

IN LoVE  
GOD   
CHOSE  
TO ADOPT  
US THROUGH  
JESUS CHRIST

Ephesians 1

**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 & Assurance of Pardon**

*Liturgy: Please turn to # 471*

**Prayer of Forgiveness**

*Pastor: Hear the good news of Christmas. Today God reveals to us the wonders of divine love.*

**[Everyone] For unto us a Child is born; unto us a Son is given. His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.**

**Opening Hymn**

*Just a Closer Walk with Thee, # 564*

**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.*

## **First Lesson for the Day**

*Deuteronomy 10:8 ((NLT)*

<sup>8</sup> At that time the LORD set apart the tribe of Levi to carry the Ark of the LORD's Covenant, and to stand before the LORD as his ministers, and to pronounce blessings in his name. These are their duties to this day.

## **Epistle Lesson**

*Galatians 4:1-7 (NLT)*

<sup>1</sup> Think of it this way. If a father dies and leaves an inheritance for his young children, those children are not much better off than slaves until they grow up, even though they actually own everything their father had. <sup>2</sup> They have to obey their guardians until they reach whatever age their father set. <sup>3</sup> And that's the way it was with us before Christ came. We were like children; we were slaves to the basic spiritual principles of this world. <sup>4</sup> But when the right time came, God sent his Son, born of a woman, subject to the law. <sup>5</sup> God sent him to buy freedom for us who were slaves to the law, so that he could adopt us as his very own children. <sup>6</sup> And because we are his children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, prompting us to call out, "Abba, Father." <sup>7</sup> Now you are no longer a slave but God's own child. And since you are his child, God has made you his heir.

*[Please Stand for the reading of the Gospel!]*

## **Gospel Lesson**

*John 3:1-17 NLT)*

<sup>1</sup> There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish religious leader who was a Pharisee. <sup>2</sup> After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. "Rabbi," he said, "we all know that God has sent you to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with you." <sup>3</sup> Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God." <sup>4</sup> "What do you mean?" exclaimed Nicodemus. "How can an old man go back into his mother's womb and be born again?" <sup>5</sup> Jesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God without being born of water and the Spirit. <sup>6</sup> Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life. <sup>7</sup> So don't be surprised when I say, 'You must be born again.' <sup>8</sup> The wind blows wherever it wants. Just as you can hear the wind but can't tell where it comes from or where it is going, so you can't explain how people are born of the Spirit." <sup>9</sup> "How are these things possible?" Nicodemus asked. <sup>10</sup> Jesus replied, "You are a respected Jewish teacher, and yet you don't understand these things? <sup>11</sup> I assure you, we tell you what we know and have seen, and yet you won't believe our testimony. <sup>12</sup> But if you don't believe me when I tell you about earthly things, how can you possibly believe if I tell you about heavenly things? <sup>13</sup> No one has ever gone to heaven and returned. But the Son of Man has come down from heaven. <sup>14</sup> And as Moses lifted up the bronze snake on a pole in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, <sup>15</sup> so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life. <sup>16</sup> "For this is how God loved the world: He gave his one and only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. <sup>17</sup> God sent his Son into the world not to judge the world, but to save the world through him.

## **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**

*Blessed Assurance, # 572*

**Sermon**

*"Adopted"*

*Pastor Buchhorn*

**Message Notes:** \_\_\_\_\_



## **Communion Hymn**

*Children of the Heavenly Father, # 719*

### **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**

*Peace like a River, # 750*

*Pastor: Go In Peace and Serve the Lord!*  
**(Everyone) Thanks be to God**

### **Postlude**

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## **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: Good health; Letters: Qq; Bible: Boy Jesus is baptized.

**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!**

**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.

**February 20, 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.



# 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: Monday – Friday ... 7:15 am to 5:00 pm**

Kristen Erwin, Preschool Director

## Weekly Schedule:

**Sundays: 10:00 am Worship Service & Sunday School**  
**11:15 am Community Fellowship Time**

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

**Thursday: Until further notice, No other meetings.**

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

**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.





## A GLORIOUS CHURCH

*from Matthew 16:15-19; 1 Corinthians 12:12-14;  
Ephesians 1:22-23; 2:19-22; 5:25-27 (NKJV)*

WORSHIP LEADER

Jesus said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"

**EVERYONE**

**Simon Peter answered and said,  
"You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God."**

WORSHIP LEADER

Jesus answered and said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah,  
for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven."

**MEN**

**"And I also say to you that you are Peter,  
and on this rock I will build My Church,  
and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it."**

WORSHIP LEADER

"And I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven,  
and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven,  
and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

**WOMEN**

**For as the body is one and has many members,  
but all the members of that one body, being many,  
are one body, so also is Christ.**

WORSHIP LEADER

For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—  
whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—  
and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.  
For in fact the body is not one member, but many.

**EVERYONE**

**He put all things under His feet,  
and gave Him to be head over all things to the church,  
which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.**

WORSHIP LEADER

You are no longer strangers and foreigners,  
but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God,

**EVERYONE**

**Having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets,  
Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone,**

WORSHIP LEADER

In whom the whole building, being joined together,  
grows into a holy temple in the Lord,

**WOMEN**

**In whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place  
of God in the Spirit.**

**MEN**

**Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the Church  
and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her  
with the washing of water by the Word,**

**EVERYONE**

**That He might present her to Himself a glorious Church,  
not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing,  
but that she should be holy and without blemish.**

# Just a Closer Walk with Thee

I am weak but Thou art strong;  
Jesus keep me from all wrong,  
I'll be satisfied as long  
As I walk, let me walk close to Thee.

Refrain:

Just a closer walk with Thee,  
Grant it, Jesus, is my plea.  
Daily walking close to Thee,  
Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

Thro' this world of toil and snares,  
If I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares?  
None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.

Refrain

When my feeble life is o'er,  
Time for me will be no more;  
Guide me gently, safely o'er  
To Thy kingdom shore, to Thy shore.

Refrain

## Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
O what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
Born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

Refrain:

This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior, all the day long;  
This is my story, this is my song,  
Praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight,  
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight;  
Angels descending, bring from above  
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love.

Refrain:

Perfect submission, all is at rest,  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
Watching and waiting, looking above,  
Filled with his goodness, lost in his love.

Refrain:

# Children of the Heavenly Father

Children of the heav'nly Father  
Safely in His bosom gather  
Nestling bird nor star in Heaven  
Such a refuge e'er was given

God, His own doth tend and nourish  
In His holy courts they flourish  
From all evil things He spares them  
In His mighty arms He bears them

Neither life nor death shall ever  
From the Lord, His children sever  
Unto them His grace He showeth  
And their sorrows all He knoweth

Though He giveth or He taketh  
God His children ne'er forsaketh  
His, the loving purpose solely  
To preserve them, pure and holy

# Peace like a River

I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river in my soul;  
I've got peace like a river  
I've got peace like a river  
I've got peace like a river in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean in my soul;  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul;  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.