

The purpose of our Community is: ৯৯৯ "Building Committed Followers of Jesus Christ" ককক

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.

Opening Song

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, #245

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

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 [NLT]

¹When Ahaz, son of Jotham and grandson of Uzziah, was king of Judah, King Rezin of Syria and Pekah son of Remaliah, the king of Israel, set out to attack Jerusalem. However, they were unable to carry out their plan. ¹The news had come to the royal court of Judah: "Syria is allied with Israel against us!" So the hearts of the king and his people trembled with fear, like trees shaking in a storm. ¹Then the LORD said to Isaiah, "Take your son Shear-jashub¹ and go out to meet King Ahaz. You will find him at the end of the aqueduct that feeds water into the upper pool, near the road leading to the field where cloth is washed ¹Tell him to stop worrying. Tell him he doesn't need to fear the fierce anger of those two burned-out embers, King Rezin of Syria and Pekah son of Remaliah. ⁵Yes, the kings of Syria and Israel are plotting against him, saying, ⁶ 'We will attack Judah and capture it for ourselves. Then we will install the son of Tabeel as Judah's king.' ¹But this is what the Sovereign LORD says: "This invasion will never happen; it will never take place ⁸ for Syria is no stronger than its

capital, Damascus, and Damascus is no stronger than its king, Rezin. As for Israel, within sixty-five years it will be crushed and completely destroyed. ⁹ Israel is no stronger than its capital, Samaria, and Samaria is no stronger than its king, Pekah son of Remaliah. Unless your faith is firm, I cannot make you stand firm." ¹⁰ Later, the LORD sent this message to King Ahaz: ¹¹ "Ask the LORD your God for a sign of confirmation, Ahaz. Make it as difficult as you want—as high as heaven or as deep as the place of the dead." --- ¹⁶ For before the child is that old, the lands of the two kings you fear so much will both be deserted.

Epistle Lesson

Romans 16:25-27 [NLT]

²⁵ Now all glory to God, who is able to make you strong, just as my Good News says. This message about Jesus Christ has revealed his plan for you Gentiles, a plan kept secret from the beginning of time. ²⁶ But now as the prophets foretold and as the eternal God has commanded, this message is made known to all Gentiles everywhere, so that they too might believe and obey him. ²⁷ All glory to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, forever. Amen.

Choir Anthem

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

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

Gospel Lesson

Luke 1:26-38 [NLT]

In the sixth month of Elizabeth's pregnancy, God sent the angel Gabriel to Nazareth, a village in Galilee, ²⁷ to a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to be married to a man named Joseph, a descendant of King David. ²⁸ Gabriel appeared to her and said, "Greetings, favored woman! The Lord is with you!" ²⁹ Confused and disturbed, Mary tried to think what the angel could mean. ³⁰ "Don't be afraid, Mary," the angel told her, "for you have found favor with God! ³¹ You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ And he will reign over Israel forever; his Kingdom will never end!" ³⁴ Mary asked the angel, "But how can this happen? I am a virgin." ³⁵ The angel replied, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the baby to be born will be holy, and he will be called the Son of God. 36 What's more, your relative Elizabeth has become pregnant in her old age! People used to say she was barren, but she has conceived a son and is now in her sixth month. ³⁷ For the word of God will never fail." ³⁸ Mary responded, "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you have said about me come true." And then the angel left her.

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	Sana
Sermon	Song

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly, #279

Sermon	'Have a Merry Christmas'	Pastor Buchhorn

Message Notes:	
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Message Notes cont'd:	

Prayers of the Church

Communion Song

What Child Is This?, #281

Words of Brokenness

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Pastor: Most merciful God,

People: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Words of Healing

Pastor: Almighty God in his mercy has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

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 Song

All Glory, Laud and Honor, #300

Pastor: Go In Peace and Serve the Lord!

(Everyone) Thanks be to God

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#### Postlude

# Things going on during the week:

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

Wednesdays: 5 pm, Choir practice.

6:30 pm, Advent Service: December 13th & 20th

# 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 18, Monday - 10 am, Council Meeting

January 13, Saturday - 10 am, Women's Bible Study

January 15, Monday - 10 am, Council Meeting

### February 4, Sunday - Love Offering ... for Missions

Once a quartr, we will be collecting a special offering in he '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.

February 10, Saturday - 10 am, Women's Bible Study

# Community Lutheran Church, AFLC\*: (760) 722-3337

4507 Mission Avenue Oceanside, CA 92057 www.cloceanside.com

# 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



Sundays: 10:00 am Worship Service & Sunday School

11:00 am Community Fellowship Time

11:30 pm Council Meeting, Usually, 3rd Sunday of each month

Wednesdays: 5:00 pm Choir practice

6:30 pm Advent Services: December 13th & 20th

Saturdays: 10:00 am Women's Bible Study

Usually the **Second Saturday** of each month.

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.