A white dove is shown in flight, wings spread wide, against a vibrant blue sky. The dove is positioned on the left side of the frame. From behind the dove, a series of bright, ethereal light rays or beams of light radiate outwards, creating a dramatic and divine atmosphere. The background is a deep, clear blue with some wispy white clouds near the top and bottom edges.

As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."

Matthew 3:16-17

The purpose of our Community is:

✠✠✠ “Building Committed Followers of Jesus Christ” ✠✠✠

Prelude

Pianist: Aretta Engelhardt or 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) Heavenly Father, as today we celebrate the second Sunday of a new calendar year, we continue to look for fresh beginnings! We have high expectations for the next twelve months, even though we look back upon a year in which we didn't always accomplish what we had planned. We often made mistakes and even sinned in weakness in 2020. Yet we know that, even when we sinned, Your Presence was constant in our lives, and for that we are grateful! For all those times, we come now in humble confession, and seek Your pardon and mercy. Please forgive our sins for the sake of Christ's suffering and death on our behalf, and may we, especially in this new year of Your grace, continue to serve our 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. 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

Angels from the Realms of Glory, # 25

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

Genesis 1: 1-7, 26-28 (NKJV)

¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. ² The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³ Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. ⁴ And God saw the light, that *it was good*; and God divided the light from the darkness. ⁵ God called the light Day, and the darkness He called Night. So the evening and the morning were the first day. ⁶ Then God said, "Let there be firmament in the midst of the waters, and let it divide the waters from the waters." ⁷ Thus God made the firmament, and divided the waters which *were* under the firmament from the waters which *were* above the firmament; and it was so. ~ ~ ²⁶ Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." ²⁷ So God created man in His *own* image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. ²⁸ Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Epistle

Romans 6: 1-5 (NKJV)

¹ What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? ² Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? ³ Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? ⁴ Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be *in the likeness of His* resurrection,

(Please stand for the reading of the Gospel)

Gospel Reading

Matthew 3: 13-17 (NKJV)

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ And John *tried to* prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit *it to be* so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him. ¹⁶ When He had been

baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. ¹⁷ And suddenly a voice *came* from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

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

It Came upon the Midnight Clear, # 24

Sermon:

'The baptism of Jesus!'

Pastor Ralph Buchhorn

Message Notes: _____

Message Notes cont'd: _____

General Prayer

Communion Hymn

Behold, a Branch Is Growing , # 38

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.

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

(Everyone): Thanks be to God


Postlude

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**Bible Quiz**

According to Matthew, who was present at Jesus' baptism? (Choose as many as apply.)

- A. John the Baptist
- B. The Spirit of God
- C. Jesus' mother, Mary
- D. His first disciples



Answer: A and B (See Matthew 3:13-17.)



## **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: Wintertime; Letters: Pp; Bible: Boy Jesus lost in the Temple

**Wednesdays: NO CHOIR until further notice.**

**Thursdays: Until further notice, NO other meetings.**

## **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 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 6, Saturday - Normally Women's Bible Study, 10 am.**

### **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](http://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:

Sundays: 10:00 am **Worship Service & Sunday School**
11:00 am **Community Fellowship Time**
12:00 pm **Council Meeting, The Third Sunday of each month**

Wednesdays: 5:00 pm **NO CHOIR until further notice.**

Thursdays: Until further notice, **NO other meetings.**

Saturdays: 10:00 am **Women's Bible Study**
Normally the **First Saturday** of each month.
9:00 am **Free Food Distribution**
The **Third Saturday** of each month, 9:00-10:00 am

For more information, please visit:

Website: www.cloceanside.com

Facebook Page: **Community Lutheran Oceanside**

*AFLC [Association of Free Lutheran Congregations]: 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.

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

Angels from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story
Now proclaim Messiah's birth.
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Shepherds, in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing;
Yonder shines the Infant Light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Saints, before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear;
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

It came upon a midnight clear, That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, To touch their harps of gold:
Peace on the earth, good will to men, From heaven's all gracious King;
The world in solemn stillness lay To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come, With peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heavenly music floats O'er all the weary world:
Above its sad and lowly plains They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds The blessed angels sing

And ye, beneath life's crushing load, Whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way, With painful steps and slow,
Look now, for glad and golden hours Come swiftly on the wing;
O rest beside the weary road, And hear the angels sing.

4 For lo! the days are hastening on, By prophet-bards foretold,
When, with the ever-circling years, Comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth Its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song Which now the angels sing.

Behold, a Branch Is Growing

Behold a branch is growing Of loveliest form and grace;
As prophets sung, foreknowing, It springs from Jesse's race,
And bears one little Flower In midst of coldest winter,
At deepest midnight hour.

Isaiah hath foretold it In words of promise sure,
And Mary' s arms enfold it, A virgin meek and pure.
Through God's eternal will This Child to her is given,
At midnight calm and still.

The shepherds heard the story Proclaimed by angels bright,
How Christ, the Lord of Glory, Was born on earth this night.
To Bethlehem they sped; And in the manger found Him,
As angel heralds said.

This Flower, whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air,
Dispels with glorious splendor The darkness everywhere.
True Man, yet very God; From sin and death He saves us
And lightens every load.

O Savior, Child of Mary, Who felt our human woe;
Savior, King of Glory, Who dost our weakness know,
Bring us at length, we pray, To the bright courts of heaven,
And to the endless day.

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

God be with you till we meet again,
By His counsels guide, uphold you.
With His sheep securely fold you,
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

Till we meet, till we meet,
Till we meet at Jesus' feet;
Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again,
'Neath His wings protecting hide you,
Daily manna still divide you,
God be with you till we meet again.

Refrain

Till we meet, till we meet,
Till we meet at Jesus' feet;
Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again