

You shall call His name

Jesus

Luke 1:31

The purpose of our Community is:
❁❁❁ *“Building Committed Followers of Jesus Christ”* ❁❁❁

Prelude

Pianist: Shirlene Everhart

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

Every worship service opens by invoking the name, the presence, and the power of the one true God, the God in whose name and by whose power we became members of the Holy Christian Church in our Baptism.

(Pastor) In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

(Everyone) Amen.

Prayer of Confession of Sin

We pray to confess our sin to God and ask His forgiveness to remain humble before Him.

(Everyone) Gracious Heavenly Father, as today we celebrate the fourth Sunday in Advent and the joy and expectation of a new church year, we look forward to new spiritual beginnings! We have high expectations for this Advent season, even though we look back upon a church year in which we didn't always accomplish what we had planned. We often made mistakes and sinned in weakness during the past twelve months. Yet we know that, even when we sinned, Your Presence and forgiveness in faith was constant in our lives for Jesus' sake. For all those times, we come now in humble confession of our sins, and seek Your pardon and mercy. As we this next week will also celebrate the joyful Festival of Christmas Day and the remembrance of Christ being born to earth, please forgive our many sins for the sake of Christ's suffering and death on our behalf, and may we once again serve our newborn Savior in great joy and peace. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Declaration of Grace

We remember the Good News that God forgives our sin because of Jesus.

(Pastor) The Bible tells us that we are to penitently and sincerely confess our sins. In Advent, we joyfully anticipate Christ coming once again into our hearts! Having done so in faith, we now humbly seek God's pardon. Christ has promised to us His forgiveness because of His suffering and death at Calvary. Thus, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, and in the stead and by command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Opening Hymn

Hark, the Glad Sound, # 12

Children's Sermonette:

*"Born in a miraculous way!"
Pastor McDonald*

We Worship Through Our Giving

We express our gratitude to God as we give to support the work of the church so that more people may hear the Good News about Jesus. Please ask an usher if you need an envelope.

Offertory

We Worship Through Speaking and Hearing the Word of God

We read the Word of God to strengthen, encourage, and challenge us for the week ahead.

Old Testament Lesson

II Samuel 7: 1-11, 16 (NKJV)

¹ Now it came to pass when the king was dwelling in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies all around, ² that the king said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of God dwells inside tent curtains." ³ Then Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that *is* in your heart, for the LORD *is* with you." ⁴ But it happened that night that the word of the LORD came to Nathan, saying, ⁵ "Go and tell My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: "Would you build a house for Me to dwell in? ⁶ For I have not dwelt in a house since the time that I brought the children of Israel up from Egypt, even to this day, but have moved about in a tent and in a tabernacle. ⁷ Wherever I have moved about with all the children of Israel, have I ever spoken a word to anyone from the tribes of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd My people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built Me a house of cedar?' " ' ⁸ Now therefore, thus shall you say to My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD of hosts: "I took you from the sheepfold, from following the sheep, to be ruler over My people, over Israel. ⁹ And I have been with you wherever you have gone, and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and have made you a great name, like the name of the great men who *are* on the earth. ¹⁰ Moreover I will appoint a place for My people Israel, and will plant them, that they may dwell in a place of their own and move no more; nor shall the sons of wickedness oppress them anymore, as previously, ¹¹ since the time that I commanded judges *to be* over My people Israel, and have caused you to rest from all your enemies. Also the LORD tells you that He will make you a house. ~ ~ ¹⁶ And your house and your kingdom shall be established forever before you. Your throne shall be established forever.

Epistle

Romans 16: 25-27 (NKJV)

²⁵ Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery kept secret since the world began ²⁶ but now made manifest, and by the prophetic Scriptures made known to all

nations, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, for obedience to the faith—²⁷ to God, alone wise, *be* glory through Jesus Christ forever. Amen.

(Please stand for the reading of the Gospel)

Gospel Reading

Luke 1: 26-38 (NKJV)

²⁶ Now in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And having come in, the angel said to her, "Rejoice, highly favored *one*, the Lord *is* with you; blessed *are* you among women!" ²⁹ But ^bwhen she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. ³⁰ Then the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. ³³ And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Then Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I do not know a man?" ³⁵ And the angel answered and said to her, "*The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.* ³⁶ Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. ³⁷ For with God nothing will be impossible." ³⁸ Then Mary said, "Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

We Respond to God's Word by Confessing Our Faith

As we recite together the words of the Apostles' Creed, we join the worldwide chorus of followers of Jesus, who, for centuries, have confessed their faith through this simple declaration.

(Everyone) I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from there He shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sermon Hymn

The First Noel, # 33

Sermon:

'An Advent faith which accepts the impossible!'
Pastor Robert McDonald

Message Notes: _____

General Prayer

Communion Hymn

Once in Royal David's City, # 37

We Worship at the table of the Lord's Supper

Communion — If you prefer grape juice instead of wine, please hold up 2 fingers when you reach the person with the cups.

Everyone who confesses Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior is welcome and invited to join us. Together we receive anew the love and grace that God pours out to us through the sacrifice of Christ on the cross. Come hold in your hands and taste on your lips the love He poured out for you.

Pastor: The Words of Our Lord...(Consecration of the Elements)

(Everyone) 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!

Distribution

Benediction

A blessing we receive to send us out into the world once again.

Sending Hymn

From Heaven Above to Earth I Come, # 27

(Pastor): Go in Peace and Serve the Lord.

(Everyone): Thanks be to God

Postlude

Things going on during the week:

Please pick up Food Bags today to use or to distribute to others.

Monday-Friday: 7:15 am to 5 pm Little Blessings Christian Preschool:

Theme: Happy Birthday Jesus!; Letter None; Bible: The Christmas Story

Wednesday: 5:00 pm Choir practice

Thursdays: Choir 5 pm; No other meetings, until further notice.

Birdhouse = Building Fund Donations

Please place all and any donations for the Building Fund in the Birdhouse. This fund is needed to replace 'The Shack' and build for the future of this church. Being more visible to Mission Avenue we hope to attract Christians looking for a new home and non-Christians looking for what is missing in their life.

Mark Your Calendars!

January 2, Saturday, Normally, Women's Bible Study, 10 am.

January 16, Saturday -- Free Food Distribution--At the Shack from 9 to 10 am. If you know of someone who could benefit from the free food distribution, please let them know. Also, if you can help with set-up, please come at 8:30 am. If you can come later and stay until about 11:00 am to help with putting away leftover food, tables and chairs, your help will be greatly appreciated. *Join us in thanking God for the continuation of this ministry!* The Blue bin on the North wall of the Church is for the collection of can goods for the Food Distribution.

February 7, Sunday - Love Offering ... for Missions

Once a quarter, we will be collecting a special offering in the 'Missions Giving Box' on your way out of the Sanctuary for our Missionaries. This offering is above and beyond our regular giving. In planning ahead, we will repeat the Love Offerings in 2020 on the first Sunday in February, May, August & November.

Community Lutheran Church, AFLC*: 760.722.3337

4507 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, CA 92057

www.cloceanside.com



Building Committed Followers of Jesus Christ

Little Blessings Christian Preschool: (760) 722-1705

Preschool Schedule: Tuesday – Friday ... 7:15 am to 5:00 pm

Kristen Erwin, Preschool Director

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### Weekly Schedule:

|                   |                 |                                                               |
|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sundays:</b>   | <b>10:00 am</b> | <b>Worship Service &amp; Sunday School</b>                    |
|                   | <b>11:00 am</b> | <b>Community Fellowship Time</b>                              |
|                   | <b>12:00 pm</b> | <b>Council Meeting, The <u>Third</u> Sunday of each month</b> |
| <b>Thursdays:</b> | <b>5:00 pm</b>  | <b>Choir; Until further notice, <b>NO other meetings.</b></b> |
| <b>Saturdays:</b> | <b>10:00 am</b> | <b>Women's Bible Study</b>                                    |
|                   |                 | <b>Normally the <u>First</u> Saturday of each month.</b>      |
|                   | <b>9:00 am</b>  | <b>Free Food Distribution</b>                                 |
|                   |                 | <b>The <u>Third</u> Saturday of each month, 9:00-10:00 am</b> |

### For more information, please visit:

Website: [www.cloceanside.com](http://www.cloceanside.com)

Facebook Page: Community Lutheran Oceanside

\*AFLC [Association of Free Lutheran Congregations]: [aflc.org](http://aflc.org)



### Prayer Chain Requests

Please mark the Connection Card very clearly ... your request is for Pastor only or you want the prayer chain to pray for your request.

### Children's Activity Items

These are available for younger children during the service. They are in the cabinets at the back of the church to the left of the Prayer Room.



# Hark, the Glad Sound!

Hark, the glad sound! The Savior comes,  
The Savior promised long;  
Let every heart prepare a throne,  
And every voice a song.

He comes, the prisoners to release,  
In Satan's bondage held.  
The gates of brass before Him burst,  
The iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind,  
The bleeding soul to cure,  
And with the treasures of His grace  
To enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of peace,  
Your welcome shall proclaim,  
and Heaven's eternal arches ring  
with your beloved name.

# The First Noel

The first Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds In fields as they lay;  
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

## *Refrain*

*Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,  
Born is the King of Israel.*

They lookèd up and saw a star  
Shining in the east, Beyond them far;  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.

## *Refrain*

And by the light of that same star  
Three wise men came From country far;  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.

## *Refrain*

This star drew near to the northwest,  
Over Bethlehem It took its rest;  
And there it did both stop and stay,  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

## *Refrain*

Then entered in those Wise Men three  
Full reverently upon their knee,  
And offered there in His presence  
Their gold, and myrrh, and frankincence.

## *Refrain,*

# Once in Royal David's City

Once in Royal David's city Stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby In a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little Child.

He came down to earth from heaven, Who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable, And His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor, and mean, and lowly, Lived on earth our Savior holy.

And through all His wondrous childhood He would honor and obey,  
Love and watch the lowly maiden, In whose gentle arms He lay:  
Christian children all must be Mild, obedient, good as He.

For he is our childhood's pattern; Day by day, like us He grew;  
He was little, weak and helpless, Tears and smiles like us He knew;  
And He feeleth for our sadness, And He shareth in our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him, Through His own redeeming love,  
For that Child so dear and gentle Is our Lord in heaven above,  
And He leads His children on To the place where He is gone.

Not in that poor lowly stable, With the oxen standing by,  
We shall see Him; but in heaven, Set at God's right hand on high;  
Where like stars His children crowned All in white shall wait around.

# From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

From Heaven above to earth I come,  
To bear good news to every home,  
Glad tidings of great joy I bring,  
Whereof I now will gladly sing.

This night to you is born a child,  
The chosen Virgin's Infant mild,  
And He, a child of lowly birth,  
Shall be the joy of all the earth.

He is the Christ , our God and Lord,  
Whose name we praise with one accord;  
Your Savior He has designed to be  
And from all sin will set you free.

These are the tokens you shall mark;  
The swaddling clothes, the manger dark;  
In these the infant is now laid,  
By whom both heaven and earth were made.

We welcome Thee, most noble Guest,  
Through whom this sinful world is blest!  
Thy coming is a boon for me;  
What thanks shall I return to Thee?

Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child,  
Make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled,  
Within my heart, and let it be  
A quiet chamber, kept for Thee.

Praise be to God upon His throne  
Who gave the world His only Son;  
For this His hosts, on joyful wing,  
A blest New Year of mercy sing.