



**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

October 26, 2025

Season of Creation – 9th Sunday

**TRICK
or
TREAT**

Rev. Johan Dodge

 **COMMUNITY
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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

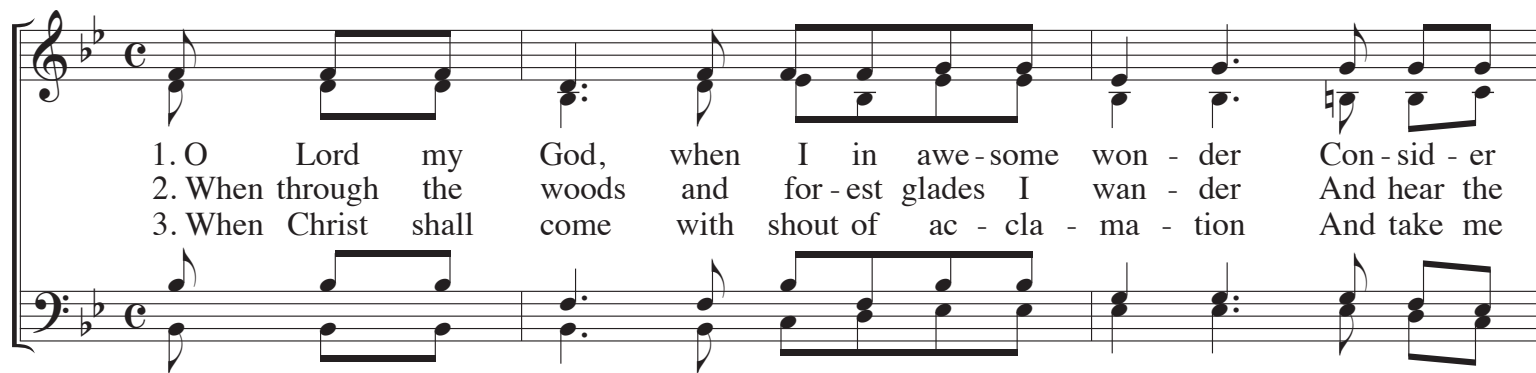
host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY — Phyllis Spencer

Good and gracious God, you promise to pour out your Spirit upon us; you are the hope of the world. Give us the courage that we might serve as your hands and voice; make us humble, that we might live in your shared glory. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.



HYMN: "How Great Thou Art"



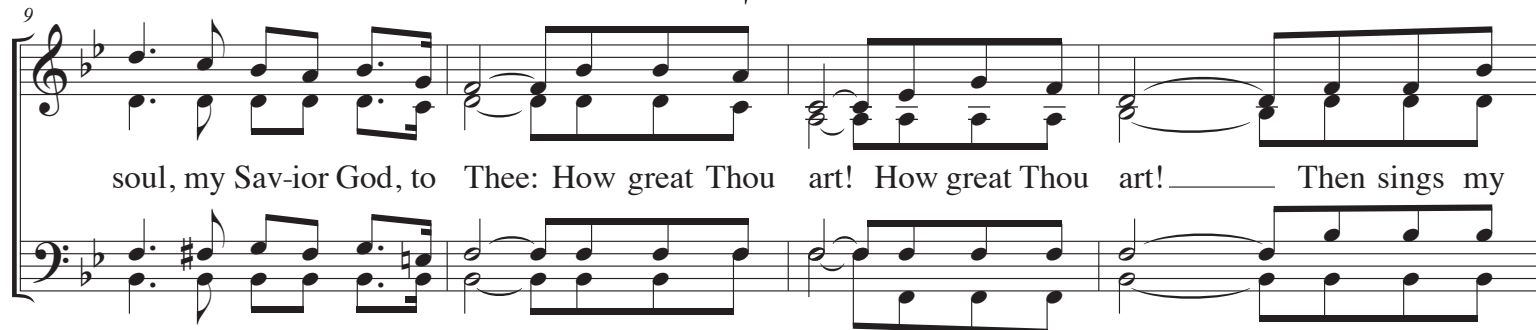
1. O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er
 2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der And hear the
 3. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



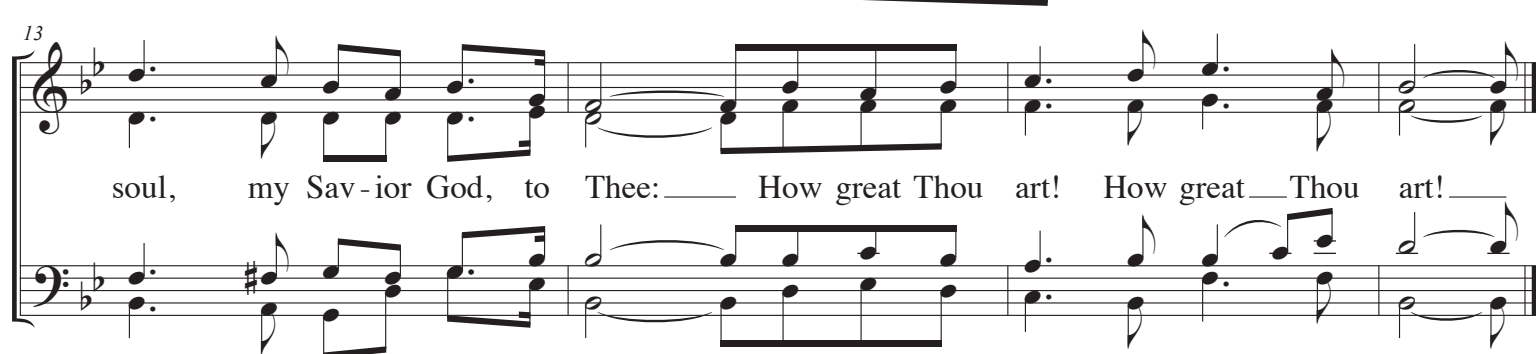
all the worlds Thy hands have made, — I see the stars, I hear the roll - ing
 birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, — When I look down from loft - y moun - tain
 home, what joy shall fill my heart! — Then I shall bow in hum - ble a - dor -



thun - der, Thy power through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played: —
 grand - eur, And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze: — Then sings my
 a - tion, And there pro - claim, "My God, how great Thou art!" —



soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee: How great Thou art! How great Thou art! — Then sings my



soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee: — How great Thou art! How great — Thou art! —

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

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

Let us attune ourselves to the needs of the church and the world as we pray together saying: God of Mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the church in every place, that wherever people gather in your name, you enable us to listen to each other with open hearts. Give your people unity, O God; replace pride with reconciliation. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for Muslims and Jews, Hindus and Buddhists, and people of indigenous religions everywhere, that their paths may lead—with ours—to greater understanding of the goodness of faith in its many languages and forms. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for this amazing Earth, for rich soils, abundant sunshine, and all the foods that you have made for our health and enjoyment. We thank you for clean waters, especially for the LA river, the Pacific Ocean, and the wetlands that harbor so many species. Make us grateful for your gifts so that we protect what we have. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Reassure us, O God, that you desire good for your world and all the people in it, and that your provisions are sufficient. Infuse us with a commitment to share with others, especially with those who do not have such riches and who today are hungry. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the leaders of our nation: for our president and Congress; for the leaders who struggle with drought and famine, destructive storms and lack of food or shelter; for leaders of peace movements and for those who do not know how to create just societies; for all who are suffering from the horrors of war, especially for children who do not know the reason for their pain and have no power to change their situations; for soldiers, for dictators, for diplomats and for those who pray each day for the welfare of others. God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those suffering from all forms of injustice, brokenness, or illness, especially all who have asked for the prayers of this congregation and for those whose well-being we hold in our hearts. God of mercy, hear our prayer. We pray for those concerns we name now aloud or silently ... *[time is offered]* God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of eternity, we know that all days are redeemed and held in your grace. We remember with honor and gratitude all those whose lives have enriched ours, and especially those whose faith has given shape to our own. Keep alive within us the hope of kin-dom. God of mercy, **hear our prayer. Amen.**

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: "Be Thou My Vision"

Be Thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
Be Thou my wis - dom, and Thou my true word;
Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise;
Rul - er of Heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that Thou art—
I ev - er with Thee and Thou with me, Lord.
Thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
may I reach Heav - en's joys, O bright Heav'n's sun!

Thou my best thought, — by day or by night;
Thou my Cre - a - tor; Thine own may I be,
Thou and Thou on - ly first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, Thy pres - ence my light.
Thou in me dwell - ing and I one with Thee.
Ru - ler of Heav - en, my treas - ure Thou art.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

[please be seated]

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Phyllis Spencer

Loving God, by your Spirit make yourself known to us through the reading and preaching of your Word, that we might be faithful witnesses in this life and joyful companions in the next, even with Jesus, in whose name we pray.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE — Phyllis Spencer

Luke 18:9-14

The Parable of the Pharisee and the Tax Collector

⁹ He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰ “Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ ¹³ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴ I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

MESSAGE: “Trick or Treat” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

As Halloween approaches, What costumes do we wear? What stories do we tell about ourselves that are meant to trick ourselves and those around us? What does it look like for us to be costume free and authentic with ourselves and one another as we come together to be the body of Christ? Who could you be a little more real with today?

REFLECTION: “Just As I Am” — Hannah Yi, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Phyllis Spencer

With humility for all that God has given us, let us gratefully give for the work of the church and the healing of the world.

[Ushers, please come forward]

OFFERTORY: “Shout to the Lord” — Jennifer Rudy, *soprano*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Phyllis Spencer

Holy and loving God, you are the source of joy that is in us when we offer ourselves, our time, our possessions for the work you set before us. Use these gifts to help and teach, comfort and challenge, that all the world might reflect your love. 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;_____

With ev - 'ry step I take, let this be my sol - emn vow:_____ To

take each mo - ment and live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly;_____

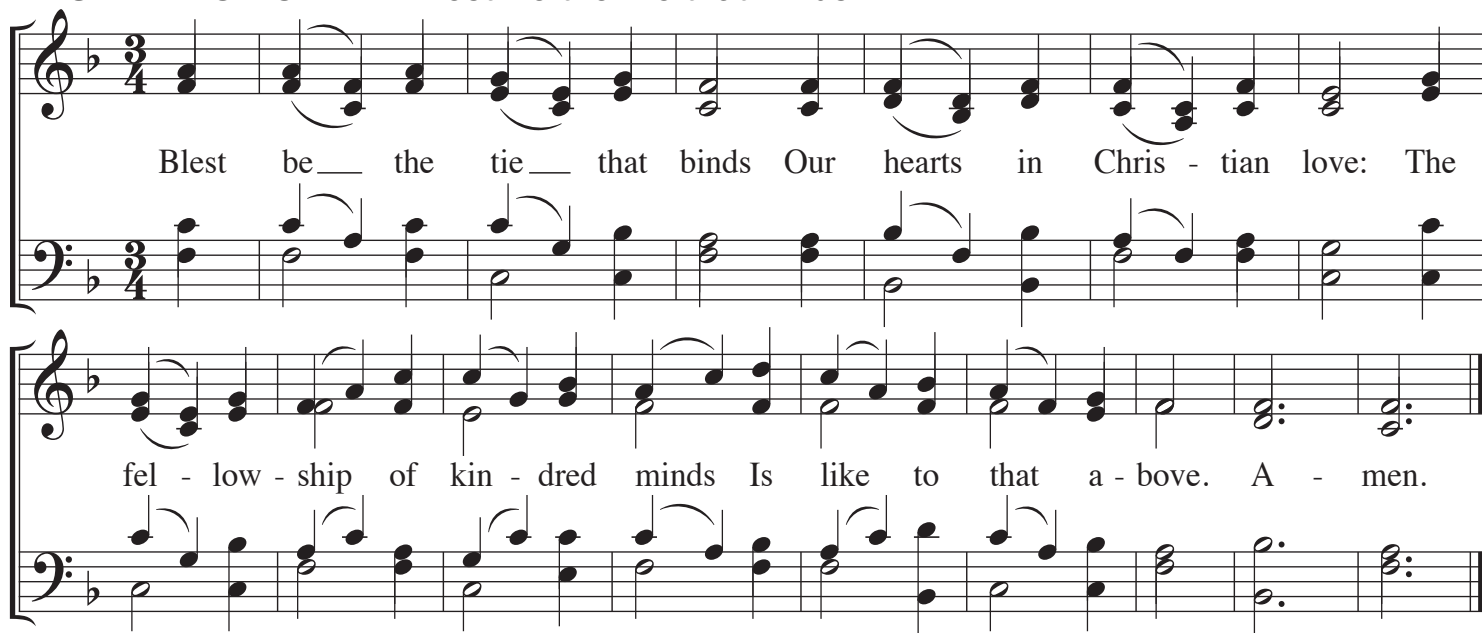
Let there be peace on Earth, and let it be - gin with me._____

BLESSING — Rev. Johan Dodge

My siblings, have courage for your strength comes from God.

As we go forth this day; May the Creator nurture you, the Teacher walk with you, and the Spirit strengthen you, this day and forevermore. **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 Rudy, *Soprano*
Hannah Yi, *Pianist*

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

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

"How Great Thou Art"
Traditional Swedish Melody *O STORE GUD*
Words by Carl Boberg and Stuart K. Hine

"Be Thou My Vision"
Traditional Irish *SLANE*; Arr. Jack Schrader
Text: 8th Century Irish Hymn Translated by
Mary E. Byrne Vers. Eleanor H. Hull

"Just As I Am"
Music by William B. Bradbury,
based on Words by Charlotte Elliot; Piano
Arrangement by Michael Kravchuk

"Shout to the Lord"
Music and Words by Darlene Zschech,
Setting by Jack Schrader

"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

PRAYER REQUESTS

Perla Rodgers – Nancy's Westcott's family friend, Perla has completed radiation therapy and now begins "cold cap" chemotherapy. She has two young children. Prayers for strength, effective treatment, good medical care, and blessings on her family.

Taylor White – Continued prayers of comfort for Taylor, who is at *Harrison's Board & Care, 2932 Channing Way, Los Alamitos, CA 90720*. Cards and visits are welcome. Text her daughter Hilary at 562-225-7401 to schedule visits. She loves her Prayer Shawl, and enjoys songs, readings for joy, and spiritual comfort.

Linda & Lewis Hildreth – Prayers for continued progress with medical treatments, and general good health and comfort.



NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FLOWERS and **FELLOWSHIP**: Today's flowers and Fellowship refreshments are provided by Betty Ku. See the sign-up charts to provide refreshments or cover the cost of altar flowers for future services. Altar flowers are \$35. See Sandy Walker to coordinate the arrangements.

MISSIONS TEAM: The Missions Team meets **TODAY**, Sunday, October 26th, immediately following Worship & Fellowship. Please grab a snack and a coffee or tea and gather in the Church Office Conference Room.

SOCK-IT-TO-'EM: Our Veterans Day "Sock It to 'Em" sock drive begins today! Please bring *new* packages of men's and women's white athletic socks to Sunday Worship or to the church office during the week. If you prefer, you may also provide a cash/check offering toward the purchase of socks. They will be given to the Veterans Administration for distribution on Veterans Day, November 11, 2025.

A COURSE IN MIRACLES: "**A Course in Miracles**" continues Tuesday, October 28th at 1:00 PM in the Music Room. Our FREE weekly discussion of the book "A Course in Miracles" by Dr. Kenneth Wapnick, is summed up: ***"Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists. Herein lies the peace of God."*** The book is accessible for FREE at www.miraclecenter.org. More information on the book at www.acim.org.

COFFEE WITH PASTOR: Enjoy "Coffee with Pastor" this Thursday, October 30th at 10 AM. Join Pastor Johan and other members of our congregation for a relaxed time to discuss any questions you may have, current events, or just to get something off your chest. Come share coffee & conversation.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY: Next Sunday, November 2, 2025, is **ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**. If you've had a loved one pass away in the past year, and you would like to remember them, their name will be read aloud, and a candle lit in their honor. ***Please submit their names on the cards available in the narthex, by THIS Thursday, October 30th.***

NEED A BIBLE or DEVOTIONAL?: Free Bibles on the small bookshelf in the narthex. Free Devotional Books outside the Library. *Help yourself!*

RECENT LWCC WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

September 28th: 35 | October 5th: 44 | October 12th: 27 | October 19th: 34

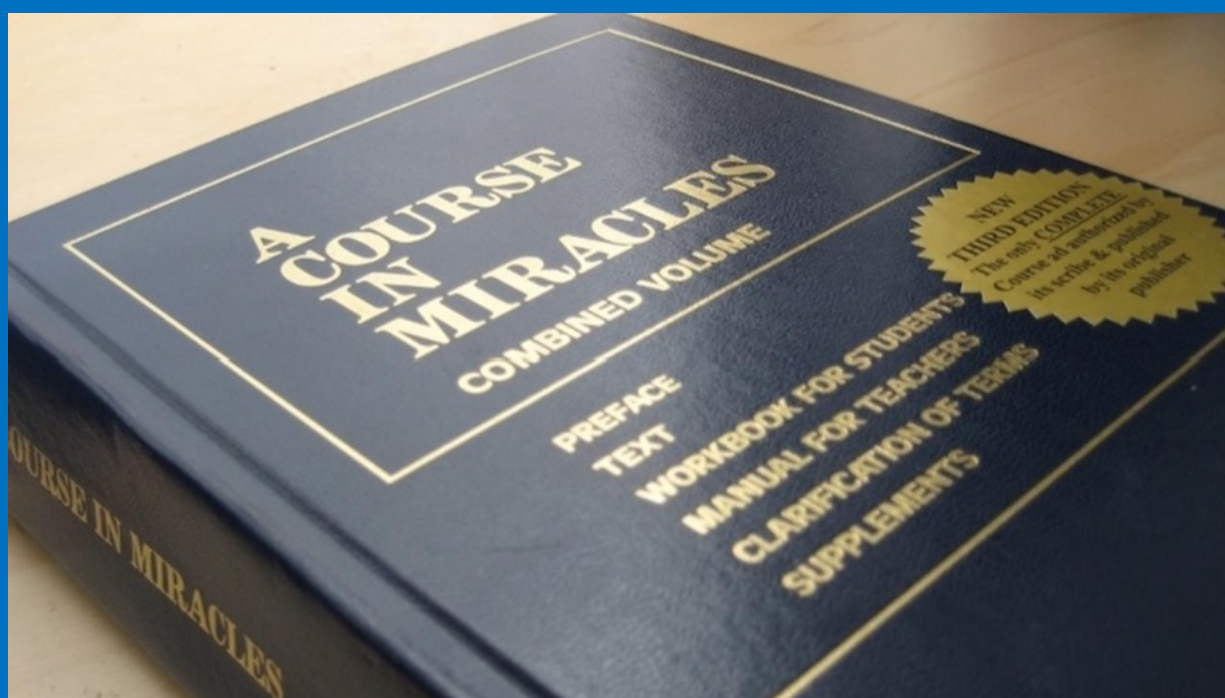
A COURSE IN *Miracles*

Friend of LWCC, **Abby Stevens**, facilitates “**A Course in Miracles**” – a FREE discussion of the book of the same name every Tuesday, at 1:00 PM, in the LW Community Church Music Room. Focused on the teachings of Dr. Kenneth Wapnick, the course is summed up:

*“Nothing real can be threatened. Nothing unreal exists.
Herein lies the peace of God.”*

The book may be purchased online at varying cost (hardback, paperback, ebook, etc.), but is also accessible for FREE at www.miraclecenter.org. For more information on “A Course in Miracles” visit www.acim.org.

LEISURE WORLD COMMUNITY CHURCH
14000 Church Pl, Seal Beach, CA 90740 • 562-431-2503



October 26, 2025



GROW PRAY STUDY

Notes from the Service

My Prayers this week:

Prayer Journal

Use this prayer in your time with God each day.

Household Prayer: Morning

The Lord's Prayer

O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos,
you create all that moves in light.

O Thou! The Breathing Life of all, Creator of the
Shimmering Sound that touches us.

Respiration of all worlds, we hear You breathing
- in and out - in silence.

Source of Sound in the roar and the whisper, in the breeze
and the whirlwind, we hear Your Name.

Radiant One: You shine within us, outside us
- even darkness shines - when we remember.

Name of names, our small identity unravels in You.
You give it back as a lesson.

Wordless Action, Silent Potency - where ears and eyes
awaken, there heaven comes.

O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos! Amen

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

Household Prayer: Evening

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, Who art in heaven,

Hallowed be Thy name;

Thy kin-dom come;

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kin-dom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.