Chemistry 2302

Workshop 14 Solutions Carboxylic Acids as Synthetic Intermediates

$$(+ enantiomer)$$
1. Li, Et₂O
2. CO₂
3. H₃O⁺

$$(+ enantiomer)$$

$$(+ enantiomer)$$

$$(+ enantiomer)$$

$$CH3OH, H3O+
$$CH3OH, DCC$$

$$(+ enantiomer)$$

$$(+ enantiomer)$$$$

I've drawn one route in gray because I don't think it's as good—more steps, and it involves acid hydrolysis of cyanide, which doesn't actually work that well.

One important thing about forming an anhydride with 1 equivalent of $SOCl_2$ (step 2) is that the anhydride will only react once with an incoming nucleophile. That insures that the product can have one carboxylic acid derivative on one side, and a different one on the other side.