



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



November 23, 2025
3rd Sunday of Advent: Peace



Rev. Johan Dodge

**You Should
See Me
in a Crown**

COMMUNITY CHURCH LEISURE WORLD

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.

Advent Candle Week 3: Peace — Jeanette Williams

As our nights grow longer and our days grow short, we look on these earthly signs — light and green branches — and remember God's promise to our world: **Christ, our Light and our Hope, will come.**



Candle Reader — Wilma Wind

Listen to these words from the Revelation to John:

“And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mixed with fire, and those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name, standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands. And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb: ‘Great and amazing are your deeds.’”

Candle Lighter — Fred Wind

[As the candle is lit, all stand as you are able, and sing]



CALL TO WORSHIP: Doxology for Advent

5

9

14

19

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise
God, all creatures here be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host: Cre - a - tor, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall
come to thee, O Is - ra - el. A - men.



Candle Prayer — Rev. Johan Dodge

O come, Desire of nations, bind as one the hearts of all humanity; bid thou our sad divisions cease, and be thyself our guide to Peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Amen.

HYMN CAROL: "Go, Tell It on the Mountain"

Go, — tell it on the moun - tain, o - ver the hills and ev - 'ry - where;

5 go, — tell it on the moun - tain, that Je - sus Christ is born. Fine

9 While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night, be -
The shep - herds feared and trem - bled, when lo! a - bove the earth, rang
Down in the low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born, so

14 hold through - out the heav - ens there shown a ho - ly light. —
out the an - gel cho - rus to her - ald Je - sus' birth. —
God could be here with us that bless - ed Christ - mas morn. —
D.C. al Fine

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Loving God, you have assured us that the days are surely coming when your people will know peace, your people will know justice, your people will know loving kindness. Confident in your promises, we proclaim with faith:
God is our Loving Kindness.



We pray this day for those in particular need of justice, righteousness, and mercy. We pray for the trampled, the ignored, the brushed aside. We pray for the unhoused, the lonely, and the unwell. We pray for leaders in governments, homes, communities, and schools, that they may know the influence of wisdom rather than power; and declare with faith:

God is our Loving Kindness.

We pray this day for those who only know violence: those whose countries have been torn apart by invasion, civil war, and private armies, those whose communities have been forgotten by all but the warlords and gangs, those whose homes are places of danger and fear rather than sanctuary and love. May they declare with certitude: **God is our Loving Kindness.**

God of all creation we pray that in the midst of chaos we might hear God's word to us: that in the midst of heartache we might know the Spirit's presence, and in the midst of a cacophony of voices we might proclaim:
God is our Loving Kindness. Amen.

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN CAROL: "Angels We Have Heard on High"

1. An - gels we have heard on high Sweet - ly sing-ing o'er the plains,
2. Shep-herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy-ous strains pro - long?
3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Christ whose birth the an - gels sing;
4. See Him in a man - ger laid, Whom the choirs of an - gels praise;

And the moun-tains in re - ply E - cho - ing their joy - ous strains.
What the glad-some ti - dings be, Which in - spire your heav'n-ly song?
Come, a - dore on bend-ed knee, Christ the Lord, the new - born King.
Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, While our hearts in love we raise.

9

Glo - - - - ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De - o!

15

Glo - - - - ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De - o!

The image shows two systems of musical notation for a hymn. Each system consists of a treble and bass staff joined by a brace. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The first system starts at measure 9, and the second system starts at measure 15. The lyrics are 'Glo - - - - ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De - o!'.

[please be seated]

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Jeanette Williams

Holy God, through the generations you have spoken to us. You have sent voices crying out in the wilderness. You have sent the words of an overjoyed new father and an expectant mother. You have sent the assurance of a condemned man on a cross. Quiet in us any voice but your own, that by the power of your Spirit, we might hear the words you speak to us today. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Jeanette Williams

Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.



MESSAGE: “You Should See Me in a Crown” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

The author of Colossians describes Jesus with what scholars refer to as a “High-Christology” that is, a very divine Jesus. But Jesus didn’t describe himself this way. Jesus had a very low Christology, he saw himself as human and his message of his relationship to God was not that he was God’s son, but rather that we are all children of God. Jesus changed the relationship, the understanding, of the people toward God. Holding these different views of Jesus in tension, what does it mean to you to be a child of God? How does this empower you? How does it give you pause?

REFLECTION: “The First Noel”— Hannah Yi, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Jeanette Williams

Let us affirm God’s presence in all creation, continuing our worship through the offering of our gifts to God. **Amen.**

[Ushers, please come forward]

OFFERTORY: “Candlelight Carol” — Jennifer Rudy, *soprano*



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Jeanette Williams



Holy God, you have looked upon your people with mercy, generosity, and love; and so, we offer these gifts for your hurting and broken world. May these gifts be multiplied to do your service. May we be strengthened to do your work. In the name of Jesus showed us how to multiply small gifts and feed the multitude. **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. _____

25
Let us walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny.

33
Let peace be - gin with me, let this be the mo - ment now;

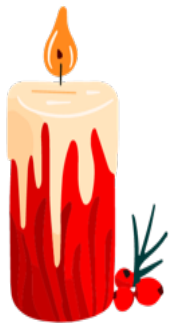
41
With ev - 'ry step I take, let this be my sol - emn vow: To

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

And now may the holy triune, the visible and invisible, guide your feet,
strengthen your hands, and fortify your heart this day and evermore.
In the name of the Creator. **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 for Advent (*Veni, Immanuel*)
15th C. French Hymn, Words by Thomas Ken,
Text and Tune adapted by Dean McIntyre

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

African American Spiritual
first published by John Wesley Work, Jr.

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

French Carol: *GLORIA*, Setting by Edward S.
Barnes (before 1916), Translation by James
Chadwick (1862), Public Domain, *Open*
Hymnal Project, 2005 Revision

“The First Noel”

15th Century English Hymn Carol (Cornwall),
first published in *Carols Ancient & Modern*
(1823), ed. by William Sandys,
Piano Arrangement by Tom Roed

“Candlelight Carol”

Music and Words by John Rutter;
inspired by *Nativity at Night*, a painting by
Geertgen tot Sint Jans

“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

Linda & Lewis Hildreth – Linda & Lewis are content, grateful, and welcoming visitors. They’re in separate rooms to facilitate care, but they share meals together, and Lewis visits Linda in his wheelchair. They are no longer accepting personal phone calls, but if you wish to arrange a visit, please call caregivers Josie or Jesús at 714-373-1218. Cards may be sent to *Home on Cascade, 15311 Cascade Lane, Huntington Beach, CA 92647*. Prayers for comfort and freedom from pain, continued medical progress, and general health.

Taylor White – Taylor was recently moved into hospice and is not able to receive visitors. She loves her Prayer Shawl, and enjoys songs, readings for joy, and spiritual comfort. Continued prayers of love and comfort for Taylor.

Connie Young – Connie passed away on October 30th. Prayers of peaceful rest for her, and strength for her husband Jay and family. *A Celebration of Connie’s Life will take place on Sunday, December 7, 2025, at 3:30 PM, at LW Community Church. The service will be followed immediately with a Reception in Edgar Fellowship Hall, featuring music by South Side Jazz, Connie & Jay’s favorite band. All are welcome.*



NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FLOWERS and **FELLOWSHIP**: 🌸 Today's flowers are provided anonymously, and 🍪 Fellowship refreshments are provided by Ruth and Jim Trears. 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.

MEMORIAL FOR CONNIE YOUNG: On Sunday, December 7, 2025, at 3:30 pm, a Celebration of Life will be held at LWCC to honor **Connie Young**, who passed away in October. A reception will follow immediately in Edgar Fellowship Hall, featuring music by South Side Jazz, Connie & Jay's favorite band. All are welcome. Cards may be sent to: *The Young Family, 13751 St Andrews Dr, 35-G, Seal Beach, CA 90740*

THANKSGIVING OFFERING: 🦃 Please see Pastor Johan's Thanksgiving Letter and prayerfully consider a special contribution. An Offering Envelope is attached. The proceeds will be used by SPRT for end-of-year gifts to our staff.

HANGING OF THE GREENS: 🎄 We would love to have everyone join us as we decorate the Sanctuary and Edgar Fellowship Hall for Christmas **tomorrow**, Monday, November 24th at 10 AM.

A COURSE IN MIRACLES: "A Course in Miracles" continues Tuesday, Nov. 25th at 1:00 PM in the Music Room. Our FREE weekly discussion of the book "A Course in Miracles" 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, November 27th 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.

CHRISTMAS MARKET: 🧑‍🎄 LWCC's **Christmas Market** is coming! Join us on Saturday, November 29, 2025, 9 AM – 1 PM. Peruse Holiday décor & wares including knitting and crochet samples, enjoy Christmas treats, Sandy's Café, and homemade soups. Start the season with cheer & merriment! **HAPPY HOLIDAYS!**

BLUE CHRISTMAS: Christmas can be a difficult time if we are going through life alone. If you are struggling amidst the holidays, join us Thursday, December 11th for a time of fellowship and prayer that we lovingly call **Blue Christmas**. Elvis may not make an appearance, but the love of God certainly will.

PLEDGE CARDS: Please place your completed pledge cards into the collection plate, or hand to any LWCC Staff Member.

ANNUAL CHARGE CONFERENCE: On Thursday, December 18th, at 2:00 PM, the annual all-church Charge Conference is scheduled in person in Edgar Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited and encouraged to attend.

RECENT LWCC WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

October 26th: 38 | November 2nd: 39 | November 9th: 35 | November 16th: 37

LEISURE WORLD COMMUNITY CHURCH

CHRISTMAS MARKET



Christmas Décor & Goodies

Knitting & Crochet Supplies

Homemade Baked Goods



Fudge

Sandy's Cafe

Homemade Soups



NOVEMBER 29

9aM-1PM



14000 Church Place
Seal Beach, CA

November 23, 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

God of the new day, at the dawning of the first day you spoke creation into being and declared it good. You crafted each flower and vegetable and bird of the air and beast of the land, and there at all of it was Jesus the Christ. I give thanks for the dawning of this day and pray I might know your loving presence in all I see and do. Guard my heart, mind, spirit, and body that I, too, might sing the goodness of creation and remember your call to be a good stewards of it all.

Amen.

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

Household Prayer: Evening

Ever-present God,
Be with me and those I love this night,
and bring me through the dawning of a new day
filled with loving kindness, love and peace.

Amen.

