



Have  
Yourself  
a  
Merry  
Little  
Christmas



**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.**

**Prayers of Confession:**

**[Everyone] We are captive, exiled, O God, because we have, each in our own way, chosen our own path, away from you. We are hungry for wisdom and know-ledge, because we have, too often, substituted our judgment for yours. We are lost, in need of guidance.**

*Silent Prayer, concluded with:*

**Come, Lord Jesus; forgive us and restore us.**

**Come, Lord Jesus; guide us and deliver us.**

**Come, Lord Jesus; teach us and renew us.**

**Come, Lord Jesus.**

**Words of Assurance:** *[adapted from Titus 3:4-7, The Message]*

*[Pastor] God, our kind and loving Savior God, has stepped in and saved us.*

**[Everyone] God gave us a good bath, and we came out of it new people, washed inside and out by the Holy Spirit. Our Savior Jesus poured out new life so generously.**

*[Pastor] God’s gift has restored our relationship with God and given us back our lives.*

**Opening Hymn***O Come, All Ye Faithful, #249***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***Zephaniah 3:14-20 [NLT]*

<sup>14</sup> Sing, O daughter of Zion; shout aloud, O Israel! Be glad and rejoice with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! <sup>15</sup> For the LORD will remove his hand of judgment and will disperse the armies of your enemy. And the LORD himself, the King of Israel, will live among you! At last your troubles will be over, and you will never again fear disaster. <sup>16</sup> On that day the announcement to Jerusalem will be, "Cheer up, Zion! Don't be afraid!" <sup>17</sup> For the LORD your God is living among you. He is a mighty savior. He will take delight in you with gladness. With his love, he will calm all your fears. He will rejoice over you with joyful songs." <sup>18</sup> "I will gather you who mourn for the appointed festivals; you will be disgraced no more. who have oppressed you. I will save the weak and helpless ones; I will bring together those who were chased away. I will give glory and fame to my former exiles, wherever they have been mocked and shamed. <sup>19</sup> And I will deal severely with all who have oppressed you. I will save the weak and helpless ones; I will bring together those who were chased away. I will give glory and fame to my former exiles, wherever they have been mocked and shamed. <sup>20</sup> On that day I will gather you together and bring you home again. I will give you a good name, a name of distinction, among all the nations of the earth, as I restore your fortunes before their very eyes. I, the LORD, have spoken!"

**Epistle Lesson***Philippians 4:4-7 [NLT]*

<sup>4</sup> Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! <sup>5</sup> Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon. <sup>6</sup> Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. <sup>7</sup> Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

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

## Gospel Lesson

Luke 7:18-28 [NLT]

<sup>18</sup> The disciples of John the Baptist told John about everything Jesus was doing. So John called for two of his disciples, <sup>19</sup> and he sent them to the Lord to ask him, “Are you the Messiah we’ve been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?” <sup>20</sup> John’s two disciples found Jesus and said to him, “John the Baptist sent us to ask, ‘Are you the Messiah we’ve been expecting, or should we keep looking for someone else?’” <sup>21</sup> At that very time, Jesus cured many people of their diseases, illnesses, and evil spirits, and he restored sight to many who were blind. <sup>22</sup> Then he told John’s disciples, “Go back to John and tell him what you have seen and heard—the blind see, the lame walk, those with leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised to life, and the Good News is being preached to the poor.” <sup>23</sup> And he added, “God blesses those who do not fall away because of me.” <sup>24</sup> After John’s disciples left, Jesus began talking about him to the crowds. “What kind of man did you go into the wilderness to see? Was he a weak reed, swayed by every breath of wind? <sup>25</sup> Or were you expecting to see a man dressed in expensive clothes? No, people who wear beautiful clothes and live in luxury are found in palaces. <sup>26</sup> Were you looking for a prophet? Yes, and he is more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup> John is the man to whom the Scriptures refer when they say, ‘Look, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, and he will prepare your way before you.’ <sup>28</sup> I tell you, of all who have ever lived, none is greater than John. Yet even the least person in the Kingdom of God is greater than he is!”

## 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**

*O Little Town of Bethlehem, #250*

**Sermon**

“Have a Merry Christmas”

*Pastor Buchhorn*



**Communion Hymn***Good Christian Men, Rejoice, #273***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***O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, #245*

*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**

**Wednesdays: 5 pm - Choir**

**6:00 pm - Potluck; 7 pm - Advent Service**

## ***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!***

**December 1-22, Wednesdays** - Mid-week Advent Services, 7 pm

***December 18, 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.

**January 8, Saturday** - Women's Bible Study, 10 am. Book of Acts

***February 6, 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: Monday – Friday ... 7:15 am to 5:00 pm**

Kristen Erwin, Preschool Director

## Weekly Schedule:

**Sundays:**      10:00 am      **Worship Service & Sunday School**  
                          11:00 am      **Community Fellowship Time**  
                          11:30 pm      **Council Meeting, The Third Sunday** of each month

**Wednesdays:**    5 pm - Choir; 6 pm - Potluck; 7 pm - Advent Service

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





# O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem!  
Come and behold Him  
Born the King of Angels

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
O come, let us adore Him  
Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;  
O Sing, all ye bright hosts of heaven above!  
Glory to God,  
All glory in the highest!  
[Refrain]

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given:  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing!

# O Little Town of Bethlehem

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie!  
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep The silent stars go by.  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth The everlasting Light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, And gathered all above,  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep  
Their watch of wond'ring love.

O morning stars, together Proclaim the holy birth;  
And praises sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently The wondrous Gift is giv'n!  
So God imparts to human hearts The blessings of His heav'n.  
No ear may hear His coming, But in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive Him, still The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray,  
Cast out our sin, and enter in; Be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell.  
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord, Emmanuel.

# Good Christian Men, Rejoice

Good Christian men, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice!  
Give ye heed to what we say:  
    News! News!  
    Jesus Christ is born today!  
    Ox and ass before Him bow,  
And He is in the manger now.  
    Christ is born today!  
    Christ is born today!

Good Christian men, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice!  
Now ye hear of endless bliss:  
    Joy! Joy!  
    Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He hath opened the heaven's door  
And man is blessed for evermore.  
    Christ was born for this!  
    Christ was born for this!

Good Christian men, rejoice  
With heart and soul and voice!  
Now ye need not fear the grave:  
    Peace! Peace!  
    Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one, and calls you all  
To gain His everlasting hall.  
    Christ was born to save!  
    Christ was born to save!

# O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
And ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer  
Our spirits by Thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Thou Wisdom from on high  
And order all things, far and nigh;  
To us the path of knowledge show  
And cause us in her ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

O come, Desire of nations, bind  
All peoples in one heart and mind.  
Bid envy, strife, and quarrels cease;  
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.