

# SOLA

## ESSENTIALS OF THE REFORMATION

OCTOBER 29, 2023  
8:00AM WORSHIP



# Novemberfest

CHRIST LUTHERAN - LA MESA  
SUNDAY • NOV 5 • 11:30 - 1:00 PM



OOM-PAH BAND

GAMES FOR KIDS

OPPORTUNITY DRAWINGS

BRATS

GERMAN POTATO SALAD

ROOT BEER FLOATS



PURCHASE TICKETS AT

[CHRISTLAMESA.ORG/NOVEMBERFEST](http://CHRISTLAMESA.ORG/NOVEMBERFEST)

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT SENIOR HIGH SUMMER RIVER RAFTING TRIP



**CHRIST LUTHERAN SCHOOL  
INVITES YOU TO ATTEND**



# **VETERANS DAY** *Chapel*

Join us for scripture readings, prayers,  
and songs that honor our military  
members, give thanks for our freedoms,  
and celebrate our great God!



All San Diego area military children, spouses, and  
active/former military service members are  
encouraged to attend.



**WEDNESDAY**

**8 NOV 2023**

**8:45 AM**



**The Class of 2024 will host a brunch for all active and  
former military and/or their families who attend  
following the chapel service.**



*Please extend invitations to your family, friends, and  
neighbors who are veterans.*

**Let Us Know You're Worshipping With Us!**



***Or visit [christlamesa.org/hello](http://christlamesa.org/hello)***

## **AS WE GATHER**

Welcome to worship! Today we celebrate what is known as “Reformation Sunday,” commemorating the day when the Augustinian monk Martin Luther posted the 95 Theses. As we commemorate that act, we continue in our series “Sola” and look at *sola gratia*, in English, *grace alone*. We also celebrate the Rite of Confirmation today for eleven students who professed their baptismal faith on Friday.

## **WELCOME AND INVOCATION**

**Leader:** In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**People:** **Amen!**

## **PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

## **LSB 656, A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD**

A mighty fortress is our God, a trusty shield and weapon;  
He helps us free from ev'ry need that hath us now o'ertaken.  
The old evil foe now means deadly woe;  
Deep guile and great might are his dread arms in fight;  
On earth is not his equal.



With might of ours can naught be done, soon were our loss effected;  
But for us fights the valiant One, whom God Himself elected.  
Ask ye, Who is this? Jesus Christ it is,  
Of Sabaoth Lord, and there's none other God;  
He holds the field forever.

**CHOIR:**     *Though devils all the world should fill, all eager to devour us,  
We tremble not, we fear no ill; they shall not overpow'r us.  
This world's prince may still scowl fierce as he will,  
He can harm us none. He's judged; the deed is done;  
One little word can fell him.*

The Word they still shall let remain nor any thanks have for it;  
He's by our side upon the plain with His good gifts and Spirit.  
And take they our life, goods, fame, child, and wife,  
Though these all be gone, our vict'ry has been won;  
The Kingdom ours remaineth.

## **WE CONFESS OUR SINS**

Leader:     Brothers and sisters, let us acknowledge our sins and so  
prepare ourselves to celebrate God together.

*(Silence for self-reflection and confession)*

Leader:     Gracious God,

**People:**    **in You we live and move and have our being. Look upon us,  
Your children, the work of Your hands. Forgive us all our  
sins, and cleanse us from proud thoughts and empty  
desires. By Your grace draw us near to You, our refuge and  
our strength; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **WE RECEIVE FORGIVENESS**

*(Please be seated)*

## FIRST READING

**PSALM 46**  
**PEW BIBLE PAGE 809**

Reader: Our first reading is from the book of Psalms, the forty-sixth chapter.

<sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, <sup>3</sup> though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

<sup>4</sup> There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy place where the Most High dwells. <sup>5</sup> God is within her, she will not fall; God will help her at break of day. <sup>6</sup> Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall; he lifts his voice, the earth melts.

<sup>7</sup> The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

<sup>8</sup> Come and see what the LORD has done, the desolations he has brought on the earth. <sup>9</sup> He makes wars cease to the ends of the earth. He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. <sup>10</sup> He says, "Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth." <sup>11</sup> The LORD Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

**EPHESIANS 2:1-10**  
**PEW BIBLE PAGE 1665**

Reader: Our second reading is from Ephesians, the second chapter.

<sup>1</sup> As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient.

<sup>3</sup>All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. <sup>4</sup>But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup>made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. <sup>6</sup>And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup>in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup>For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—<sup>9</sup>not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup>For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

LUKE 15:11-32

PEW BIBLE PAGE 1472

Pastor: To honor the words and works of Jesus, please stand.

**People: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.**

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the fifteenth chapter.

**People: Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>11</sup>Jesus continued: "There was a man who had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger one said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the estate.' So he divided his property between them.

<sup>13</sup>"Not long after that, the younger son got together all he had, set off for a distant country and there squandered his wealth in wild living. <sup>14</sup>After he had spent everything, there was a severe famine in that whole country, and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>So he went and hired himself out to a citizen of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>He longed to fill his stomach with the pods that the pigs were eating, but no one gave him anything.

<sup>17</sup>“When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired servants have food to spare, and here I am starving to death! <sup>18</sup> I will set out and go back to my father and say to him: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup> I am no longer worthy to be called your son; make me like one of your hired servants.’ <sup>20</sup> So he got up and went to his father. “But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion for him; he ran to his son, threw his arms around him and kissed him.

<sup>21</sup> “The son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’

<sup>22</sup> “But the father said to his servants, ‘Quick! Bring the best robe and put it on him. Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. <sup>23</sup> Bring the fattened calf and kill it. Let’s have a feast and celebrate. <sup>24</sup> For this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’ So they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup> “Meanwhile, the older son was in the field. When he came near the house, he heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup> So he called one of the servants and asked him what was going on. <sup>27</sup> ‘Your brother has come,’ he replied, ‘and your father has killed the fattened calf because he has him back safe and sound.’

<sup>28</sup> “The older brother became angry and refused to go in. So his father went out and pleaded with him. <sup>29</sup> But he answered his father, ‘Look! All these years I’ve been slaving for you and never disobeyed your orders. Yet you never gave me even a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup> But when this son of yours who has squandered your property with prostitutes comes home, you kill the fattened calf for him!’

<sup>31</sup> “‘My son,’ the father said, ‘you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup> But we had to celebrate and be glad, because this brother of yours was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found.’”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to You, O Christ.**



**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**MESSAGE HYMN**

**LSB 744, AMAZING GRACE, VV. 1-2**

Amazing grace—how sweet the sound—that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see!

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures;  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

**MESSAGE**

**SOLO GRATIA: GRACE ALONE**

**OFFERING**

**CHRISTLAMESA.ORG/GIVE**

**HYMN OF RESPONSE**

**LSB 744, AMAZING GRACE, VV. 3-4**

Through many dangers, toils, and snares I have already come;  
His grace has brought me safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.

**RITE OF CONFIRMATION**

Zachary Charles Brenner	Isaiah 40:28-31
Charles Raymond Flannery	1 Timothy 4:12
Jonah Quentin Gardner	John 3:16
Elizabeth Clare McCoy	Romans 12:2
Christina Lea Olson	Micah 6:8
Tristan Alejandro Ramos	Deuteronomy 31:6
Abigail Anne Rall	Psalms 59:16
Natalie Grace Sheehan	Ephesians 6:10
Matthew Francisco Swallow	Psalms 16:11
Maddox Michael Welgan	Philippians 4:13
Jonah Oscar Yost	1 Peter 5:7

## PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Eternal God, we give You thanks for accepting us into Your kingdom through the waters of Holy Baptism. Grant that the memory of those waters would flood our thoughts and so provide us comfort and courage all of our days. Lord in Your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: We rejoice, O Lord, in the students who today professed their faith in You, and we commend them to Your care. Be their guide, guardian, and help all their days. Stir up their hearts so that they would flourish in Your Church, and encourage all the faithful to commit to them their prayers and encouragement. Lord in Your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Almighty Father, grant that parents, grandparents, godparents, and mentors would be examples of faith to these students who confirmed their faith today. May their life and works always give You glory and encourage growth in unity of faith and love. Lord in Your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord of the nations, we lift before you all those who do not acknowledge you as God and Lord. Enliven our hearts so that we may bring the Good News of Your Son, Jesus Christ, to every corner of our lives. Lord in Your mercy,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Now, O Lord, remember us in Your Kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**People: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom 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 kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## **PREFACE TO HOLY COMMUNION**

***2 TIMOTHY 4:22; COLOSSIANS 3:1***

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Leader: It is truly right and good, always, and everywhere, to give You thanks, Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God, through Christ our Lord. For through his Paschal Mystery, He accomplished the marvelous deed, by which He has freed us from the yoke of sin and death, summoning us to the glory of being now called a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for Your own possession, to proclaim everywhere Your mighty works, for You have called us out of darkness into Your own wonderful light. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**People: Holy, holy, holy is the LORD God Almighty,  
Who was, and is, and is to come.**

## **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

***MATTHEW 26:26-28***

## SHARING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you.**

### WHAT WE BELIEVE ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION

Communion is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and confidence that our Lord gives us not only bread and wine but His very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to His table the baptized who trust in the words "my body... my blood... for you", repent of all sin, and seek to live by the Lord's ways.

If this is not your belief, are a child who has not taken the First Communion Class or are unfamiliar with the belief of the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod, we invite you to come forward with your arms crossed so that we can give you a blessing by making the sign of the cross over you. We also encourage you to talk to one of our pastors after the service if you have questions.

*(Please be seated)*

## SANTUARY CHOIR

## ONE FAITH, ONE HOPE, ONE LORD

*One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which He died.  
One voice, one song we lift in praise to Him Who was  
And is and shall be evermore*

*There is one body, one Spirit, as you were called to one hope.  
One Lord, baptism and faith, one God and Father of all,  
Who is in you all.*

*One faith, one hope one Lord, one church for which He died.  
One voice, one song we lift in praise to Him Who was  
And is and shall be evermore.*

*Though we be many people, diverse with various gifts,  
We are given to each other for the unity of faith,  
That we grow in the knowledge of the Son of God,  
In the fullness of Christ.*

*One faith, one hope, one Lord, one church for which He died.  
One voice one song we lift in praise to Him Who was  
And is and shall be evermore.  
One faith, one hope, one Lord, one God!*

## **LSB 570, JUST AS I AM, WITHOUT ONE PLEA**

Just as I am, without one plea  
But that Thy blood was shed for me  
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am and waiting not  
To rid my soul of one dark blot,  
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about  
With many\_a conflict, many\_a doubt,  
Fightings and fears within, without,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,  
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;  
Because Thy promise I believe,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am; Thy love unknown  
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;  
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,  
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

## **POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

## **BENEDICTION**

### **CLOSING HYMN**

### **LSB 794, THE LORD, MY GOD, BE PRAISED**

The Lord, my God, be praised, my trust, my life from heaven,  
The Father's own dear Son, whose life for me was given,  
Who for my sin atoned with His most precious blood  
And gives to me by faith the highest heav'nly good.

The Lord, my God, be praised, my hope, my life from heaven,  
The Spirit, whom the Son in love to me has given.  
His grace revives my heart and gives my spirit pow'r,  
Help, comfort, and support in sorrow's gloomy hour.

## THOSE SERVING IN WORSHIP AT 8:00AM

**Celebrant and Preacher**

Pastor Travis Ferguson

**Children's Message**

DCE Cheri Selander

**Acolyte**

Matthew McCoy

**Reader**

Steve Smith

**Music Leader**

Kathy Barkett

**Organist**

Kathy Barkett

**Special Music**

Sanctuary Choir

**Worship Partner**

Dale Mastny

**Livestream Technician**

Stuart Gardner

**Sound Technician**

Craig Barkett

**Media Technician**

Trevor Voss

**Communion Assistants**

Phil Lamonica

Bob Maass

Gunnar Schalin

Kent Schwartz

Steve Smith

Mark Brouker

Dallas Johnson

**Welcome Team**

**If you are looking for a place to serve  
here at Christ Lutheran, we have a spot for you!**

**For more information go to [christlamesa.org/serve](http://christlamesa.org/serve)**



# WHAT'S HAPPENING THIS WEEK

## **TODAY | October 29**

- ☐ 8:00 am—Traditional Worship with Holy Communion
- ☐ 9:15 am—Sunday School
  - 3yrs -Grade 6—CLS Back Entrance
  - Confirmation—Room 202
  - Senior High—Youth Center Room 3
- ☐ 9:15 am—Christian Education Hour
  - Focus—Room 101
  - Bereans—Room 203
  - Village—Lucas Hall
  - Grace—CLS Teachers' Lounge
- ☐ 10:30 am—Contemporary Worship with Holy Communion
- ☐ 5:00 pm—Senior High Sunday Evening—Youth Center

## **MONDAY | October 30**

- ☐ 7:00 pm—Adult Pickleball—Gym

## **TUESDAY | October 31**

- ☐ 7:00 pm—Alcoholics Anonymous—Youth Building Room 1

## **WEDNESDAY | November 1**

- ☐ 9:30 am—Women's Bible Study—Lucas Hall
- ☐ 7:00 pm—Grief Journey—Youth Center Room 1

## **THURSDAY | November 2**

- ☐ 9:30 am—Insights—Lucas Hall
- ☐ 6:30 pm—Choir Rehearsal—Sanctuary
  - Al Anon Meeting—Fireside Room
- ☐ 7:45 pm—Handbell Rehearsal—Room 200B

## **FRIDAY | November 3**

- ☐ 7:00 pm—Refuge—Youth Center

## **SATURDAY | November 4**

- ☐ 7:30 am—Men's Bible Study in Lucas Hall



Join us in celebrating  
the Consecration of

*Jacob Sitze*  
as a Deacon

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2023  
8:00 AM

# SOLA

**Date: October 29, 2023**

**Series: Sola**

**Message: Sola Gratia**

**Text: Psalm 46; Ephesians 2:1-10; Luke 7:36-50**

**A note to begin:** Salvation does not depend upon our activities (how could it, if we are dead before God's gift?); it is given by God through grace alone—His unmerited gift. If salvation is not earned but bestowed by God, there are far-reaching implications for legalism. First, many people try to *earn* grace through works and following God's laws. While we should certainly follow God's commandments, this is an outworking of salvation (what the Church calls "sanctification"), not a prerequisite for it. Second, this has pushed some believers to a form of gatekeeping—excluding others from faith because, according to one person's judgment, they do not "fit the part." But again, grace is a gift that is not predicated on anyone's actions or life; it is an unmerited gift of God. Thus, living legalistically or expecting that of those around you misses the wonder of grace.





# SOLA

Grace is often defined as "Good will and favor shown to one who can plead no merit." Thus, grace is goodness given to someone who has not really done anything to *deserve* or *earn* it. In your life, other than in your relationship with God, where have you been the recipient of grace?

Read Ephesians 2:1-10 together. In Ephesians 2:1-3, Paul describes our state before God's grace. What does this passage reveal about our natural condition without God's intervention? When you think about your default reactions to situations, or perhaps your first response to adversity or criticism, how have you seen Paul's words at work?

In contrast, Ephesians 2:4-7 speaks of God's rich mercy and great love. What stands out to you in these verses? How does understanding that our salvation is not earned but freely given impact your relationship with God?

Ephesians 2:8-9 emphasizes that salvation is a gift from God and not something we can boast about. How can we guard against pride or a works-based mentality in our Christian walk?

Paul mentions that we are "created in Christ Jesus for good works" (Ephesians 2:10). How do you understand the relationship between God's grace and the good works that we are called to do?

What are some practical ways we can live out the truth of "By Grace Alone" in our daily lives and interactions with others?

End your time praying for one another.





**Travis Ferguson**  
Pastor



**Patti Maass**  
Director of Operations



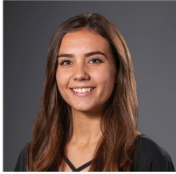
**Cheri Selander**  
Director of Youth Ministries



**Brandon Heath**  
Minister to Youth



**Kathy Barkett**  
Director of  
Worship and Music



**Sarah Kusel**  
Assistant Director  
of Music and Worship



**Xavria Schwarz**  
School Principal



**Melissa Payne**  
Preschool Director



**Stuart Gardner**  
Director of Community  
and Communications



**Craig Barkett**  
Director of Facilities



**Kathy Garces**  
Administrative Accountant



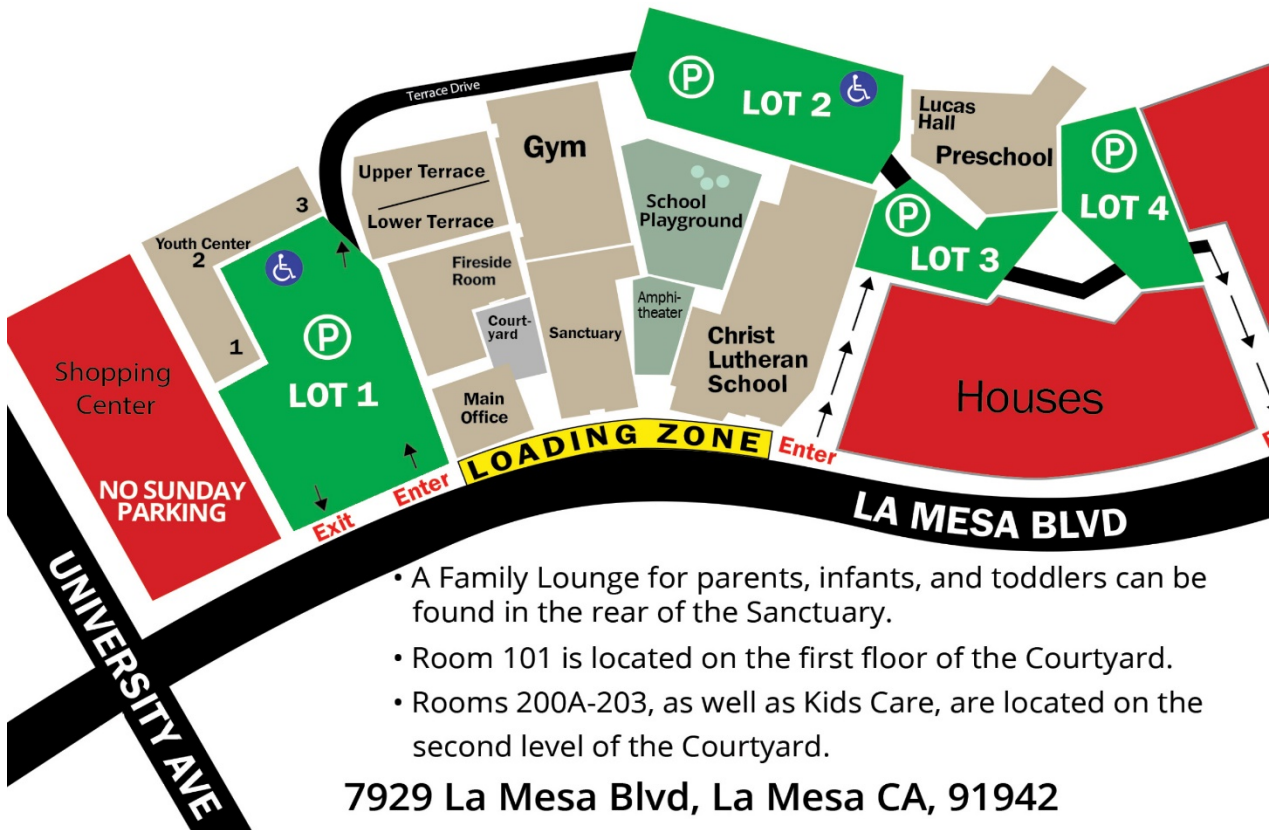
**Emily Lieber**  
Human Resources Specialist



**Kathy Johnson**  
Worship and Music Assistant



**Kim Voss**  
Administrative Assistant



- A Family Lounge for parents, infants, and toddlers can be found in the rear of the Sanctuary.
- Room 101 is located on the first floor of the Courtyard.
- Rooms 200A-203, as well as Kids Care, are located on the second level of the Courtyard.

**7929 La Mesa Blvd, La Mesa CA, 91942**