



GOD
BLESS
AMERICA

*The purpose of our Community is:
"Building Committed Followers of Jesus Christ"*

Prelude

Pianist: Aretta Engelhardt or Shirlene Everhart

Welcome and Announcements

Happy Birthday, America!

Invocation and Patriotic Call to Worship

Pastor: We make our beginning in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,

People: as today, we celebrate our nation's 245th birthday!

Pastor: Let us as a Christian nation take time to consider the benefits that Almighty God has granted to us.

People: We are blessed to live in in a country in which we are free to speak God's Word of truth.

Pastor: May Almighty God continue to grant America the blessings of faith and freedom, to the glory of Jesus Christ!

ALL: Let us now praise the Lord in this worship celebration for all His goodness and mercy toward us as a people and as a Christian nation.

Confession of Sins

Pastor: While we rejoice in the blessings granted to our nation, we also know that we must humble ourselves before Almighty God.

People: It is important that we confess our sins as individuals, as family members, and as citizens of this nation.

All: Gracious Heavenly Father, as today we celebrate our nation's birthday, we also realize that we have sinned against You in our lives, both as Christians and as citizens. Especially today, we ask forgiveness for the times when we have failed in weakness, or sinned in terms of our relationships

with others. We ask Your pardon for those times when we should have spoken out on those issues which affect our society and our nation, yet we kept silent. Forgive us when we were afraid to be the ‘salt and light’ Christians you would have us be, or when we failed to ‘flavor’ and influence our society with God’s holy and infallible Word. Since You have given Your only begotten Son to die for us, have mercy on us, and for His sake grant us forgiveness of all our sins and a strengthening of our Christian faith; so that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Declaration of Grace

As Christians living in a Christian nation, we know that we should be in a daily state of confession and repentance. We now come before God’s throne and seek His pardon, for Jesus’ sake. 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 the 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

God of Our Fathers, # 628

Children’s Sermonette: ‘Our hand on our heart...’ *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

1 Kings 3:5-14 [NKJV]

⁵At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask! What shall I give you?” ⁶And Solomon said: “You have shown great mercy to Your servant David my father, because he walked before You in truth, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart with You; You have continued this great kindness for him, and You have given him a son to sit on his throne, as *it is* this day. ⁷Now, O LORD my God, You have made Your servant king instead of my father David, but I *am* a little child; I do not know *how* to go out or come in. ⁸And Your servant *is* in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted. ⁹Therefore give to Your servant an understanding heart to judge Your people, that I may discern between good and evil. For who is able to judge this great people of Yours?” ¹⁰The speech pleased the Lord, that Solomon had asked this

thing. ¹¹ Then God said to him: “Because you have asked this thing, and have not asked long life for yourself, nor have asked riches for yourself, nor have asked the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern justice, ¹² behold, I have done according to your words; see, I have given you a wise and understanding heart, so that there has not been anyone like you before you, nor shall any like you arise after you. ¹³ And I have also given you what you have not asked: both riches and honor, so that there shall not be anyone like you among the kings all your days. ¹⁴ So if you walk in My ways, to keep My statutes and My commandments, as your father David walked, then I will lengthen your days.”

Epistle

Romans 13:1-7 [NKJV]

¹ Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. ² Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. ³ For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. ⁴ For he is God’s minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God’s minister, an avenger to *execute* wrath on him who practices evil. ⁵ Therefore *you* must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience’ sake. ⁶ For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God’s ministers attending continually to this very thing. ⁷ Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes *are due*, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor.

Choir

I Will Heal Their Land

(Please stand for the reading of the Gospel)

Gospel Reading 1

Matthew 5:13-16 [NKJV]

¹³ “You are the salt of the earth; but if the salt loses its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is then good for nothing but to be thrown out and trampled underfoot by men. ¹⁴ “You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵ Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all *who are* in the house. ¹⁶ Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Gospel Reading 2

Matthew 22:15-22 [NKJV]

¹⁵ Then the Pharisees went and plotted how they might entangle Him in *His* talk. ¹⁶ And they sent to Him their disciples with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that You are true, and teach the way of God in truth; nor do You care about anyone, for You do not regard the person of men. ¹⁷ Tell us, therefore, what do You think? Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar, or not?” ¹⁸ But Jesus perceived their wickedness, and said, “Why do you test Me, *you* hypocrites? ¹⁹ Show Me the tax money.” So they

Benediction

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

Sending Hymn

America, the Beautiful, # 630

(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**  
**VBS: When you struggle, Jesus rescues. Bible: Jesus' friends try to rescue him in the Garden of Gethsemane.**

**Wednesdays: 5 pm Choir; 6:30 pm Potluck; 7 pm Bible Study**

## **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!**

**July 17, 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.

### **August 1, 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.

**August 7, Saturday Women's Bible study, 10 am, Book of Acts**

# 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 pm Choir; 6:30 pm Potluck; 7 pm Bible Study

Saturdays: 10:00 am **Women's Bible Study**
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.

God of Our Fathers

God of our fathers, whose almighty hand
Leads forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before Your throne arise.

Your love divine hath led us in the past;
In this free land by You our lot is cast;
Oh, be our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay;
Your Word our law, Your paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
Make Your strong arm our ever sure defense,
Your true religion in our hearts increase;
Your bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh Your people on their toilsome way;
Lead us from night to never-ending day;
Fill all our lives with heav'n-born love and grace
Until at last we meet before Your face.

The Star-Spangled Banner

O say, can you see, By the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed At the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, Thro' the perilous fight, O'er
the ramparts we watch'd, Were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, The bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night That our flag was still there.
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave?

On the shore, dimly seen thro' the mists of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream,
'Tis the star-spangled banner - O long may it wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.

And where is that band, who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution;
No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave,
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.

O thus be it ever when freemen shall stand
Between their lov'd homes and the war's desolation;
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the pow'r that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just;
And this be our motto - "In God is our trust!"
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free, and the home of the brave.

My Country! 'Tis of Thee

My country! 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,
Of thee I sing:
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From ev'ry mountainside
Let freedom ring.

My native country, thee,
Land of the noble, free,
Thy name I love;
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills.
My heart with rapture thrills
Like that above.

Let music swell the breeze,
And ring from all the trees
Sweet freedom's song;
Let mortal tongues awake,
Let all that breathe partake,
Let rocks their silence break,
The sound prolong.

Our fathers' God, to Thee,
Author of liberty,
To Thee we sing;
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by Thy might,
Great God, our King.

America, the Beautiful

O beautiful for spacious skies, For amber waves of grain,
For purple mountain majesties Above the fruited plain.

America! America!

God shed His grace on thee,
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!

O beautiful for pilgrim feet Whose stern impassioned stress
A thoroughfare for freedom beat Across the wilderness.

America! America!

God mend thine every flaw,
Confirm thy soul in self-control,
Thy liberty in law!

O beautiful for heroes proved In liberating strife,
Who more than self their country loved, And mercy more than life.

America! America!

May God thy gold refine
Till all success be nobleness,
And every gain divine.

O beautiful for patriot dream That sees beyond the years
Thine alabaster cities gleam Undimmed by human tears.

America! America!

God shed His grace on thee
And crown thy good with brotherhood
From sea to shining sea!