

A long, single-file line of sheep is walking across a vast, snow-covered field. The sheep are light-colored and their wool is thick. They are moving from the background towards the foreground, leaving a trail of tracks in the snow. The background shows a flat, snowy landscape under a pale sky.

For **the Lamb** who is  
in the midst of the throne  
will shepherd them  
and guide them to  
**springs of  
waters of life ;**  
and God  
will wipe away  
every tear  
from their eyes.

Revelation 7:17

All Saints Sunday

*The purpose of our Community is:*

*“Building Committed Followers of Jesus Christ”*

**Prelude**

*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**

**[Everyone]:** Gracious Heavenly Father, on this All Saints Sunday, as last Sunday we celebrated the Reformation, today we celebrate the spiritual status of all believers who are called ‘saints’ because they are sinners symbolically covered with the blood of Christ in faith! Thus, we are comforted by the fact that Christ accomplished for us our salvation on the cross that has provided for us our sin’s forgiveness by grace through faith. It is therefore appropriate that we come before You now in confession.

We sought to serve You in faith this past week, but we failed to follow Your will and instead went our own selfish way. We realize that we are poor sinners in need of Your mercy. Please forgive our many sins for Jesus’ sake, as we look to Christ’s suffering and death for pardon. Give us as forgiven saints the strength and spiritual zeal to follow His guidance in our lives, and grant us a joyful life in service to You, as we plead only the merits of our Savior Jesus Christ for forgiveness. In His Name we pray. Amen

**Declaration of Grace**

*[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 the Father’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**

*For All the Saints, #164*

**Children's Sermonette:**

'What is a saint?'

Pastor McDonald

## **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**

*Revelation 7:9-17 [NKJV]*

<sup>9</sup> After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, with palm branches in their hands, <sup>10</sup> and crying out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation *belongs* to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" <sup>11</sup> All the angels stood around the throne and the elders and the four living creatures, and fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, <sup>12</sup> saying: "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom, Thanksgiving and honor and power and might, *Be* to our God forever and ever. Amen." <sup>13</sup> Then one of the elders answered, saying to me, "Who are these arrayed in white robes, and where did they come from?" <sup>14</sup> And I said to him, "Sir, you know." So he said to me, "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. <sup>15</sup> Therefore they are before the throne of God, and serve Him day and night in His temple. And He who sits on the throne will dwell among them. <sup>16</sup> They shall neither hunger anymore nor thirst anymore; the sun shall not strike them, nor any heat; <sup>17</sup> for the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters. And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

### **Epistle Lesson**

*I John 3:1-3 [NKJV]*

<sup>1</sup> Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. <sup>2</sup> Beloved, now we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be, but we know that when He is revealed, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. <sup>3</sup> And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

*[If you are able, please stand for the reading of the Gospel]*

### **Gospel Reading**

*Matthew 5:1-12 [NKJV]*

<sup>1</sup> And seeing the multitudes, He went up on a mountain, and when He was seated His disciples came to Him. <sup>2</sup> Then He opened His mouth and taught them, saying: <sup>3</sup> "Blessed *are* the poor in spirit, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>4</sup> Blessed *are*

those who mourn, For they shall be comforted. <sup>5</sup> Blessed *are* the meek, For they shall inherit the earth. <sup>6</sup> Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled. <sup>7</sup> Blessed *are* the merciful, For they shall obtain mercy. <sup>8</sup> Blessed *are* the pure in heart, For they shall see God. <sup>9</sup> Blessed *are* the peacemakers, For they shall be called sons of God. <sup>10</sup> Blessed *are* those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, For theirs is the kingdom of heaven. <sup>11</sup> Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great *is* your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

### ***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, #511*

***Sermon:***

***'Heaven is for forgiven saints!'***

*Revelation 7:17*

*Pastor Robert McDonald*

<p><b>Message Notes:</b></p> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
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**Communion Hymn***Children of the Heavenly Father, #560***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****Sending Hymn***How Great Thou Art, #510*

*Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord.*

**Everyone: Thanks be to God**

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**Postlude Music**

## ***Things going on during the week:***

***Monday-Friday: 7:15 am to 5 pm Little Blessings Christian School***

***Thursdays: Choir practice.***

## ***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!***

### ***November 5, 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 2023 on the first Sunday in February, May, August & November.

***November 11, Saturday - Women's Bible Study, 10 am.***

***November 20, Monday - 10 am, Council Meeting***

## ***Save the Date & Mark your Calendars... December 1, 2023***

***Everyone [that includes you] is invited and asked to come and help decorate the church for Advent and Christmas. Many hands will lighten the work load. Even if you don't think you can be helpful, come and see what you can do. We will try to meet your skill level with a helpful task.***

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## Building Committed Followers of Jesus Christ

**Little Blessings Christian Preschool: (760) 378-7973**

**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**

**Monday** 10:00 am **Council Meeting, usually 3rd Monday of each month**

**Thursdays:** 5:00 pm **Choir practice.**

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