

**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

February 16, 2025
6th Sunday after Epiphany

SHIFTING GEARS



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 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 piano accompaniment in G major (one sharp) 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 melody is primarily in the right hand, with a supporting bass line in the left hand. The lyrics are printed below the right-hand staff.

PRAYER OF THE DAY — Lois Dimos

God of life, in Christ you transform all things, revealing your love for us, that our transformation may bear witness to the power of your love for all of creation through our lives. Amen.

HYMN: "For All the Saints"

1. For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
2. O blest com - mu - nion, fel - low - ship di - vine
3. From Earth's wide bounds, from o - cean's far - thest coast,

Who Thee by faith be - fore the world con - fessed, Thy
We fee - bly strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet
Through gates of pearl streams in the count - less host; They

The hymn is written for a piano accompaniment in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system covers measures 1-4, and the second system covers measures 5-8. The melody is primarily in the right hand, with a supporting bass line in the left hand. The lyrics are printed below the right-hand staff.

name, O Je - sus, be for - ev - er__ blest —
all are one in Thee, for all__ are__ Thine —
sing to Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly__ Ghost:

Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!
Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

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

Holy one, you have created us with the ability to choose between your way of love and our way of selfish ambition. Help us to reject the advice of the self-obsessed or those who mock your beloved creation, and by your Holy Spirit empower us to make our prayers reality.

We pray for those who put their trust in themselves instead of in you.

We pray for those who put their trust in princes and politicians, and find themselves deceived and misled.

We pray for those who are poor, who hunger, who weep.

We pray for those who are making poor choices in their lives; may they turn to you for guidance.

We pray for the trees, for the rivers, and streams, and for all of your creation: turn us from our exploitative ways to help you renew the earth.

God, you ask much, but promise that your yoke is easy. Guide us throughout our lives, keeping us ever mindful of the good news of your love and renewing grace; through Jesus, our great teacher. Amen.

ANTHEM: “Step by Step” with “Lead Me, Lord” — Music Team

*The **LWCC Vocal Trio** joins us today
in memory of **Joanna Matos**, courtesy of **The Matos Family**.*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Lois Dimos

O God, whose word is like water to the root of the tree, you created us with free will and freedom of choice that we might flourish alongside your Spirit — bearing fruit for a hungry world. Speak to us again your message of transforming love that we might live your freedom in the world trapped in fear around us. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Lois Dimos

Luke 6:17-26

¹⁷He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

²⁰Then he looked up at his disciples and said: “Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. ²¹“Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. “Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh.

²²“Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. ²³Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets. ²⁴“But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. ²⁵“Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. “Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶“Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.

MESSAGE: “Shifting Gears” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Perhaps nowhere else in the Gospel is Jesus’ message of a new world order — the arrival of the realm of God — more clear, and yet this new world order has always been difficult for the church to fathom and easy for it to neutralize. How does this teaching of Jesus challenge you and the world order that we are currently living in? What is one thing you might do to begin to live into the New World Order of Jesus today? What quality or characteristic within you helps you to keep trying, to start again, after disappointment or even failure?

REFLECTION: “My Faith Looks Up to Thee” — Hannah Yi, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Lois Dimos

God places before us the ways of life and the ways of death, and bids us to choose. As we prepare to give our tithes and offerings this day, let us choose wisely, guided by the Holy Spirit who dwells among us. **Amen.**

[Ushers, please come forward]

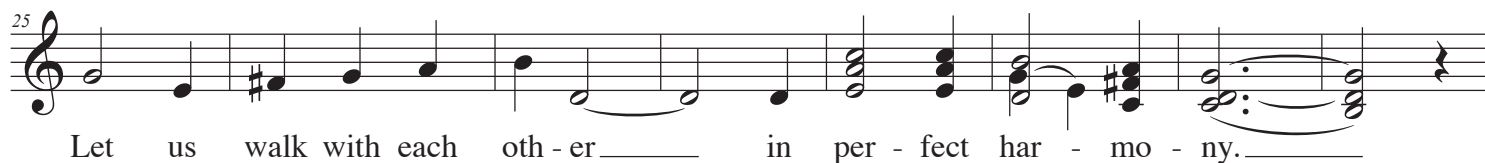
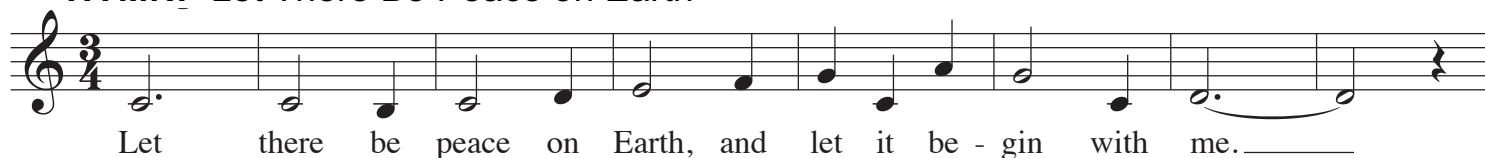
OFFERTORY: “Hold On” — Kara Brouelette, *mezzo-soprano*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Lois Dimos

Holy One, bless and multiply these gifts we bring as tokens of our trust in you. Use them to bless the poor, feed the hungry, and comfort those who weep; in Jesus name. **Amen.**

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: “Let There Be Peace on Earth”



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 blessing of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, nourish and sustain us, surprise and reorder us, and strengthen us in faith and hope for this life and the life to come. **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*
Kara Brouelette, *Mezzo-Soprano*

Dave Albulario, *Tenor / Music Dir.*
Hannah Yi, *Pianist*
Jim Orr, *Bass-Baritone*

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

"For All the Saints"
Music by Ralph Vaughn Williams,
Words by William Walsham How

"Step by Step" with **"Lead Me, Lord"**
Words and Music by David Strasser,
incorporating "Lead Me, Lord" by Samuel
Wesley, Arranged by Ruth Elaine Schram

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"
Music by Lowell Mason;
Piano arrangement by Fred Bock

"Hold On"
From the musical play "The Secret Garden,"
Music by Lucy Simon, Words by Marsha
Norman

"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

PRAYER REQUESTS

new Lois Gordon – Lois passed away on February 8, 2025. Sadly, her son, Bob Gordon, is unable to travel, so there will be no service locally. Ruth's ashes will be laid to rest near her husband's in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. If you care to send cards in honor of Lois, they can be mailed to Bob Gordon, 2240 Borealis Circle, Roseville, CA 95747-4480.

Marv Jahn – Marvin Louis Jahn passed away on Monday, January 20, 2025, at the age of 92. Prayers of comfort for Ella and Marv's family, and peaceful rest for Marv.

Marv's funeral will take place on Saturday, March 1, 2025, at 11 AM, graveside at:
Loma Vista Memorial Park, 701 East Bastanchury Road, Fullerton, California 92835

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FLOWERS and FELLOWSHIP: Today's flowers are anonymously provided in loving memory of Lois Gordon. Fellowship refreshments are provided today by Carol Graves. 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.

FLUTE & PIANO CONCERT: TODAY! LWCC presents **Pija Hočevar** on flute and **Sonia Lee** on piano, performing the music of Debussy, Liszt, Dvořák, and more TODAY, Sunday, February 16, 2025 at 4 PM. Tickets are \$15 seniors/students, \$20 general, and free tickets are available, by request, as usual.

VIOLIN & PIANO CONCERT: Next Sunday, February 23, 2025 at 6 PM, we proudly present "Timeless Duets," featuring Community Church's very own resident pianist, **Hannah Yi**, and violinist **SoJin Kim**, in beautiful duets by César Franck and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Tickets are \$15 seniors/students, \$20 general, and free tickets are available, by request, as usual.

END-OF-YEAR STATEMENTS: If you wish to receive an End-of-Year Giving Statement of your 2024 donations, please see Phyllis Spencer.

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR: This Thursday, February 20th, join Pastor Johan for Coffee with the Pastor, a weekly time of fellowship & check-in over coffee, & perhaps some conversation around the book *Cultivating Christlikeness: Loving as Jesus Loved*.

Sunday February 16th @ 4:00pm

Pija Hočevar, flute & Sonia Lee, piano



TODAY!



Claude Debussy: Rêverie, Arabesque & Bruyères for Flute and Piano

Saverio Mercadante: Aria con Variazioni sul tema di "La ci darem la mano" for solo flute

Carl Reinecke: Ballade for Flute and Piano

Franz Liszt: Consolations nos. 1 & 2 for solo Piano

Antonín Dvořák: American Suite arr. Frank Michael for Flute and Piano

**Leisure World Community Church
14000 Church Place
Seal Beach, CA 90740**

Tickets at the Door: General \$20, Seniors/Students \$15

All-Are-Welcome Ticket Policy

For a free sponsored ticket or to sponsor a free ticket

Call the church office (562) 431-2503

Monday - Thursday, 9:30am -12:30pm.

Leisure World Community Church
Presents

Timeless Duets

Sojin Kim
Hannah Yi



*Featuring Music by
Franck and Mozart*

**6:00pm February 23, 2025
Leisure World Community Church
14000 CHURCH PL
Seal Beach, CA 90740**

To Purchase Tickets Scan:





GROW
PRAY
STUDY

Notes from the Service

My Prayers this week:

Prayer Journal

Use these prayers in your time with God each day.

Household Prayer: Morning

Loving God, thank you for the gift of this new day. Guide my steps as I face choices to care for the earth or not, to show compassion toward others or not, to care for myself or not, to be true to Christ or not. May each of my choices draw me closer to you. Amen.

*Consider The Upper Room Daily Devotional
as a resource for Midday Prayer.*

Household Prayer: Evening

Tonight I come to you in prayer, my God. Thank you for your Spirit's presence with me through this day even when I was not conscious of it. Now I give this day back to you, entrusting all that I did and all that I left undone to your compassionate care. Amen.