



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 23, 2025
7th Sunday after Epiphany

From
Compliance

To
Resistance



**COMMUNITY
CHURCH LEISURE
WORLD**

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 chords and bass lines in the left hand. The lyrics are placed below the right-hand staff.

PRAYER OF THE DAY — Virginia Olejnik

God of abundant mercy, you alone can turn evil into good, sorrow into rejoicing, and death into everlasting life. Teach us your way of grace — to meet hatred with kindness, to answer curses with blessing, to love without holding back, to give without thought of return; all in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN: "The Gift of Love"

1. Though I may speak _____ with brav - est fire, _____
2. Though I may give _____ all I pos - sess, _____
3. Come, Spir - it, fill _____ my heart and soul, _____
_____ and have the gift _____ to all in - spire, _____
_____ and striv - ing so _____ my love pro - fess, _____
_____ our spir - its long _____ to be made whole, _____

The musical score is written for a piano accompaniment in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). 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 chords and bass lines in the left hand. The lyrics are placed below the right-hand staff. There are three numbered lines of lyrics for the first system and three for the second system.

9 and have not love, my words are vain,
 but not be giv'n by love with - in,
 Let in - ward love guide ev - 'ry deed;

13 as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.
 the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.
 by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

You who preserves life, who sends among your people caretakers and peacemakers, who gives us scientists and inventors, give your people new eyes to behold the needs of your creation. Lead us into fields of grain and pools of clean water. Shelter the earth with clouds; nurture the soil with sun. Make our gratitude so profound that with joy we will love and guard what you have created with our very lives. O Giver of prayer that groans within us, teach us to pray for our enemies. Their names are many, and we whisper some of them now before you in our hearts ... ***[a time of silence is offered to name those on your heart].***

Be with them, guard them from harm, and guide them in the way of your light. Save us from self-righteousness, and help us begin our lives anew. Heal the nations, Mighty Lord. Rain peace on all people. Give hope to the hopeless and love to the lonely. Surprise the leaders of all nations with your joy. For the people ... ***[a time of silence is offered to name those on your heart].***

We cry out for reconciliation and plenty. We pledge comfort for the sick, O God. Make whole the broken, make wise the foolish, humble the powerful, make glad the hearts of those who tend our loved ones, and for any who are in pain, give them release and rest. Speak love to ...

[a time of silence is offered to name those on your heart].

And to all who cry out silently. Now hear, O God, the prayers of this assembly spoken silently or aloud ...

[a time of silence is offered to name those on your heart].

God, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

ANTHEM: “Beautiful in God’s Time” — Music Team

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Virginia Olejnik

Gracious God, by your Word you provide all we need — for wholeness and for abundant life. Draw us close in your Holy Spirit so that together we may discover your will and live according to your way; through Jesus Christ our Guide and Teacher. Amen. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Virginia Olejnik

Luke 6:27-38

²⁷“But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹Do to others as you would have them do to you. ³²“If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful. ³⁷“Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; ³⁸give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.”

MESSAGE: “From Compliance to Resistance” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Where do you see yourself in the world today? Are you working toward empire or are you working toward love? We have been under the control of empire for so long, we have likely never known the way of love that Jesus taught. What might you do to unlearn what you have learned and change a practice in your life that helps you to move from empire to love and helps you bring about the kin-dom of God, the paradise that can be?

REFLECTION: “I Surrender All” — John Flucker, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Virginia Olejnik

Children of the Most High God, in obedience to Jesus' words to love others as we love ourselves, do good, bless and pray for friends and enemies alike, let us now do to others as we would have them do to us, offering our gifts and tithes for the sake of our siblings in need around us. **Amen.**

[Ushers, please come forward]

OFFERTORY: "Sing a New Song unto the Lord" — Dave Albulario, *tenor*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Virginia Olejnik

Holy God, you have given us land in which to grow and thrive, food for survival and pleasure, air and water, fire and cold. Make our thanksgiving bloom forth into the lives of others in the name of the one who gave everything for us. **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;____

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

My siblings, Jesus arrived in a time of tremendous oppression and taught a way of living so countercultural to the day back then that we have struggled to comprehend the power and significance of God's love ever since. So, know this, there may be difficult days ahead as we work to overcome the ways of man and restore the ways of love, the way of Jesus, the way of God. May the Holy Spirit guide you and encourage you in the days ahead and may we achieve the kin-dom. **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

"The Gift of Love"
Traditional English
Words and adaptation by Hal Hopson

"Beautiful in God's Time"
Music by Dan Forrest
Words based on Ecclesiastes 3
Add'l words by David Albulario

"I Surrender All"
Music by Winfield S. Weedon; Piano
arrangement/improvisation by John Fluker

"Sing a New Song unto the Lord"
Music by Dan Schutte;
Text based on Psalm 98:1;
Piano arr. by David Albulario

"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 Michael Paul Blassetti – Our LWCC Prayer Chapel is a quiet place to pray that is always open. A prayer request was left for the family of Michael Paul Blassetti, beloved husband and father of two young children, who passed away at the age of 42. Prayers of comfort and strength for the Blassetti Family, and peaceful rest for Michael.

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 provided by Roberta Lane. Fellowship refreshments are provided today by Phyllis Spencer. 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.

VIOLIN & PIANO CONCERT: TODAY! 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.

SOUP-ER BOWL FOOD DRIVE: Through the efforts of our Missions Team, our half-time score was **46 cans** of food for **Philadelphia**, and **39 cans** for **Kansas City**. In the final moments of the game, **Kansas City** pulled it out with an additional **17 packages** of non-perishable food items to win the title! A total of **102 items** were donated to this year's **SOUP-er Bowl!**

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: Thursday, Feb. 27th, join Pastor Johan for Coffee with the Pastor, a weekly time of fellowship & check-in over coffee, & maybe some conversation around the book *Cultivating Christlikeness: Loving as Jesus Loved*.

ASH WEDNESDAY: Ash Wednesday is March 5th. Skip the ash, we're goin' pure **glitter!** Our Lenten Theme is "*Re-Thinking Lent — 40 Days of Kindness*." As before, we'll offer biodegradable glitter, drive-up or walk-up outside the church by the sliding doors. Glitter will be available 11 AM – 1 PM. A take-away calendar of *40 Days of Kindness* will also be available.

Leisure World Community Church
Presents

Timeless Duets

Sojin Kim
Hannah Yi

TODAY!



*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

In the morning when I rise, O God, you are with me strong and sure, turning my dreams into insights and teaching me the delights of your law. You preserve my life day after day, and in return, I rejoice at the new dawn. Guard my waiting this day, O Lord, guide my feet and my hands, give me stillness and patience so that I may give delight to myself and to those I meet; in Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

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

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord, throughout this day you have rescued me from harm and despair, giving me instead the joy of accomplishment and fellowship with family and friends. Protect me through the night, Holy One, that in my dreams I will not be shaken but will see you face to face, and wake renewed. I take refuge in you, loving God. Amen.