



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

August 9, 2026
11th Sunday After Pentecost

BRING GOOD NEWS



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: "The Prayer of Jesus" — Phyllis Spencer

**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: "In Christ There Is No East or West"

1. In Christ there is no east or west, in
2. In Christ shall true hearts ev - 'ry - where their
3. Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -

Him - no south or north, but one com - mu - ni -
high com - mu - nion find; His ser - vice is the
e'er your race may be. All child - ren of the

ty of love through - out the whole wide Earth.
gold - en cord close - bind - ing hu - man - kind.
liv - ing God are sure - ly kin to me.

[please be seated]



PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

God of favor and purpose, you have directed us to our destiny. You are with us in our deepest pain, fear, and bewilderment. You hear our cry when others turn a deaf ear and a cold heart. You lift us from the depths of discouragement and walk with us over the troubled waters of life.

We come to you now with the confidence of children loved by their family.
Clothe us with your favor and love; inspire us with dreams from you.

For the family of God, our siblings who have turned to your way around the world.

Clothe us with your favor and love; inspire us with dreams from you.

For your church to fulfill its mission in the world, showing mercy, proclaiming your good news.

Clothe us with your favor and love; inspire us with dreams from you.

For peace and order to permeate your creation, responding to your loving guidance.

Clothe us with your favor and love; inspire us with dreams from you.

For reconciliation among families, factions, and nations living in envy and conflict.

Clothe us with your favor and love; inspire us with dreams from you.

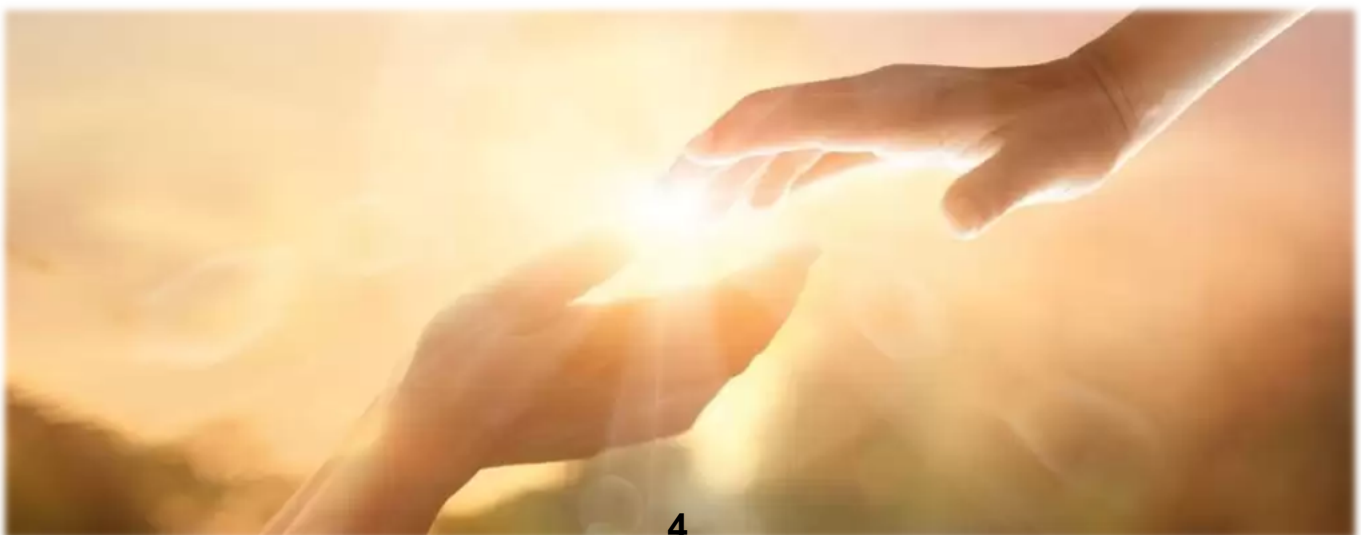
For those betrayed, beaten, thrown down, or abandoned, those in bondage, fear, or distress.

Clothe us with your favor and love; inspire us with dreams from you.

For those who have crossed before us into the life that is to come.

Clothe us with your favor and love; inspire us with dreams from you.

Hold us up when we falter in the storms of life, and bring us safely to your promised place of rest and release. We pray it all in the name of Jesus who in your Spirit continues to show us the way. **Amen.**



[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: "Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
When my way dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws near,
When the day is al - most gone, hear my
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; through the
and the day is past and gone, at the
storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall: —
ri - ver I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:
Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

[please be seated]

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Virginia Olejnik

Ever-Present God, your word is very near, on our lips and in our hearts. As this Word is read and proclaimed, by the power of your Holy Spirit, make it become in us the word of faith. Then send us in joy to bring this word to others who also need the good news of your way of love. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Virginia Olejnik

Romans 10:5-15

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that “the person who does these things will live by them.” ⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ down) ⁷ “or ‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ” (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). ⁸ But what does it say?

“The word is near you,
in your mouth and in your heart”

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, “No one who believes in him will be put to shame.” ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

¹⁴ But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? ¹⁵ And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!”

Matthew 14:22-33

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “It is a ghost!” And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”

²⁸ Peter answered him, “Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.” ²⁹ He said, “Come.” So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “Lord, save me!” ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “You of little faith, why did you doubt?” ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased.

³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

MESSAGE: “Bring the Good News” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

What does it mean to bring the good news today? What are the obstacles to bringing the good news? What brings you doubt or fear?

REFLECTION: “Pie Jesu” — John Flucker, *pianist*

HOLY COMMUNION FOR THE SEASON AFTER PENTECTOST:

We offer both white and red grape juice. If you are afraid of spilling red grape juice, a limited number of cups with white grape juice are provided.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Here at Community Church, we celebrate “Open Communion.” Anyone who wishes to commune may come to God’s Table. You do not have to be sinless; God forgives you. You do not have to be perfect; God encourages you to grow. You need not belong to any church; God invites all people to this meal. It is enough to love and follow God with all your heart. This is what God asks us to do. Come to God’s Table in faith this day. Go from this place to live and never be the same again. Let us commune as siblings in Christ.

God is in you.

We are in God.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift up our hearts in love.

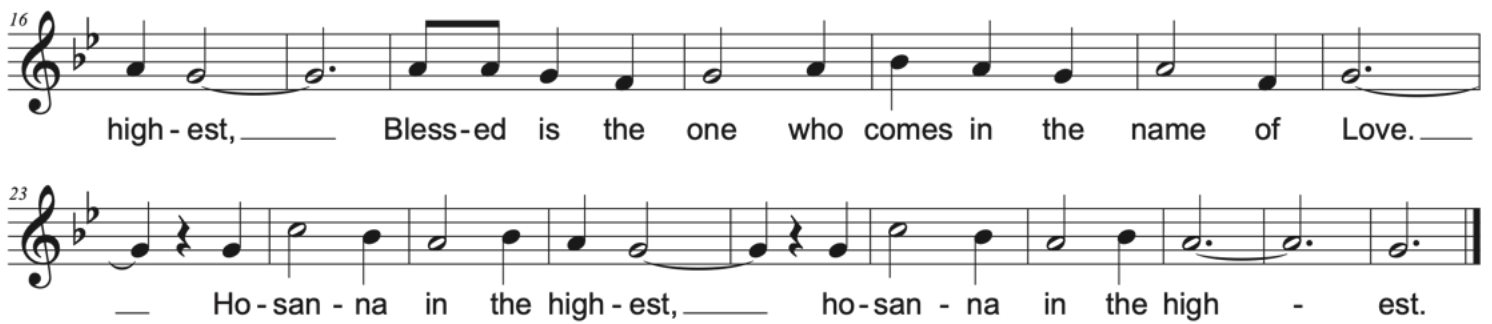
Let us give thanks to the
Source of all love.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

[Ushers, please come forward and distribute the elements]

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you. Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth, you formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:





Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

At his ascension you exalted him to sit and reign with you at your right hand.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; we are one body as we share in the bread together. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is the cup of the new covenant, an ongoing sign of God's love for you and all of God's very good creation. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

On the day you raised him from the dead he was recognized by his disciples in the breaking of the bread, and in the power of your Holy Spirit your Church has continued in the breaking of the bread and sharing of the cup.

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and fruit of the vine. Make them be for us the symbols of your love and desire for us to be your body knit together to build the new creation, your preferred future for us.

By your Spirit help the body of Christ be one. Help the left hand and the right hand work as one in ministry to all the world. Help the eyes and the ears sense your present and coming kin-dom. Bring the blessing of the diversity of the body to bear fruit until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE SHARING OF THE BREAD:

Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.

THE SHARING OF THE CUP:

The bread which we have eaten is a sharing in the bread of Christ. The cup over which we give thanks is the sharing in the cup of Christ.

UNISON PRAYER:

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Virginia Olejnik

Because God cares for all without distinction and is generous to all beyond measure, so we, God's people, are to care for all with generosity and gladness. We bring our offerings to be used for God's good purposes in the church and in the world. **Amen.**

[Ushers, please come forward]

OFFERTORY: "Brand New Day" — Chris Wade, *baritone*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Virginia Olejnik

Generous God, we thank you for your call and claim upon our lives. Because there is so much more we can become, and so much more we can do, we pray that our faith will increase; that our practice of generosity will be enlarged; and that our joy in believing will encourage others as we share with them the good news of Jesus Christ; in whose name we pray. 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

May the steadfast love and faithfulness of God, surround you; the peace of Christ and fold you; and the Holy Spirit encourage you, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING FORTH: "Blest Be the Tie that Binds"

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Blest Be the Tie that Binds". It is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The score consists of two systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system covers the first line of the hymn, and the second system covers the second line. The music is a simple, harmonious setting suitable for congregational singing.

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: Chris Wade, *Baritone Emeritus* Jennifer Rudy, *Soprano*
John Flucker, *Pianist* Hannah Yi, *Pianist*
Dave Albulario, *Tenor/Music Dir.*

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

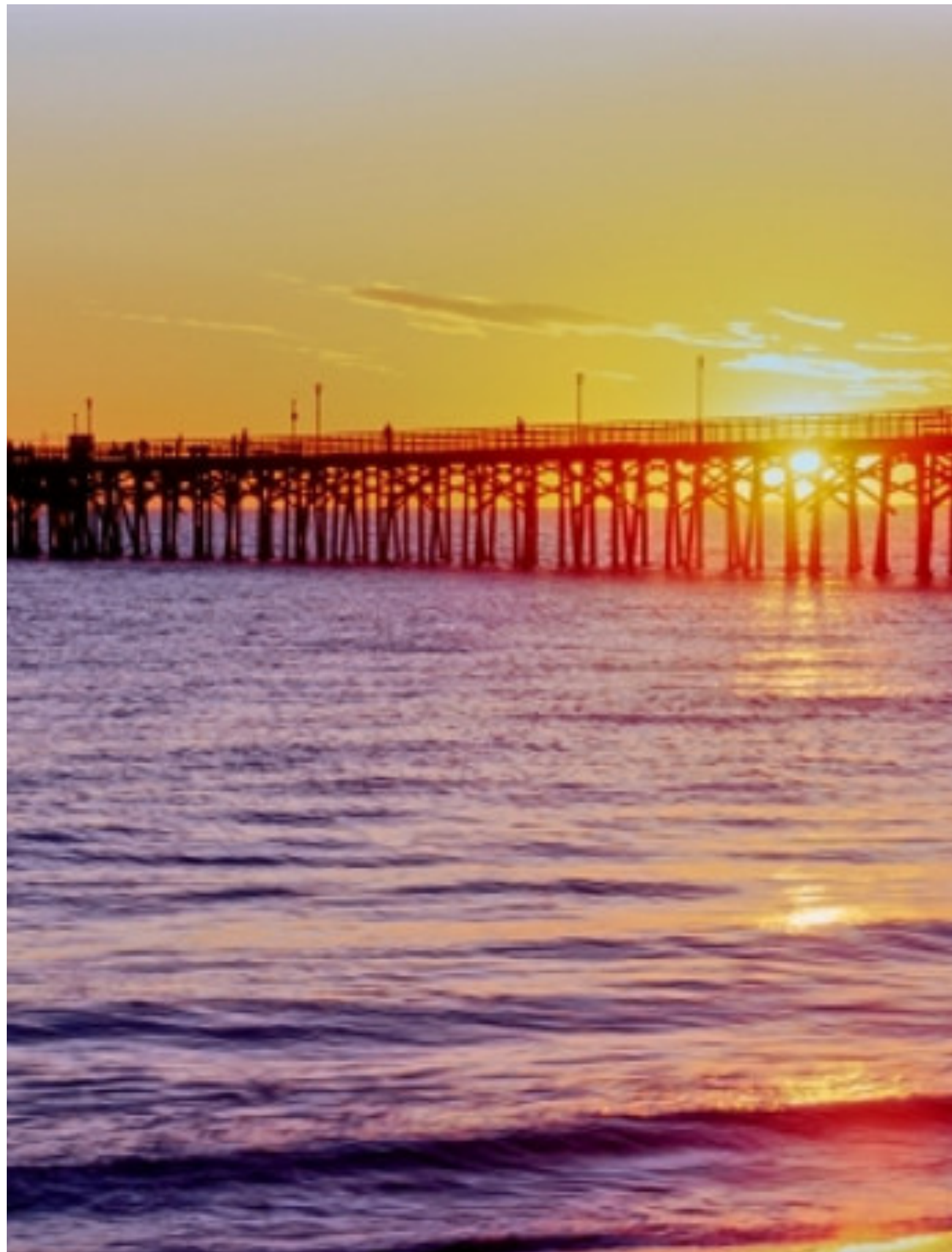
FLOWERS & FELLOWSHIP: Today's 🌸 flowers and 🍪 Fellowship refreshments are provided by Fred & Wilma Wind. See the sign-up charts to provide refreshments or cover the cost of altar flowers for future services. Altar flowers are \$25. See Phyllis Spencer to coordinate arrangements.

IMPORTANT LWCC MEMBERSHIP SESSION COMING UP:

LWCC MEMBERSHIP COFFEE WITH PASTOR: This **THURSDAY, August 13th** at **10:00 AM**, those becoming regular members of Community Church this season are asked to meet with Pastor Johan during our weekly "Coffee with Pastor" time. All are welcome for a relaxed time of conversation over coffee or tea.

RECENT LWCC WORSHIP ATTENDANCE:

July 12th: 37 | July 19th: 34 | July 26th: 37 | August 2nd: 34



August 9, 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 God, the new day begins with such promise. Help me to enter into this day with joy and confidence in your power and goodness. Whatever challenge I may face, help me to trust in your presence, remembering that you are stronger than any difficulty or threat. If you will surround me in the embrace and affection of steadfast, love and faithfulness, of loving kindness, and peace, then I will be lifted up and strengthen to follow you. In Christ name I pray Amen.

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

Household Prayer: Evening

Gracious God, favor me with the sheer silence of your presence at the end of this day. Quiet any voices of fear and doubt that would trouble me, toss and turn me. Grant me, and anyone who enters the night hours with anxiety or pain, you're perfect peace. Favor your children with calm and rest, with healing and renewal, as we sleep and dream in your arms of mercy. In the name of Jesus who showed us the way. Amen.