



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: 9:30 AM
562-431-2503

April 12, 2026

2nd Sunday of Easter: "Water"



SENT →

Rev. Johan Dodge



**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.

[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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY — Jeanette Williams

God of signs and wonders, you have revealed to us through Jesus that we are your children and that together in the Spirit, we are the resurrected body of Christ. May your Holy Spirit empower us to go beyond our comfort zone, beyond our ego and self-doubt to bring about your new creation, the kingdom of God today. Amen.



HYMN: "Easter People Raise Your Voices"

Eas - ter peo - ple, raise your voic - es, sounds of Heav'n in
Fear of death can no more stop us from our press - ing
Ev - 'ry day to us is Eas - ter, with its res - ur -

Earth should ring. Christ has brought us — Heav - en's choic - es;
near and far. For our God em - pow - ers us to
rec - tion songs. When in trou - ble — move the fast - er

heav'n - ly mu - sic, — let it ring.
share love's light on — ev - 'ry shore. Al - le - lu - ia!
to our God who — rights all wrongs.

Al - le - lu - ia! Eas - ter peo - ple, let us sing.
Peace and hope for - ev - er - more!
See the pow'r of heav'n - ly throngs.

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Resurrecting God, in a broken world, where death, loss, and fear seem to reign supreme, give us the courage to look beyond the immediate and see the signs of your desire for your kindom.

We pray for God's creation universal. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit.

We pray for Mother Earth, that we may dress her wounds with healing care and love.

We pray for God's creation universal. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit.

We pray for the ethnosphere, world leaders, and people divided by arbitrary boundaries, may your wisdom and peace prevail.

We pray for God's creation universal. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit.

We pray for all those in need, the suffering, the oppressed, the ill, the dying, especially those who we can assist as answered prayer.

We pray for God's creation universal. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit.

We pray for ourselves, our families, and those we love.

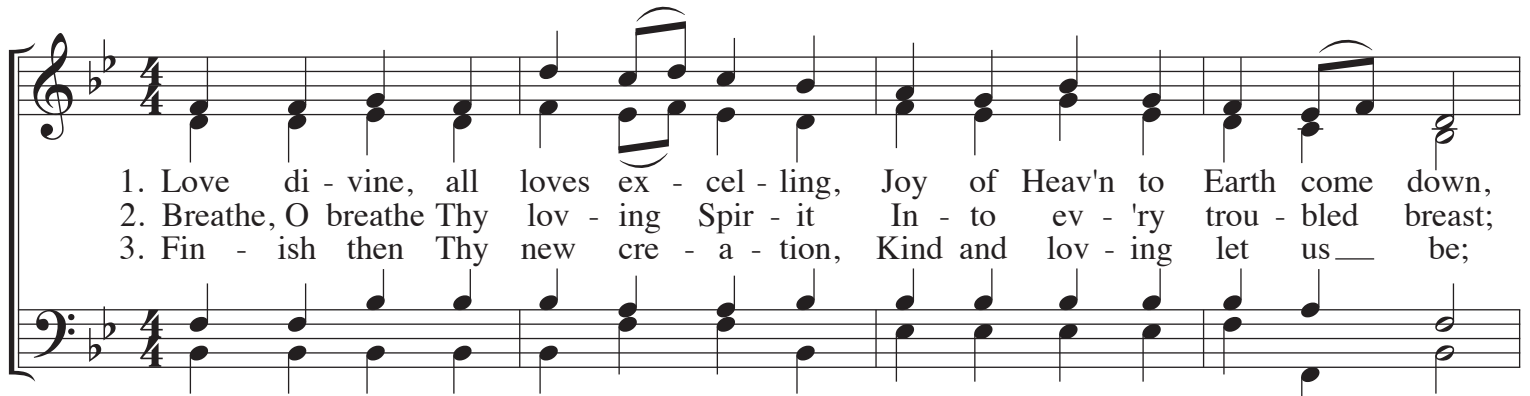
We pray for God's creation universal. Breathe on us your Holy Spirit.

Blessed are you O God, who through Jesus revealed our inheritance that is imperishable and unending, now and forever. **Amen.**



[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"



1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of Heav'n to Earth come down,
2. Breathe, O breathe Thy lov - ing Spir - it In - to ev - 'ry trou - bled breast;
3. Fin - ish then Thy new cre - a - tion, Kind and lov - ing let us be;



5
Fix in us Thy hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.
Let us all in Thee in - her - it, Let us find Thy prom - ised rest.
Be for us our one foun - da - tion, May we find our strength in Thee.



9
Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un - bound - ed love Thou art;
Take a - way our bent to sin - ning, Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, E'er with you we take our place,



13
Vis - it us with Thy in - car - na - tion, En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.
End of faith, as its be - gin - ning, Set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
'Til we cast our crowns be - fore Thee, Lost in won - der, love, and praise.

[please be seated]

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Jeanette Williams

Guiding God, send your Holy Spirit upon the reading and receiving of your Word that it may serve to show us the path of life and lead us into your kindom where there is fullness of joy. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Jeanette Williams

John 20:19-31

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

¹⁹ When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰ After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²² When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

Jesus and Thomas

²⁴ But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

²⁶ A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” ²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” ²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

The Purpose of This Book

³⁰ Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples that are not written in this book. ³¹ But these are written so that you may continue to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

MESSAGE: “SENT→” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

According to the Gospel of John, the wounds Jesus incurred during the crucifixion were not erased by the resurrection. In fact, he invited Thomas and the other disciples to touch the place of his wounds. How might you use your wounds to help others come to understand the ever-present God and the way of God’s kindom even in such a wounded and broken time as this?

REFLECTION: “Ave Verum Corpus” K. 618 by W.A. Mozart — Hannah Yi, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Jeanette Williams

Siblings in Christ, we have no good apart from God. Therefore, let us keep God at the forefront of our minds and give generously from all that we have been given, that others may also receive from the fullness of God.

[Ushers, please come forward]

OFFERTORY: “His Eye Is on the Sparrow” — Dave Albulario, *tenor*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Jeanette Williams

Generous God, you are our portion and our cup. In you, our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice, and our bodies rest. Bless and multiply our offerings and pledges that they may bring the joy of your presence more deeply into the world. 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

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, may God, who loves and resurrects us give you a goodly portion of the Holy Spirit. Trust and love the presence of God in the Holy Spirit that offers us only a glimpse of what life fully attuned to God can be. 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: Dave Albulario, *Tenor / Music Dir.*
Hannah Yi, *Pianist*

Jennifer Rudy, *Soprano*
John Fluker, *Pianist*

Doxology (Old Hundredth LM)

Music by Louis Bourgeois, 1551
Original Words by Thomas Ken, 1674

"Easter People, Raise Your Voices"

Tune: "Angels from the Realms of Glory"
Music by Henry T. Smart;
Words by William M. James

"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

Tune: BEECHER by John Zundel,
Words by Charles Wesley; Public Domain

"Ave Verum Corpus" K. 618

Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

"His Eye Is on the Sparrow"

Music by Charles H. Gabriel; arr. by Jack
Schrader; Words by Civilla D. Martin

"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

Mara Williams – On April 13th Mara will have carpal tunnel surgery. Prayers for a successful procedure and speedy recovery.

Marina Tesla – On April 16th Marina will have surgery to relieve pain. Special prayers for a surgeon and care givers at UC Irvine who will strive to meet her needs.

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FLOWERS and **FELLOWSHIP**: Today's 🌸 flowers are provided by our Fellowship Team. Fellowship refreshments are provided by Lorna Lass. See the sign-up charts for 2026 to provide refreshments or cover the cost of altar flowers for future services. Altar flowers are \$25. See Phyllis Spencer to coordinate arrangements.

COFFEE WITH PASTOR: ☕ On Thursday, April 16th at 10 AM, join us for “Coffee with Pastor.” Every Thursday, we invite you to 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.

PRECIOUS LIFE SHELTER: Precious Life Shelter benefits pregnant women with no place to live. The generosity of LWCC has enabled them to continue to save babies, “one mother at a time.” Here is their wish list:

For the Babies: Brushes and combs, baby powder, teethingers, small books, rattle toys, travel size soap, baby shampoo, infant shoes.

Administrative Needs: White 20 lb copy paper, 33-gallon black drawstring trash bags, ziplock storage bags (gallon & quart), paper towels, toilet paper, painter's tape, packing tape, duct tape, zip ties (12" to 14"), batteries (AA & 9 Volt), “forever” postage stamps.

If you're able to donate, please leave items in the red box marked “Precious Life Shelter” next to the Food Donation area in the church narthex.

RECENT LWCC WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

March 8th: 30 | March 15th: 34 | March 29th: 35 | April 5th: 41

Be Not Afraid



After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he[a] lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, 'He has been raised from the dead,[b] and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.' This is my message for you." So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, "Greetings!" And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

– Matthew 28:1-10

My Siblings, the Season of Easter is seven weeks totaling 50 days. Easter will end on Pentecost which means fifty. In this Season of Easter; as the world seems at times to be collapsing around us, take heart in knowing that we are not alone. indeed, the life and teachings of Jesus reveal that we are never alone. Because we are the resurrected body of Christ filled with the presence and power of the Holy Spirit we are to not only not be afraid, we are to stand courageously as the Mary's did when the earthquake struck and the angel descended. I invite us to consider how we might use these fifty days to impact the Leisure World community. So even as the days seem dark and the news speaks of ever more horrible things, be not afraid, and remember that together, as the resurrected body of Christ, we have the opportunity to be courageous and to act with holy boldness.

Our Easter offering this year is an opportunity for second mile giving beyond our traditional tithes and offerings as a sign of the light and love that has been building in us throughout the season of Lent and is continuing through the season of Easter. I pray this letter finds you standing courageously against the forces of darkness and that you use this note as to remember that you are a beloved child of God created in God's image to bring about the transformation of the darkness around us into the world of light that God has envisioned for all of us.

Blessings in Christ,

Reverend Johan Dodge

April 12, 2026



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

Holy One, you have made known to me the ways of life and have promised to fill me with the gladness of your presence. Keep me mindful of the guidance of your Holy Spirit as I travel through this day, that my heart may be filled with signs of your presence and opportunities to be your resurrected presence to others. Amen.

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

Household Prayer: Evening

Thank you God, for giving me your guidance today. Tonight, as I sleep, may the dreams of my heart also serve to instruct me in your ways. May my heart, soul, and body rest in you this night and awaken refreshed and restored for the morrow. Amen.