

A low-angle, close-up shot of a person's legs running on a paved road. The person is wearing white socks and grey and white running shoes. The road has a yellow dashed line down the center. The background shows a cloudy sky and a hazy horizon.

**BETTER IS
THE END OF A THING
THAN ITS BEGINNING**

-ECCLESIASTES 7:8

www.spreadjesus.org

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

Prelude

Pianist: Shirlene Everhart or Aretta Engelhardt

Welcome and Announcements

We welcome David Graves as our guest preacher today.

David Graves is the Founder and Director of Living Hope – a Gospel centered pro-life ministry based in Arlington, WA. Living Hope exists to proclaim the salvation of Christ while working to rescue children from abortion and to meet the spiritual, material, and relational needs of moms and dads through the Body of Christ. In 2018 he opened Living Hope House, a transitional house for homeless and homeless-vulnerable moms and their children.

David is madly in love with his wife Rhonda and their eight children.

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) “Almighty God, Before You all hearts are opened, all desires known, and no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your Holy Name. I acknowledge and confess that I am by nature sinful. I have omitted doing good, and have done evil in thought, word, and deed. I have offended You, my God and Savior, and desire Your forgiveness and mercy. I repent of all my sins, in Jesus’ name, and for His sake, Amen.”

Declaration of Grace

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

(Pastor) “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that who-

ever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world should be saved through Him.”

Opening Hymn

Glory to His Name, # 529

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

Isaiah 42:5-9 [NASB]

⁵ Thus says God the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, Who spread forth the earth and that which comes from it, Who gives breath to the people on it, And spirit to those who walk on it: ⁶ “I, the LORD, have called You in righteousness, And will hold Your hand; I will keep You and give You as a covenant to the people, As a light to the Gentiles, ⁷ To open blind eyes, To bring out prisoners from the prison, Those who sit in darkness from the prison house. ⁸ I *am* the LORD, that *is* My name; And My glory I will not give to another, Nor My praise to carved images. ⁹ Behold, the former things have come to pass, And new things I declare; Before they spring forth I tell you of them.”

Epistle

Romans 8:24-30 [NASB]

²⁴ For in hope we have been saved, but hope that is seen is not hope; for who hopes for what he *already* sees? ²⁵ But if we hope for what we do not see, through perseverance we wait eagerly *for it*. ²⁶ Now in the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know what to pray for as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for *us* with groanings too deep for words; ²⁷ and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to *the will of God*. ²⁸ And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to *His* purpose. ²⁹ For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined *to become* conformed to the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brothers *and sisters*; ³⁰ and these whom He predestined, He also called; and these whom He called, He also justified; and these whom He justified, He also glorified.

(Please stand for the reading of the Gospel)

Gospel Reading

John 14:1-6 [NASB]

¹“Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. ²In My Father’s house are many rooms; if *that* were not so, I would have told you, because I am going *there* to prepare a place for you. ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I am coming again and will take you to Myself, so that where I am, *there* you also will be. ⁴And you know the way where I am going.” ⁵Thomas *said to Him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going; how do we know the way?” ⁶Jesus *said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.

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

Power in the Blood, # 544

Sermon:

“The End Matters”

*Ecclesiastes 7:8
David Graves*

Message Notes: _____

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

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing, # 578

(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 School**

**Wednesdays: 5 pm - Choir, *It will resume on January 5***  
**6:00 pm - Potluck *resumes on January 5***  
**7:00 pm - Bible Study *resumes on January 5***

## ***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 15, 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 30, Sunday** - Congregational Voter's meeting, after service.

***February 5, Saturday - Women's Bible Study***

***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: 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 will resume January 5**
6 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.



Glory to His Name

Down at the cross where my Savior died,
Down where for cleansing from sin I cried,
There to my heart was the blood applied:
Glory to His Name.

[Refrain]

Glory to His Name, glory to His Name;
There to my heart was the blood applied:
Glory to His Name.

I am so wondrously saved from sin,
Jesus so sweetly abides within;
There at the cross where He took me in:
Glory to His Name. [Refrain]

O precious fountain that saves from sin,
I am so glad I have entered in;
There Jesus saves me and keeps me clean:
Glory to His Name. [Refrain]

Come to this fountain so rich and sweet,
Cast thy poor soul at the Savior's feet;
Plunge in today, and be made complete:
Glory to His Name. [Refrain]

Power in the Blood

Would you be free from the burden of sin?
There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;
Would you o'er evil a victory win?
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood.

Refrain:

There is pow'r, pow'r, wonder-working pow'r
In the blood of the Lamb;
There is pow'r, pow'r, wonder-working pow'r
In the precious blood of the Lamb.

Would you be free from your passion and pride?
There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;
Come for a cleansing to Calvary's tide—
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood. [Refrain]

Would you be whiter, much whiter than snow?
There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;
Sin-stains are lost in its life-giving flow—
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood. [Refrain]

Would you do service for Jesus, your King?
There's pow'r in the blood, pow'r in the blood;
Would you live daily His praises to sing?
There's wonderful pow'r in the blood. [Refrain]

'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to take Him at His word,
Just to rest upon His promise,
Just to know, "Thus saith the Lord."

Refrain:

Jesus, Jesus, how I trust Him!
How I've proved Him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, Precious Jesus!
O for grace to trust Him more!

O how sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just to trust His cleansing blood,
Just in simple faith to plunge me
'Neath the healing, cleansing flood! [Refrain]

Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus,
Just from sin and self to cease,
Just from Jesus simply taking
Life and rest and joy and peace. [Refrain]

I'm so glad I learned to trust Thee,
Precious Jesus, Savior, Friend;
And I know that Thou art with me,
Wilt be with me to the end. [Refrain]

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, thou Fount of every blessing,
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory
Fills my hear with joy and love,
Teach me ever to adore Thee,
May I still Thy goodness prove.

Here I raise my Ebenezer,
Hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor,
Daily I'm constrained to be;
Let that grace now like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.