

Render to Caesar
the things that are Caesar's,



Matthew 22:21

And to God
the things that are God's.

The purpose of our Community is:

“Building Committed Followers of Jesus Christ”

Prelude

Shirlene Everhart

Welcome and Announcements

Happy Birthday America!

Confession of Sins and Absolution

(All): Dear Heavenly Father, as we are now approaching our nation’s birthday, we pause to thank You for the manifold Hand of blessing which You have constantly bestowed upon this Christian nation! You have given us freedoms which are unmatched by any other society on earth. You have granted us a stable economy, abundant natural resources, and a work ethic which encourages and rewards honest and meaningful labor.

Yet we must also admit that we are a sinful society which has often strayed from Your will for our lives, our families, and our nation. We have committed individual and national sins which have violated Your Word and Your ways. We also know that Christ offers to us a way out of this sinful situation. We must as individuals, as families, and as a nation come before You, and ask that You forgive us for Jesus’ sake.

We plead the merits of Jesus Christ, who has saved us from our sins through His death. In this penitential season, may our faith as individuals and as a Christian nation be placed only in Christ’s blood and righteousness, accomplished for us. Almighty God, please forgive us our sins for the sake of Your Risen Son and our Lord Jesus Christ, for we pray this all in His Name. Amen.

Declaration of Grace

(Pastor) We know that Christ lives as our Intercessor and Redeemer! God the Father is willing to forgive us for the sake of His Son’s merits at Calvary. Thus, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, acting under the authority of our Risen Savior, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I announce the forgiveness of all your sins in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **People: Amen.**

Opening Hymn*America, the Beautiful, 630***Children's Sermonette:** "Our hand on our heart!" *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.***Psalm Lesson***Psalm 33:12, 16, 20-22 [NKJV],*

¹² Blessed *is* the nation whose God *is* the LORD, The people He has chosen as His own inheritance. ~~~ ¹⁶ No king *is* saved by the multitude of an army; A mighty man is not delivered by great strength. ~~~ ²⁰ Our soul waits for the LORD; He *is* our help and our shield. ²¹ For our heart shall rejoice in Him, Because we have trusted in His holy name. ²² Let Your mercy, O LORD, be upon us, Just as we hope in You.

Old Testament Lesson*1 Kings 3:5-12 [NKJV]*

⁵ At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask! What shall I give you?" ⁶ And 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. ⁷ Now, 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. ⁸ And Your servant *is* in the midst of Your people whom You have chosen, a great people, too numerous to be numbered or counted. ⁹ Therefore 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?" ¹⁰ The 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.

Epistle Lesson*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 Anthem

I Will Heal Their Land

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

Gospel Lesson

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 brought Him a denarius. ²⁰ And He said to them, "Whose image and inscription *is* this?" ²¹ They said to Him, "Caesar's." And He said to them, "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's." ²² When they had heard *these words*, they marveled, and left Him and went their way.

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.

The Pledge of Allegiance

'I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.'

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Sermon Hymn:

The Star-Spangled Banner, #629

Sermon:

'America: a Christian nation blessed by God!'

Matthew 22:21

Pastor Robert McDonald

Message Notes: -----

Prayers of the Church

Communion Hymn*My Country! 'Tis of Thee, #631***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***God of Our Fathers, #628**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***

***Choir practice will resume on June 27 at 5 pm.***

## ***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 4, Thursday - 4th of July holiday***

***July 15, Monday - 9 am Women's Bible Study  
10 am Council Meeting***

***August 4, 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  
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[www.cloceanside.com](http://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



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Weekly Schedule:

Sundays: 10:00 am **Worship Service & Sunday School**
 11:00 am **Community Fellowship Time**
 ~ 11:15 am **30-minute Bible Study**

3rd Monday 9:00 am **Women's Bible**
 10:00 am **Council Meeting**

Choir practice will resume on June 27 at 5 pm.

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.