you individually, and we as a community, embodying the countercultural reign of God? What is a further step that you are being called to take? How might you make more time to listen for God’s voice?



REFLECTION: “Breath of Heaven” — Hannah Yi, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Phyllis Spencer

Siblings in Christ, we worship the one who stands at the beginning and at the end of history — the God for whom all time is now. Every day we have a chance to participate in the work God is doing in the world. By bringing our gifts each week, by offering our lives each day, we affirm our trust in a power beyond violence and beyond greed. Let us gladly offer who we are — and what we hold — in service to God. **Amen.**

[Ushers, please come forward]

OFFERTORY: “Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella” — Music Team:



Jennifer Scoullar, soprano
Dave Albulario, *tenor*
Hannah Yi, *pianist*

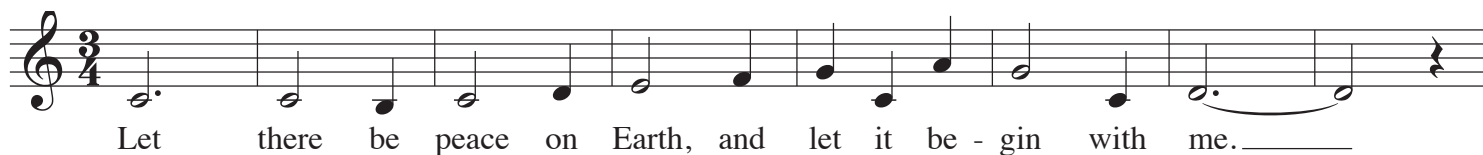


PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Phyllis Spencer

Holy God, the psalmist declares that in your realm, all the poor are satisfied with bread. Plant that promise firmly in our hearts, that we might be agents of your covenant love. Use these gifts, shape our desire, until hunger is no more — for Jesus taught us to seek our neighbor’s daily bread, and we pray by the power of his name. Amen.

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: “Let There Be Peace on Earth”



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.

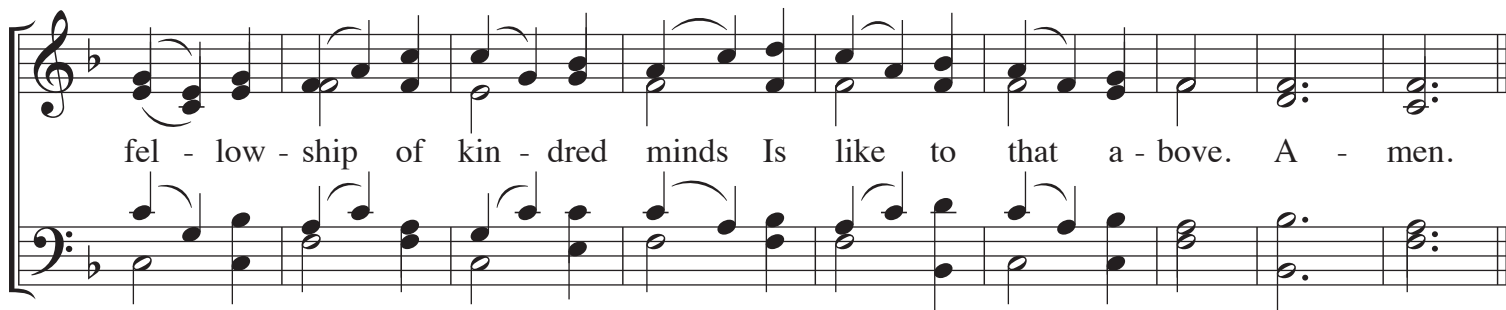
BLESSING — Rev. Johan Dodge



Siblings in Christ, there is no greater joy in life, no greater freedom, than to offer our lives in service to love. Let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant. **Amen.**

SENDING FORTH: "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

Blest be the tie that binds Our hearts in Chris - tian love: The



Music Team: Jennifer Scoullar, *Soprano*
Hannah Yi, *Pianist*

Dave Albulario, *Tenor / Music Dir.*
John Fluker, *Pianist*

Doxology for Advent (*Veni, Immanuel*)
15th Century French Hymn, Words by
Thomas Ken, Text and Tune adapted by
Dean McIntyre

“Adéste Fidèles / O Come, All Ye Faithful”
18th Century English Hymn Carol
Music and Words by John Francis Wade

“The First Noel / The First Nowell”
15th Century English Hymn Carol (Cornwall),
First published in *Carols Ancient & Modern*
(1823) edited by William Sandys

“Breath of Heaven”
Music by Chris Eaton
Additional material by Amy Grant
Piano arrangement by Vincent Wilson

“Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella”
Music: Provençal Hymn Carol attr. to Nicolas
Saboly, 17th Century. Words by Émile Blémont, tr.
E. Cuthbert Nunn. Setting by Peter Latona © 2013
Biramwood Publications (ASCAP)

“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.*

LEISURE WORLD COMMUNITY CHURCH
14000 Church Pl, Seal Beach, CA 90740
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

update Shirley Bator – Shirley is now at home recovering from pain-related issues. Prayers for comfort and pain relief are appreciated.

update Carol Burge – Carol is at home recovering from shoulder surgery and has the support of her daughter who lives close by. Prayers for continued recovery. She was delighted to receive your get-well cards and well-wishes at home, where she welcomes visits and calls.

update Gerri Seaton – Gerry is adjusting well to her new home at Rowntree Gardens, where she enjoyed a recent visit from the Care Team. Cards and visits are welcome.

update Jon Sofian – Jon's sister, Rita, continues to improve and appreciates the prayers lifted up for her.



NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: Thanksgiving Fellowship luncheon & flowers are provided today by the Fellowship Committee. 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.

THANKSGIVING OFFERING: Please find the attached Thanksgiving Offering Envelope, and prayerfully consider a special contribution. The proceeds will be used by SPRT for end-of-year gifts to our staff.

THANKFUL TREE: Spend some time in prayer and reflect on the many ways God has blessed you this past year. Jot a note of gratitude on a leaf and affix it to the tree in the narthex.

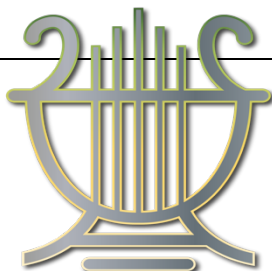
HANGING OF THE GREENS: We would love to have everyone join us as we decorate the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for Christmas this Friday, November 29th at 10 AM.

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR: In observance of Thanksgiving, Coffee with the Pastor will **not** meet this week. Join Pastor Johan **next** week, when we resume on Thursday, December 5th at 10 AM.

YOUR HELP IS REQUESTED: In preparation for the **Christmas Bazaar**, on December 7th, see below for opportunities to serve. Please sign up on the sheet in the narthex or Edgar Hall, or you may contact Sandy Walker or Virginia Olejnik.

- *Bake cookies or treats to be sold at bake sale*
- *Help at the event: set up - work a station - clean up*
- *Loan a Nativity set for display (not sell) at the event. Bring in by Dec 2nd for Patty Jo to set up the Nativity display in the narthex.*
- *Pricing items for the Bazaar: Join Patty Jo in the Fireside Room, Mon-Thur, 10 AM – 12 noon.*

ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE: On Saturday, December 14th, at 2:00 PM, the annual all-church conference is scheduled in person in Edgar Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to attend.



November 24, 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

Gracious God, help me to receive this day as a gift: in the tasks for which I do not feel prepared, in the needs I am not strong enough to meet. In my caution and in my confidence teach me to listen to your voice and to watch for your provision. Grant me the gift of life in community, that I might witness your desire flowing through others, that I might be joined to greater service, for I pray in the name of Jesus, whose every breath was praise. Amen.

Household Prayer: Midday

Loving God, come to me now in silent holy power. Still my distracted mind, my bruised heart, and longing body. Then speak the power of Jesus name in such a way that I might hear it, in such a way that I might bear it into the world — as one who seeks not to preserve what I know but rather to make palpable who you are — for I move and pray by the gift of your breath within me. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord of life, as I recollect the day, help me to recognize your witness in the truth that challenged convenience, in the decisions that stretched my heart, in forgiveness freely offered. Teach me to trust the sound of your voice and to follow where you lead, for I would serve in the shelter of your reign. Amen.