



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

September 13, 2026

Season of Creation: 2nd Sunday

**PLEASE PICK UP YOUR NAME TAG IN
THE NARTHEX BEFORE SERVICE TODAY.
IF YOU'RE VISITING, WE'LL MAKE ONE FOR YOU!**

Blue Sky

The Freedom of Forgiveness

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: "All Things Bright and Beautiful"

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, All crea - tures great and small,

All things wise and won - der - ful: Our dear God made them all. **Fine**

1. Each lit - tle flow'r that o - pens, Each lit - tle bird that sings,
 2. The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, The riv - er run - ning by,
 3. The cold wind in the win - ter, The pleas - ant sum - mer sun,
 4. God gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell

God made their glow - ing col - ors, and made their ti - ny wings.
 The sun - set, and the morn - ing That bright - ens up the sky.
 The ripe fruits in the gar - den: God made them ev - 'ry - one.
 How great is God, all lov - ing, Who has made all things well. **D.C. al Fine**

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Loving God, your unfailing love has remained with us in the midst of troubled waters. In your infinite love, you are present with us as we endure the storms of life. We bring our prayers to you now, knowing that you will abide with us through the darkness and into the new light.

For your beautiful creation — that it would be an instrument of your love, forgiveness, and grace.

[A time of silence is kept.]

God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the global community — that we would learn to live for each other in peace and cooperation, and share collective responsibility.

[A time of silence is kept.]

God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For our local community — for those recovering from the storms, those who have lost homes.

[Local concerns may be named]

God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For those who suffer in their minds, bodies, or souls — wrap your arms around them in love and help us your church, be what they need.

[A time of silence is kept.]

God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the silent intentions we hold in our hearts.

[A time of silence is kept.]

God in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers and help us to trust in your love and presence; through Jesus who showed us your way, we pray. Amen.



[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: "Go Down, Moses"

1. When Is - rael was in E - gypt's land, —
2. "Thus saith our God," bold Mo - ses said, —
3. No more shall they in bond - age toil, —
4. Oh, let us all from bond - age flee, —
5. Come, Mo - ses, you will not get lost, — } let my peo - ple

go; — { op - pressed so hard they could not stand, —
"if not, I'll smite your first - born dead," —
let them come out with E - gypt's spoil, —
and let us all in Christ be free, —
stretch out your rod and come a - cross, —

let my peo - ple go. — Go down, (go down)

Mo - ses, (Mo - ses) way down in E - gypt's land; —

tell — old Pha - raoh to let my peo - ple go!

[please be seated]

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Phyllis Spencer

Loving God, your Word guides us and leads us beyond our settled selves and allows us to experience the forgiveness and opportunity of your blue sky calling. May our hearts be opened to your guiding love in this time. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Phyllis Spencer

Genesis 1:1–8

¹ When God began to create the heavens and the earth, ² the earth was complete chaos, and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴ And God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day. ⁶ And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” ⁷ So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. ⁸ God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

Matthew 18:21-35

²¹ Then Peter came and said to him, “Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?” ²² Jesus said to him, “Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. ²³ “For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. ²⁴ When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him, ²⁵ and, as he could not pay, the lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions and payment to be made. ²⁶ So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.’ ²⁷ And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. ²⁸ But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him by the throat he said, ‘Pay what you owe.’ ²⁹ Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, ‘Have patience with me, and I will pay you.’ ³⁰ But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. ³¹ When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. ³² Then his lord summoned him and said to him, ‘You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. ³³ Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?’ ³⁴ And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. ³⁵ So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

MESSAGE: “Blue Sky: The Freedom of Forgiveness” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Forgiveness can be challenging. When/where have you experienced forgiveness? Is there someone you need to forgive?

REFLECTION: “All for Jesus” — Hannah Yi, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Phyllis Spencer

With thankful hearts, let us offer up a portion from what God has given to us.

[Ushers, please come forward]

OFFERTORY: “Somewhere” — Dave Albulario, *tenor*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Phyllis Spencer

Loving God, we thank you for these gifts and humbly ask that as we turn them back over to you, you would multiply them though our example to enable your work of love all throughout your creation. 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

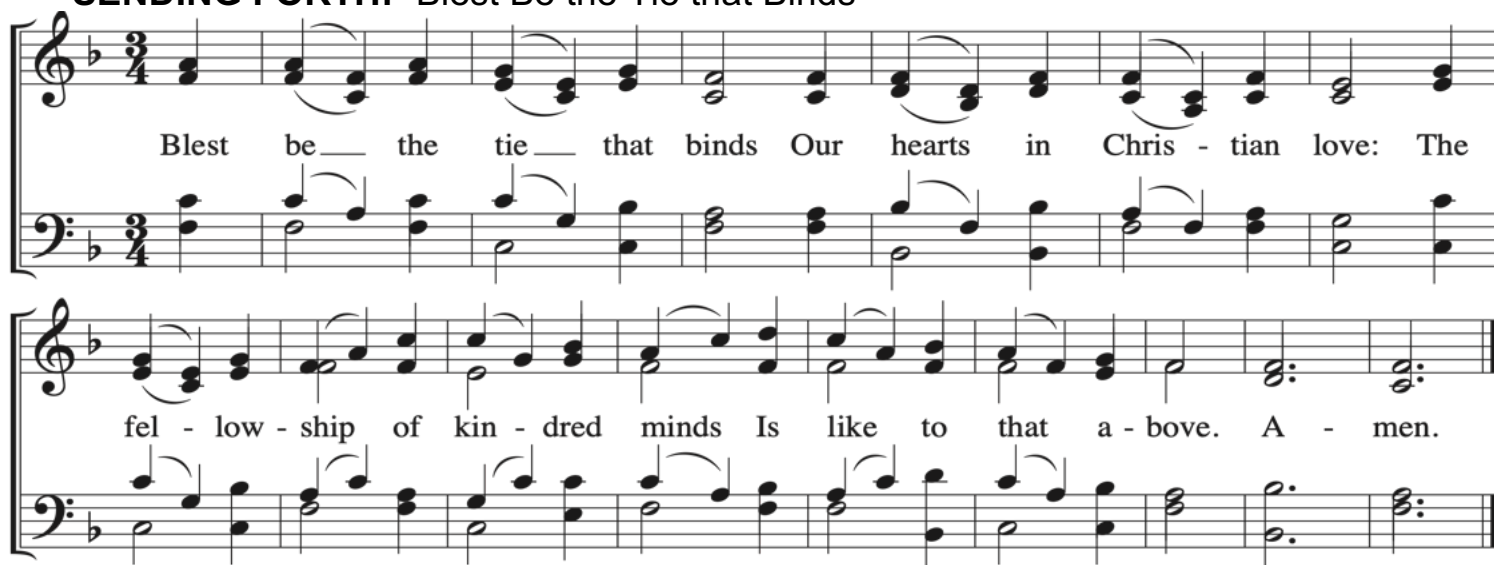


Let there be peace on Earth, and let it be - gin with me.

BLESSING — Rev. Johan Dodge

The presence of God be with you, the love of Jesus be your example, and the power of the Holy Spirit empower you to bring the blue sky of forgiveness into the world beyond these walls. **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.

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR NAME TAG IN
EDGAR FELLOWSHIP HALL BEFORE LEAVING TODAY.
BLESSINGS BE.**

Music Team:

Dave Albulario, *Tenor/Music Dir.*
Hannah Yi, *Pianist*

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



PRAYER REQUESTS:

Nanci Luczak – Nanci's 101-year-old mother, who lives in the Bay Area, had a fall recently. Prayers for speedy recovery and good caregivers going forward.

Pat Wolfe – Prayers for Pat's daughter, Tiffany, who gave birth to a beautiful baby girl named Amelia Wynnona Gren on Monday, August 24th! Prayers as well for Pat's successful radiation treatment – she's halfway through.

Families in Grief – Please continue to pray for families grieving loss this year:

♥ **Don Coles** ♥ **Noemi Albulario** ♥ **Linda Hildreth** ♥ **Jim Dimos** ♥ **Matti Kline**
♥ **Richard Keller**, *Patty Jo Schmitz's son* ♥ **Ace**, *Doris Smith's son-in-law*

NOTES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FLOWERS & FELLOWSHIP: Today's 🌺 flowers are provided by the Fellowship Team. 🍪 Fellowship refreshments are provided by Sandy Cardot. 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.

LW KOREAN COMMUNITY CHURCH PICNIC: On Sunday, September 27th, we are invited to join our siblings at LW Korean Community Church for their annual outdoor service and picnic just outside Clubhouse 1. After our 9:30 AM service, let's all enjoy a wonderful picnic lunch with LWKCC!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: On Sunday, October 4, 2026, our Worship will take place out on the front patio of the church. Observing the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi and his love for animals, service will include "Blessing of the Animals." ***Leisure World residents are invited to bring their well-behaved pets for a blessing.*** Dogs must be leashed according to LW rules. Use good judgment regarding the use of kennels & cages. Please be responsible for your pet's behavior. You're welcome to bring a photo of your pet instead, if you prefer.

IMPORTANT LWCC MEMBERSHIP SESSION COMING UP:

LWCC MEMBERSHIP COFFEE WITH PASTOR: This **Thursday, September 17th** 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:

August 16th: 39 | August 23rd: 28 | August 30th: 27 | September 6th: 25



September 13, 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

Like the sun that fills the morning sky, the love of God is the light that banishes the darkness of the world. Source of love and loving kindness, arise in my heart, fill me with the radiance of your love, and display the light of your saving grace until I shine with the joy of life everlasting. Amen.

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

Household Prayer: Evening

Loving God, I take comfort in your way of forgiveness knowing that there are of course ways that I have missed the mark this day. Allow me to experience your forgiveness in such a way that I cannot withhold forgiveness of others. Let me rest knowing your mercy is boundless. Amen.