

**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

March 16, 2025

2nd Sunday of Lent

Is The Sky Falling?

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 for Lent

Praise God through - out these for - ty days. Praise

Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise. And praise the Spi - rit who im -

parts God's love in Christ in - to our hearts. A - men.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score is divided into three systems, with measures 5 and 10 marked at the beginning of the second and third systems respectively. The music is simple and hymn-like, with a focus on the lyrics.

PRAYER OF THE DAY — Taylor White

Loving God, you save all who seek refuge in your wings. Grant that we who know your love may walk always in your light, take courage in your faithfulness, and rejoice in your astounding goodness to us. By the power of the Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

HYMN: "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor;
Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The lyrics are written below the notes. The score is divided into two systems, with measure 5 marked at the beginning of the second system. The music is simple and hymn-like, with a focus on the lyrics.

9

Thou chang - est not; Thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

13

As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

17

Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by

22

morn - ing, new mer - cies I see. All I have need - ed Thy

27

hand hath pro - vid - ed. Great is Thy faith - ful - ness,

31

Lord un - to me! Lord un - to me!

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

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

In peace, let us pray to God this day.

For the nations of the world, wherever there is poverty, war, or oppression of human spirit, that all people may come to the realization that how we treat one another matters.

For the planet Earth, God's gift to creation, that we repent of selfish or thoughtless exploitation and tend it with care so that all creatures may share justly in its bounty.

For the leaders of the nations, that they may work for the common good of all people and repent of arrogant nationalism.

For those who annoy us or seem to have it out for us, that we may learn to love them with regard to God's compassion, forgiving wrongs and seeking reconciliation.

For those who are sick or in trouble, for the defenseless, the weak, and the poor, that they may find help in their time of need, and that the church may heed their cry.

Loving God, hear the prayers of your people for the sake of your world. With our prayers, accept the dedication of our lives that we may share your way of love with all whom we encounter. Amen.

HYMN: "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise". It features a treble and bass staff in 3/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes.

1. Im - mor - tal, in - vis - i - ble, God on - ly wise,
2. Un - rest - ing, un - hast - ing, and si - lent as light,
3. To all, life thou giv - est, to both great and small;
4. Thou reign - est in glo - ry; thou dwell - est in light;

in light in - ac - ces - si - ble hid from our eyes,
nor want - ing, nor wast - ing, thou rul - est in might;
in all life thou liv - est, the true life of all;
thine an - gels a - dore thee, all veil - ing their sight;

most bless - ed, most glo - rious, the An - cient of Days,
thy jus - tice like moun - tains high soar - ing a - bove
we blos - som and flour - ish as leaves on the tree,
all laud we would ren - der: O help us to see

al - might - y, vic - to - rious, thy great name we praise.
thy clouds which are foun - tains of good - ness and love.
and with - er and per - ish, but naught chang - eth thee.
'tis on - ly the splen - dor of light hid - eth thee.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Taylor White

Holy God, by your Spirit open your Word to us this day that we might hear your words of comfort amidst the discomfort around us. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Taylor White

Luke 13:31-35

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, “Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.” ³²He said to them, “Go and tell that fox for me, ‘Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.’ ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, ‘Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.’”

MESSAGE: “Is the Sky Falling?” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

What does it mean to say “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of love?” What does it mean to see Jesus in the world around us? How might your life more truly reflect the love of God for you and all of creation around us?

REFLECTION: “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” — Hannah Yi, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Taylor White

Loving God, into the darkness around us you have sent Jesus to reveal your way of love and your preferred way for this world to be. Use these gifts that we have brought this day to further extend your light and your love that ever more of your creation may be gathered under your wings. **Amen.**

[Ushers, please come forward]

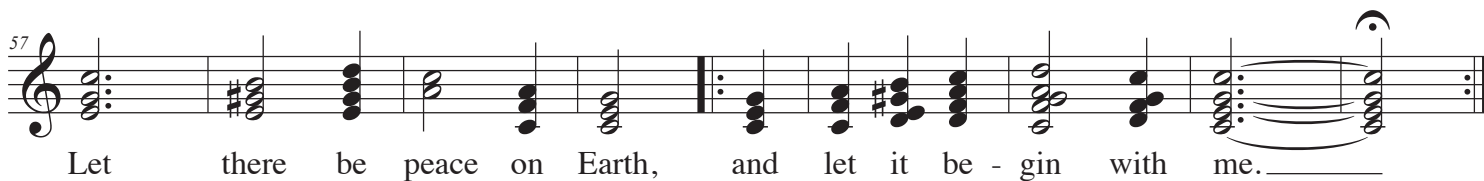
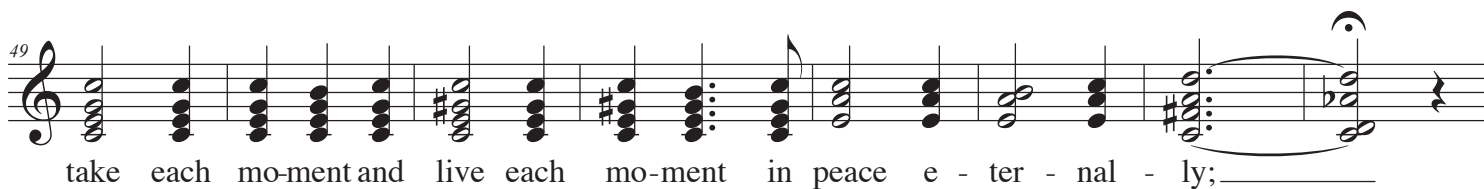
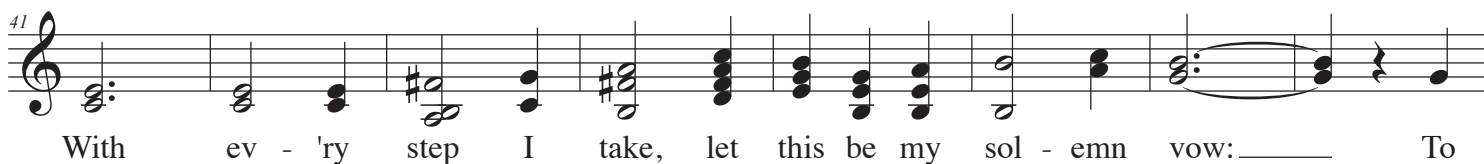
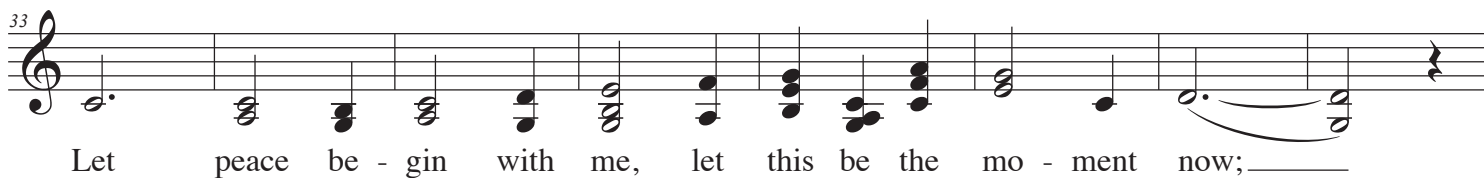
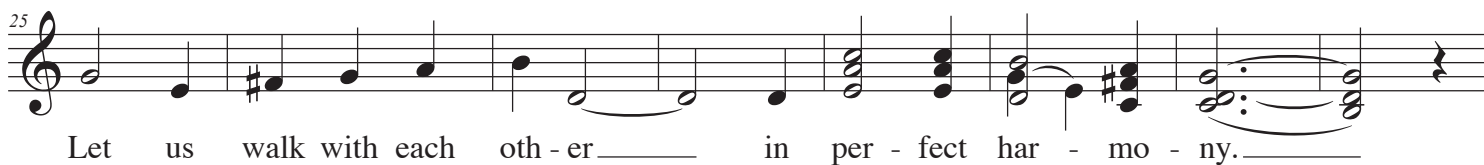
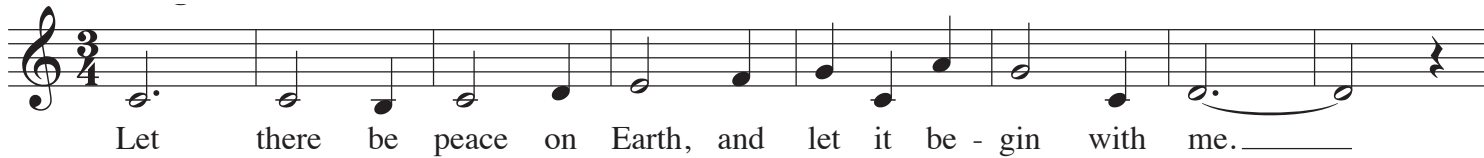
OFFERTORY: “Goodness of God” — Dave Albulario, *tenor*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Taylor White

O God, we have beheld your goodness to us. Accept the offering of the work of our hands and use us for the sake of your mission in the world and to all of creation. Amen.

[please stand as you are able]

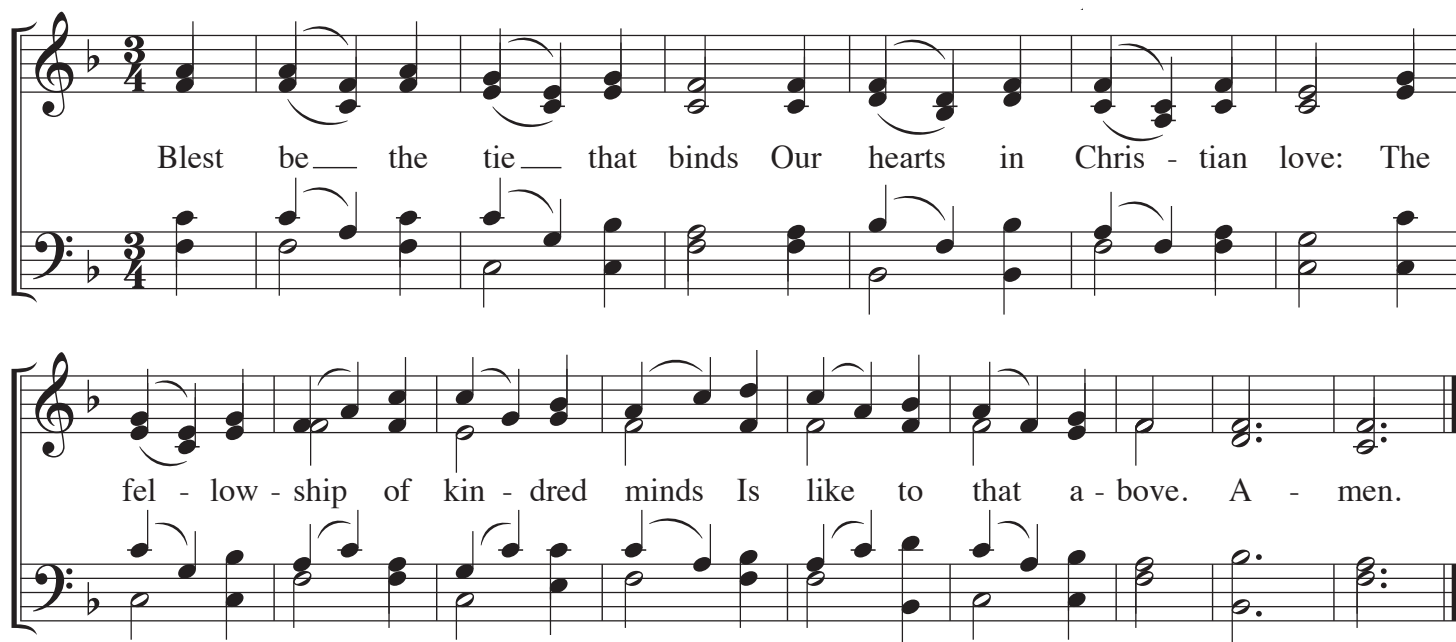
HYMN: "Let There Be Peace on Earth"



BLESSING — Rev. Johan Dodge

The God of Reconciliation bless you, the grace of our great teacher Jesus guide you, and the power of the Holy Spirit encourage you this day and in the days ahead.

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: Hannah Yi, *Pianist*
John Fluker, *Pianist*

Dave Albulario, *Tenor / Music Dir.*
Jennifer Scoullar, *Soprano*

Doxology (Old Hundredth LM)

Music by Louis Bourgeois, 1551

Original Words by Thomas Ken, 1674

Lenten Words by G. W. Dub Shepherd, 2006

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Music by William Marion Runyan

Words by Thomas O. Chisholm

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

Tune: Welsh melody from *Canaidau y*

Cussegr; adapt. by John Roberts; Words by
Walter Chalmers Smith (based on 1 Tim. 1:17)

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Tune: *NETTLETON*, Anonymous

Piano Arrangement by Amy Webb

"Goodness of God"

Words and Music by Jenn Johnson,
Brian Johnson, Jason Ingram, Ed Cash,
and Ben Fielding

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Music & Words by Sy Miller & Jill Jackson

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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 Sue Long – Sue (*longtime Office Administrator for LWCC*) recently suffered a seizure, a fall, and a back injury, all of which resulted in swelling of her spinal cord. She is recovering in the CCU at Orange County Global Medical Center at 1001 N. Tustin Ave., in Santa Ana. Prayers for excellent medical care toward a full and speedy recovery.

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FLOWERS and FELLOWSHIP: Today's flowers are provided anonymously. Fellowship refreshments are provided today by Jeanette Williams. 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! March 16, 2025 at **3:30 PM**, we present violinist **Ken Aiso** pianist **Valeria Morgovskaya** in duets by Johann Sebastian Bach and Johannes Brahms, as well as music by composers from the Republic of Georgia. 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: Thursday, March 20th, 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*.

RE:Thinking LENT: Grab a copy of our Lenten Calendar **"44 Days of Kindness"** in the narthex. Take time this **Lent** to help someone in need, share a **kind** word, remind friends and family how much you **love** them, **welcome** a stranger, pay a **visit** someone who may be lonely, share a **meal** with someone ... *may we each find ways to make kindness and love happen in the world around us, every day.*

DOLLAR CLEARANCE SALE: On Saturday, March 29, 2025, from 9 AM to 1 PM, *everything* must go for only \$1! Swing on by Community Church for the deal of the century! ALL items on **CLEARANCE** for just **\$1. You see it, you want it, you drop a buck, it's yours!** Note: LWCC is NOT accepting donations for this sale. Please **DON'T** bring items to the church.

This Week in RE:Thinking Lent

March 16:	Mini Easter! Be Kind today!	March 20:	Give a stranger a compliment
March 17:	Give a meal card to an unhoused person	March 21:	Share a meal with a friend
March 18:	Let someone in front of you in line	March 22:	Visit someone
March 19:	Thank someone in service to others	March 23:	Mini Easter! Be kind today!

LEISURE WORLD COMMUNITY CHURCH

14000 Church Pl, Seal Beach, CA 90740

Sunday, March 16, 2025, 3:30 PM

VIOLIN PIANO DUETS



Ken Aiso
violin

Valeria Morgovskaya
piano

performing works by

Johann Sebastian Bach

Johannes Brahms

and composers from

The Republic of Georgia

GENERAL: \$20 | SENIORS & STUDENTS: \$15

Tickets available at the door, and in the Church Office

Call 562-431-2503 Monday – Thursday, 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM

ALL-Are-Welcome Ticket Policy: *If the ticket price is a challenge,
just call the church office at 562-431-2503 for a FREE sponsored ticket.
Likewise, if you wish to sponsor a ticket for someone else, please call the church office.*

March 9, 2025



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

Holy God, I do not know the challenges that face me this day, but still I pray that as you walk with me, I would not be distracted by the desires of earthly gain at the expense of others. If I should be distracted, may your Holy Spirit empower me to stay at the task of love. Let me walk in the way of Christ so that my life reveals in deed and in word — “Blessed is the one who comes in the name of Love. Amen.

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

Household Prayer: Evening

Ever present God, great is your love for me, even when I have not seen you in the faces of those around me. When I have strayed from your path, forgive my errors and guide me back to your way of love. Grant me rest this night that I may rise refreshed in my commitment to your way of love as revealed in Jesus. Amen.