

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

July 20, 2025

6th Sunday After Pentecost

FOCUS



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 — Phyllis Spencer

Loving ever present God, abide with us in this hour and in the days to come. Grant that we not be overtaken by anxious thoughts that can make us feel you are not near. Prepare us as we journey together continuing to learn to live beyond ourselves and see how you call us into deeper community with the world around us. Amen.

HYMN: "Be Still, My Soul"

Be still, my soul: for God is on your side. —
your God will un - der - take —
the hour is hast - 'ning on —

5

Bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain;
to guide the fu - ture, as in a - ges past.
when we shall be for - ev - er with our God,

8

9

leave to your God to or - der and pro - vide; —
Your hope, your con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake;
when dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone, —

13

in ev - 'ry change God faith - ful will re - main.
all now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.

17

Be still, my soul: your best, your Heav'n - ly friend —
the waves and winds still know —
when change and tears are past, —

21

through thorn - y ways leads to a joy - ful end.
the Christ who ruled them while he dwelt be - low.
all sage and bless - ed we shall meet at last.

8

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

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

Creator God, as we look at the world you have made, we notice that the songs of love that wanted us to sing have turned into cries of abuse, oppression, and prejudice. We have abused the planet that you have provided for us to inhabit and share with other creatures. We have wasted the water, abused the land and poisoned the air. We have created borders and barriers that limit access and return your gift of hospitality with inhospitality. We pray for this world in need of restoration and as that you provide us with the tools and the intelligence needed to rebuild the world into your preferred kin-dom.

There is oppression in the world that we live in. We see it in the ways human beings treat one another, taking advantage of those considered to be of less value. We turn our eyes away when we see the needy being trampled on the poor being stashed out of sight. May your will be the last word, and the church effective agents of your love.

We are prejudice in our relationships, and we judge one another, not with justice and fairness, but with fear and misinformation. It is easier to demonize than to take time to listen and to establish new relationships. It is easier to assume than to ask questions or acquire knowledge. Make us people of peace who are filled with your love such that your love overflows from within us and transforms your world. **Amen.**

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: "It Is Well with My Soul"

1. When peace, like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, When sor - rows like
2. Though ev - il should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, Let this blest as -
3. Our faults - O the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought, Our faults - not in
4. And, God, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, The clouds be rolled

7
sea - bil - lows roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast taught me to
sur - rance con - trol, That Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es -
part but the whole, For - give us our faults, may we bear them no
back as a scroll, Our voic - es re - sound and our God shall de -

4

12

say, "It is well, it is well, with my soul." _____
tate, And hath shared God's own love for my soul. _____ It is well _____
more, For 'tis writ: "God is love," O my soul! _____ It is
scend, "E - ven so" - It is well with my soul. _____

18

_____ well with my soul, _____ It is well, it is well, with my soul.
well with my soul, _____

[please be seated]

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Phyllis Spencer

Open our hearts and our minds, so that we can understand the fullness of your Word. Fill us with the light of the Holy Spirit, and bless the servant you have chosen to share the Word proclaimed today. In the name of Jesus who taught us your way of live and light. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Phyllis Spencer

Luke 10:38-42

³⁸Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, ⁴²but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

MESSAGE: “Focus” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

What are we focused on? What are we distracted by? How do we stay focused on what we should be focused on when it is all too easy to be focused on the wrong things? What might practicing your focus do for you? And how might you better serve as God's hands and feet when you are better focused?

REFLECTION: “Both Sides, Now” — John Flucker, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Phyllis Spencer

We bring our gifts and our talents, even as we bring our hands and our feet;
and even as we bring our listening ears and our calming voices, we bring all of
whom we are to you loving God, in thanksgiving for the gift of your way of love.
Let us offer our lives and our means to the God of love. **Amen.**

[Ushers, please come forward]

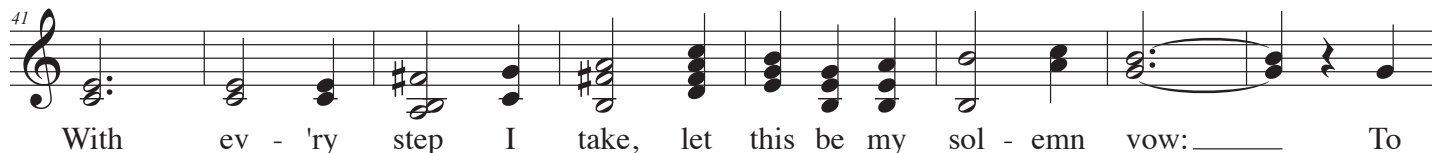
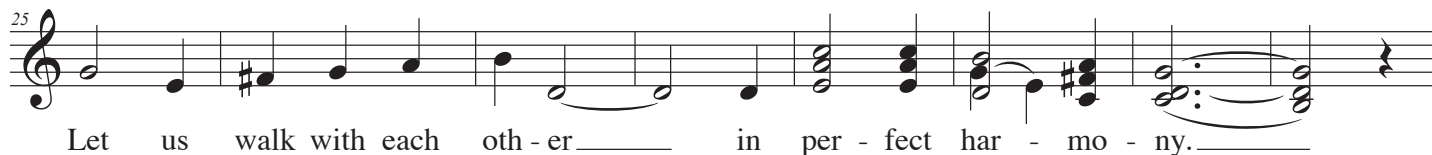
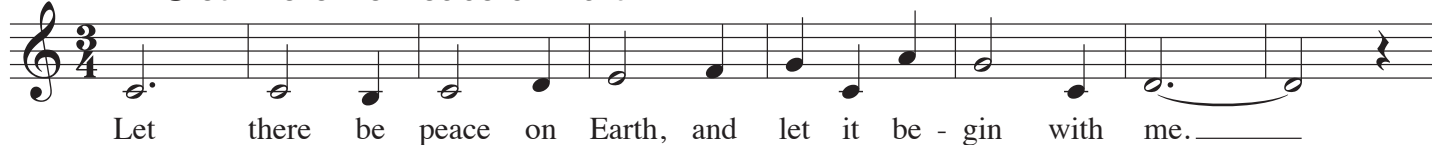
OFFERTORY: “City of God” — Dave Albulario, *tenor*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Phyllis Spencer

Loving God, we have given today in thankfulness and with the conviction
that our gifts will continue to bless the world around us through this
growing ministry. Give us wisdom as your body in the world that this
offering is used to bring your love beyond our walls. In the name of the
great teacher of the way — Jesus. Amen.

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: “Let There Be Peace on Earth”



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, go out into the world proclaiming the love of God in every corner, admonishing and teaching with all wisdom, so that everyone can comprehend fully the presence of God and the witness of the Holy Spirit who moves us and gives us the power to be God's light in the darkness. **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.

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

"Be Still, My Soul"
Tune: *FINLANDIA* by Jean Sibelius;
Words by Katharina Von Schlegel,
trans. by Jane Borthwick

"It Is Well with My Soul"
Tune: *VILLE DU HAVRE* by Philip P. Bliss;
Words by Horatio G. Spafford; Public Domain

"Both Sides, Now"
Music by Joni Mitchell
Piano Arrangement by John Fluker

"City of God"
Music by Dan Schutte, Acc. by John Weissrock;
Words based on Isaiah 9, and 1 John 1;
© 1981, 1983, Dan Schutte & OCP Publ.

"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. 187225

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

Jennifer Rudy, *Soprano*
Hannah Yi, *Pianist*
Jim Orr, *Technology*

PRAYER REQUESTS

update Linda and Lewis Hildreth – Linda & Lewis have settled in at Home at Cascade, a board & care facility in Huntington Beach. They hope to be back at Leisure World soon. Prayers for comfort in their new surroundings, and a robust return to strength and health. If you wish to send cards, please send them to: *Linda & Lewis Hildreth, Home at Cascade, 15311 Cascade Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647*

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FLOWERS and **FELLOWSHIP**: Today's flowers are provided anonymously. Fellowship refreshments are provided 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.

COFFEE WITH PASTOR: Our regular weekly "Coffee with Pastor" sessions resume this Thursday, July 24th at 10 AM. Enjoy some low-key, time with Pastor Johan and members of our church community. Chat about today's sermon, have some casual conversation, talk about how we might bring more love into the world, even find some relief and take a breath from the daily grind. Come share coffee, tea, and time with friends.

"PRECIOUS LIFE" SHELTER: We received a heartfelt "thank you" from **Precious Life Shelter** in Los Alamitos: *"Dear Community Church – What a blessing you are! We so appreciate your ongoing support for our women and children. Your goodness encourages us to be their cheerleader and to reach for success. Our sincere gratitude."*

"WE CARE" DONATIONS: Your donations have provided much-needed relief for people in need. Looking for ideas of what to donate? **We Care** has mentioned that canned chicken, beef stew, pasta sauce, and cooking oil are much appreciated, as well as *shampoo, body wash, paper towels, and toilet paper*. The next **We Care** pickup will be Wednesday, August 20th. **THANK YOU!** for sharing the **LOVE!** 💕

NEED A BIBLE?: Free Bibles on the small bookshelf in the narthex. *Help yourself.*

RECENT LWCC WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

June 22nd: 34 | June 29th: 36 | July 6th: 30 | July 13th: 36

PEACE LOVE HOPE JOY
KINDNESS FORGIVENESS
COMPASSION MUSIC

July 20, 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

Hear me, O God, I have too many things to do today! Help me to see you in everything I do and in everything I say. Help me to take a deep breath and to remember that the Holy Spirit dwells within me and around me. Help me to pause and drink a glass of water, and to remember my baptism, and the covenant you have established that calls me your beloved child. Help me to live your Word, and not to think just of the past, but also of how you are working through me and others in the present. Help me to stay humble as I work with my siblings in faith, sharing kindness, giving hope, and living in your way of love. Amen.

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

Household Prayer: Evening

Today, O God, I have sat at your feet and listened to your words as you have shared them through those around me. I was empowered by your teachings and went into the world to share your light amidst the darkness. Now, grant me a restful night of sleep that I may go out into the world tomorrow refreshed and ready to serve, and smile, and love, and work, and play, and forgive ... doing everything in your name! Amen.