



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 19, 2026
3rd Sunday of Easter: "Starfish"



Resurrection Reconsidered



 **COMMUNITY
CHURCH** LEISURE
WORLD

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: "Prayer of Jesus" — Fred Wind

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
Thy kindom 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 kindom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**



HYMN: "Open My Eyes That I May See"

1. O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou
2. O - pen my ears, that I may hear voi - ces of truth thou
3. O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth

hast for me; Place in my hands the won-der - ful key
send - est clear; And while the wave - notes fall on my ear,
ev' - ry-where; O - pen my heart, and let me pre-pare

that shall un - clasp and set me free;
ev' - ry - thing false will dis - ap - pear; Si - lent - ly now I
love with thy chil - dren, thus to share;

wait for thee, rea - dy, my God, thy will to see;

O - pen my eyes, il - lu - mine me, Spi - rit di - vine!

[please be seated]



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Let us unite our hearts in prayer, saying,
God of resurrection, hear our prayer.

For the church throughout the world, that as we celebrate the great fifty days of Easter we may renew our faith and strengthen our witness in Jesus' name.

God of resurrection, hear our prayer.

For the governments of the world, its leaders, and the peoples who elect our leaders; that they may resist the corruption of sin and serve the common good;

God of resurrection, hear our prayer.

For our planet Earth, that all people may be good stewards of its resources and share in its abundance;

God of resurrection, hear our prayer.

For the poor and the stranger, that they may receive a place of refuge and hope, and that the church may offer the hospitality the first disciple offered to Jesus on the road to Emmaus;

God of resurrection, hear our prayer.

For the sick and those in distress, that they may find healing for their pain and be restored to fullness of life;

God of resurrection, hear our prayer.

For our neighbors, that we may live together in peace and share in our resources;

God of resurrection, hear our prayer.

For our enemies, that they may receive good things, and that we, your servants, not return evil for evil;

God of resurrection, hear our prayer.

Almighty God, receive these prayers we offer, and by the power of your Holy Spirit make us witnesses to the glorious resurrection of Jesus Christ, through whom we pray. **Amen.**

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: "Just a Closer Walk with Thee"

I am weak, but thou art strong; (art strong,) Je - sus, keep me from all wrong; ____
Through this world of toil and snares, ____ If I fal - ter, Lord, who cares? ____
When my fee - ble life is o'er, ____ Time for me will be no more; ____

I'll be sat - is - fied as long ____ (just as long) as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
Who with me my bur - den shares? ____ None but thee, dear ____ Lord, none but thee.
Guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er ____ to thy kin - dom ____ shore, to thy shore.

Just a clos - er walk with thee, (with thee,) Grant it, Je - sus, is my plea, ____

Dai - ly walk - ing close to thee, ____ (to thee,) Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

[please be seated]

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Fred Wind

Loving God, you opened the meaning of the Scriptures to the disciples on the road to Emmaus and set their hearts ablaze. By the power of your Spirit kindle our hearts as we hear your word proclaimed, that we may receive you with joy. **Amen.**



SCRIPTURE — Fred Wind

1 Peter 1:17-23

¹⁷ If you invoke as God the one who judges impartially according to each person's work, live in awe during the time of your exile. ¹⁸ You know that you were ransomed from the futile conduct inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish. ²⁰ He was destined before the foundation of the world but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake. ²¹ Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your trust and hope are in God. ²² Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the Spirit so that you have genuine mutual affection, love one another deeply from the heart. ²³ You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

Luke 24:13-35

The Walk to Emmaus

¹³ Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁴ and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. ¹⁵ While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, ¹⁶ but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. ¹⁷ And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. ¹⁸ Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" ¹⁹ He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, ²⁰ and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. ²¹ But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. ²² Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, ²³ and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. ²⁴ Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him." ²⁵ Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! ²⁶ Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" ²⁷ Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.



²⁸ As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. ²⁹ But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. ³⁰ When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. ³¹ Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. ³² They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” ³³ That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. ³⁴ They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” ³⁵ Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.



MESSAGE: “Resurrection Reconsidered” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

The disciples on the road to Emmaus were with Jesus for hours as he taught them the meaning of the Scriptures. However, it wasn’t until they shared a meal together that they finally recognized him as the risen Christ. The breaking of bread was an important custom in the time of Jesus. Sharing bread was a sign of community and of belonging. We have ritualized the sharing of the bread into the body of Christ but I wonder if here again we have been missing the point. How do you share in community with your friends and neighbors? How does this community feed and nourish you? How are you empowered by the Holy Spirit to be the resurrected body of Christ for the larger community around you? What are the signs of the risen body and the expressions of love that you share?

REFLECTION: “A Father’s Love” — John Fluker, *pianist (playing his own composition)*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Fred Wind

Bountiful are God’s gifts to us. In gratitude, let us offer our hearts and the fruit of our labor to God’s service.

[Ushers, please come forward]

OFFERTORY: “Easter Song” — Kara Brouelette, *mezzo-soprano*



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Fred Wind

Almighty God, by your grace, accept the fruit of our labor and the offering of our lives. Let us be a sacrifice of thanksgiving in union with our risen Lord, who lives and reigns with you forever. 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

Go in the joy of resurrection to fill the world with the love of God and may the Holy Spirit, who fills you with new life, bless and guide you. **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: Kara Brouelette, *Mezzo-Soprano* Jennifer Rudy, *Soprano*
John Fluker, *Pianist* Hannah Yi, *Pianist*
Dave Albulario, *Tenor / Music Dir.*

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

"Open My Eyes, That I May See"
Music and Words by Clara H. Scott
Public Domain. Source: Hymnary.org

"Just A Closer Walk with Thee"
Traditional African American Folk Song
Add'l music and lyrics by Kenneth Morris

"A Father's Love"
Music by John Fluker

"Easter Song"
Words and Music by Anne Herring; arr. by
Joseph M. Martin; © 1974, Arrangement
© 2017 Latter Rain Music

"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.*

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562-431-2503 /// CCLI License No. 187225

PRAYER REQUESTS

Noemi Albulario – Noemi, a cancer survivor, is undergoing preventative medical scans and testing. Prayers for comfort and a clean bill of health.

Mara Williams – Mara recently had carpal tunnel surgery. Prayers for healing and speedy recovery.

Marina Tesla – Marina is no longer having surgery. She is being treated for symptoms of pain, and appreciates your prayers and concern. She enjoys attending our church, helps generously arranges flowers, and attends fellowship as she is able. Please continue to pray for relief from pain and stress. Cards and phone calls are welcome.

Patricia Wolfe – Pat's daughter and son-in-law, Tiffany and Johnny, are expecting a baby girl in August. Prayers of gratitude, health, and joy for the new family.

Caroline Landenberger – Jeanette's sister-in-law Caroline and family greatly appreciate your prayers. Caroline is in treatment for cancer-related issues. She is adjusting to a calmer lifestyle and is grateful for her medical care. Prayers as the family prepares for an Oklahoma reunion with Jeanette & Fred.

[PRAYER REQUESTS CONTINUE →](#)

PRAYER REQUESTS CONTINUED ...

Gerri Seaton – Gerri is at Rowntree Gardens and recovering from a recent fall. She enjoys visits and cards. If you plan to visit, please call ahead at 714-971-6784. Her address is Gerri Seaton, 12151 Dale St, Apt D304, Stanton, CA 90680

Doris Smith – Doris is recuperating at home and believes in the power of prayer. She loves our church but isn't strong enough to attend. Cards, phone calls, and visits are welcome. Please call if you plan to visit. Her number is 559-341-2444. Cards can be sent to Doris Smith, 1381 Golden Rain Rd, Apt 21 L, Seal Beach, CA 90740

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FLOWERS and **FELLOWSHIP**: Today's 🌸 flowers are provided by Jeanette Williams in honor of Kyle McKinney. Fellowship refreshments are provided by Carmen Edwards. 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 23rd 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.

LWCC MUSIC: *"Make a joyful noise, all the earth! Come into God's presence with singing!"* Our gratitude to Kara Brouelette for raising her beautiful voice to lead our Worship music today with our pianist John Fluker. She'll be back to do so again next Sunday, April 26th in collaboration with our pianist Hannah Yi.

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. *While our food donations are open to all, we ask that these items remain strictly as donations to Precious Life.* Thank you!

RECENT LWCC WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

March 15th: 34 | March 29th: 35 | April 5th: 41 | April 12th: 26

April 19, 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

Loving God, the empty tomb heralds the dawning of life eternal as the dawning of this day holds the possibilities of life anew. Open my eyes to the signs of your resurrection and confirm in my heart the power of your amazing love, that I may with confidence bring your love into the world as a part of your resurrected body. Amen.



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

Household Prayer: Evening

Loving God, you have upheld me with your love even when I have not been aware of your presence. As I rest from my labors let me sleep without fear of darkness or death and rise refreshed to begin a new day in humble service, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

