



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 27, 2026

Season of Creation: 4th Sunday

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



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

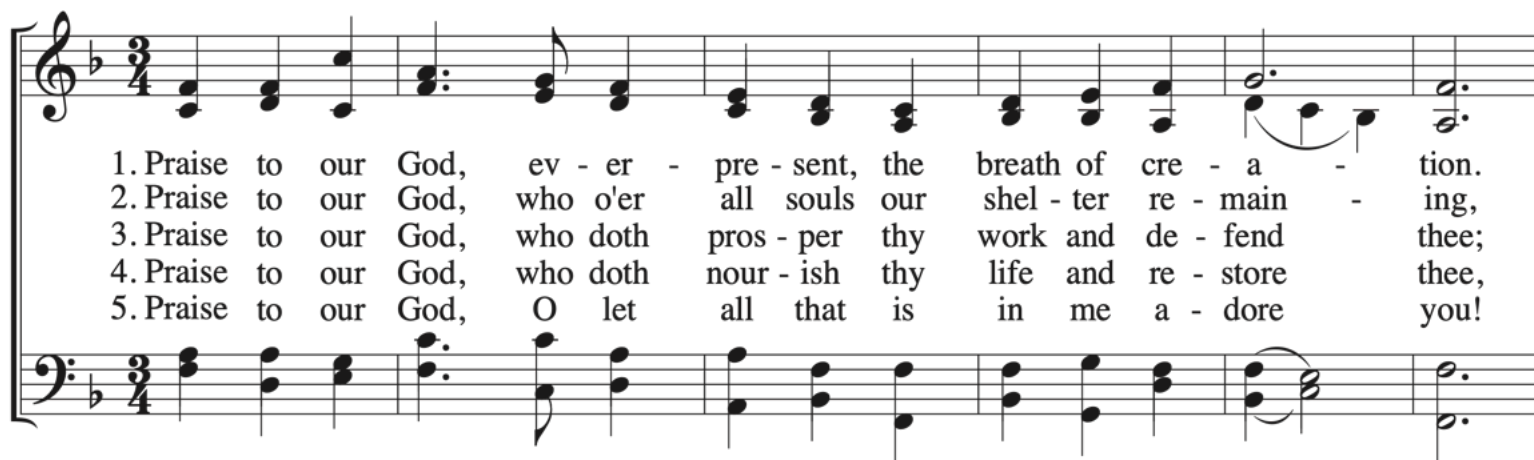
host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: "The Prayer of Jesus" — Fred Wind

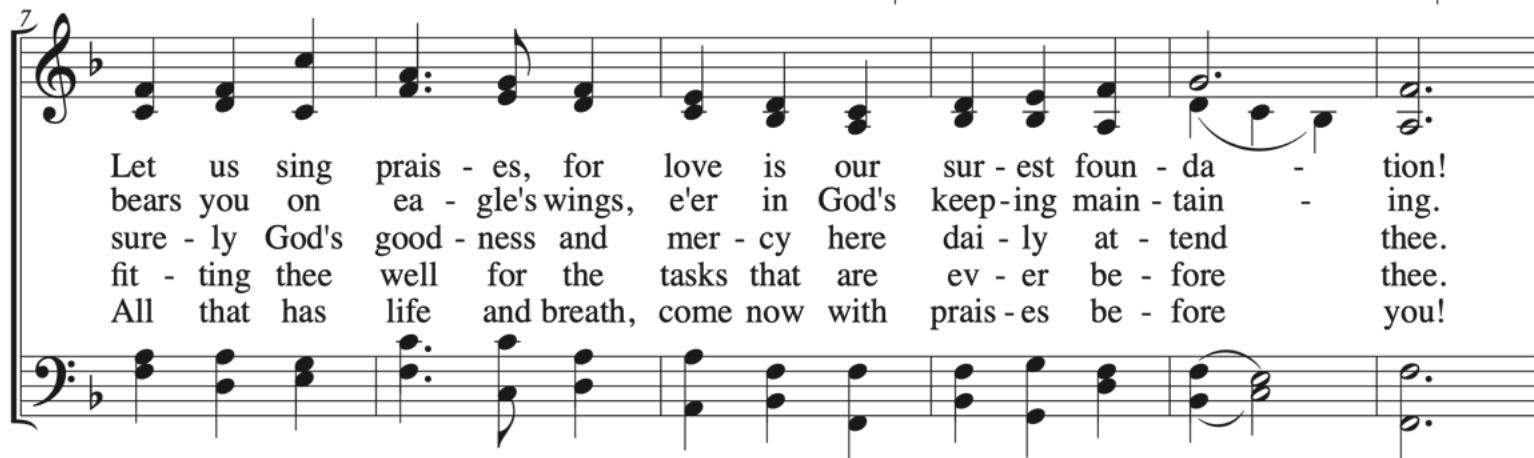
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
Thy kindom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kindom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.



HYMN: "Praise to Our God"



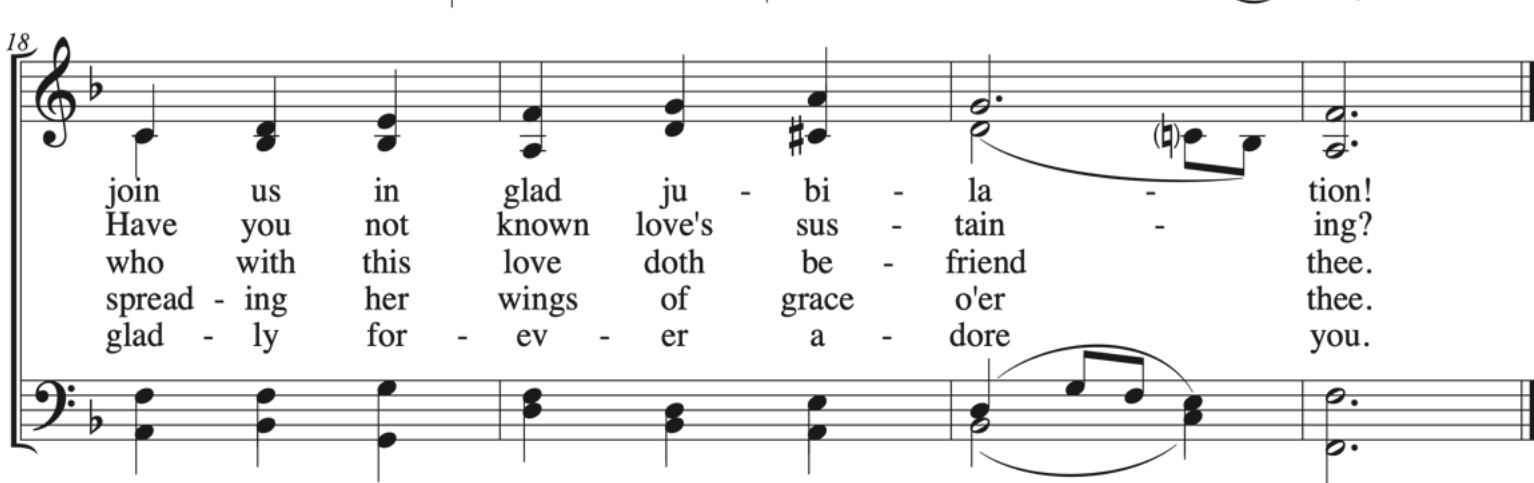
1. Praise to our God, ev - er - pre - sent, the breath of cre - a - tion.
 2. Praise to our God, who o'er all souls our shel - ter re - main - ing,
 3. Praise to our God, who doth pros - per thy work and de - fend thee;
 4. Praise to our God, who doth nour - ish thy life and re - store thee,
 5. Praise to our God, O let all that is in me a - dore you!



Let us sing prais - es, for love is our sur - est foun - da - tion!
 bears you on ea - gle's wings, e'er in God's keep - ing main - tain - ing.
 sure - ly God's good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at - tend thee.
 fit - ting thee well for the tasks that are ev - er be - fore thee.
 All that has life and breath, come now with prais - es be - fore you!



All ye who hear, now to each oth - er draw near;
 God's care en - folds all, whose true good love up - holds.
 Pon - der a - new what God of great love can do,
 Then to thy need God as a moth - er doth speed;
 Let the "a - men" sound from all peo - ple a - gain;



join us in glad ju - bi - la - tion!
 Have you not known love's sus - tain - ing?
 who with this love doth be - friend thee.
 spread - ing her wings of grace o'er thee.
 glad - ly for - ev - er a - dore you.

[please be seated]

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION — Rev. Johan Dodge

Living God, you have placed a desire for truth and kindness in the hearts of all people. Uplift those who seek to live faithfully and lovingly by the promptings of your Spirit, even those who do not know your love; save them from despair, and lead them to the fullness of salvation.

Through God's steadfast compassion for us, God has filled us with concern for our world.

God, you call the followers of Jesus to take the good news of your way of love to all of creation. Help us who claim to follow you to love according to your Way of Love and demonstrate your love to those in need.

Through God's steadfast compassion for us, God has filled us with concern for our world.

Ever-present God, you have formed us into community to serve one another and those in need around us. May our actions testify to your abounding love.

Through God's steadfast compassion for us, God has filled us with concern for our world.

Creative God, you have placed into human hearts a hunger to understand the structures and rhythms of your very good creation. Grant wisdom to those who seek to comprehend the inner workings of the world, save them from arrogance, and enable them to work for the flourishing of all creation.

Through God's steadfast compassion for us, God has filled us with concern for our world.

Eternal God, you fill the world with forms that delight the heart and eye. Give artists and musicians a vision of your transcendent beauty, and grant them skill to render their vision in tangible works that manifest the sublime glory of your creation.

Through God's steadfast compassion for us, God has filled us with concern for our world.

Loving God, you have established us for community, to be in relationship with one another. Kindle love for peace among the nations and in our leaders, save them from pride of wealth or power, and enable them to serve the common good.

Through God's steadfast compassion for us, God has filled us with concern for our world.

Ever-listening God, you hear the cry of all who are in distress. Abide with those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit. Comfort them in their need and empower those who care for them. Teach us to bear the burdens of our siblings with humility.

Through God's steadfast compassion for us, God has filled us with concern for our world.

These prayers we offer in the power and presence of your Holy Spirit. **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 grows drear, pre-cious Lord, lin - ger near, —
When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws — near, —

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; — through the
when my life is — al - most — gone, — hear my
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 — Fred Wind

Ever-present God, fill us with your Spirit and humble our hearts so that we can hear your word. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE — Fred Wind

Genesis 1:1-19

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. ⁹ And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. ¹⁰ God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹ Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. ¹² The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. ¹³ And there was evening and there was morning, the third day. ¹⁴ And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night, and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, ¹⁵ and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. ¹⁶ God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. ¹⁷ God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, ¹⁸ to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹ And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

Matthew 21:23-32

The Authority of Jesus Questioned

²³ When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” ²⁴ Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. ²⁵ Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why, then, did you not believe him?’ ²⁶ But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet.” ²⁷ So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

The Parable of the Two Sons

²⁸ “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ ²⁹ He answered, ‘I will not,’ but later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰ The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, ‘I go, sir,’ but he did not go. ³¹ Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. ³² For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it you did not change your minds and believe him.

MESSAGE: “Night & Day” — Rev. Johan Dodge

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION — Rev. Johan Dodge

What does it take for us to change our minds? What does it take for us to see the world differently? How can we see the world from the perspective of someone else?

REFLECTION: “Amazing Grace” — Hannah Yi, *pianist*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING — Fred Wind

With grateful hearts, let us offer our gifts, trusting in God’s goodness.

[Ushers, please come forward]

OFFERTORY: “Always” — Jennifer Rudy, *soprano*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING — Fred Wind

Ever-present God, we give you thanks and praise for your love shown to us in the life and teachings of Jesus. Accept the offering of our lives as we dedicate our hearts to following The Way of Jesus and keep us humble as we work for your good pleasure. Amen.

[please stand as you are able]

HYMN: “Let There Be Peace on Earth”

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff in 3/4 time. It consists of three staves of music. The first staff contains measures 1 through 8, with lyrics 'Let there be peace on Earth, and let it be - gin with me.' The second staff contains measures 9 through 15, with lyrics 'Let there be peace on Earth, the peace that was meant to be.' The third staff contains measures 16 through 22, with lyrics 'With God, our Cre - a - tor, we are fam - i - ly.' The score includes various musical notations such as eighth notes, quarter notes, and half notes, as well as rests and a key signature change to one sharp (F#) in measure 10.

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

The blessing of God be with you, the love of Jesus fill you, and the power of the Holy Spirit sustain you, now and forevermore. **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: Jennifer Rudy, *Soprano*
Hannah Yi, *Pianist*

Dave Albulario, *Tenor/Music Dir.*

PRAYER REQUESTS:

Jeanette Williams – Jeanette asks prayers for her dear friend, Janet Thornton, who will have a high-risk cardiac ablation procedure on October 7th.

Prince Pierson – Prince and Lorna continue to worship with us online, as Prince receives daily care for his feet, which have been slow to heal. Cards and phone calls are welcome.

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 Marina Tesla. 🍪 Fellowship refreshments are provided by Mo Ashley. 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: TODAY, 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, Worship will take place *inside* the church, as usual. In observance of the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi and his love for animals, the service will include a "**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.
Please note that **Communion will be moved to the **2nd Sunday** of the month, **October 11th.***

IMPORTANT LWCC MEMBERSHIP SESSION COMING UP:

LWCC MEMBERSHIP COFFEE WITH PASTOR: This **Thursday, October 1st** 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 30th: 27 | September 6th: 25 | September 13th: 24 | September 20th: 30



September 27, 2026



GROW
PRAY
STUDY

Notes from the Service

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There is no handwriting or other markings on the paper.

My Prayers this week:

Prayer Journal

Use this prayer in your time with God each day.

Household Prayer: Morning

Ever-present God, give me the heart of Jesus: drive away any selfish ambition, fill me with compassion and love, and make me a humble extension of your Way of Love, that all I do and all I desire may be pleasing to you. Amen.

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

Household Prayer: Evening

Ever-present God, as this day comes to a close, help me see where I have followed the heart of Jesus and where I may have fallen short. Forgive me if I have been selfish, deepen my compassion, and teach me to learn from this day. Let me rest in your love tonight, ready to begin again. Amen.