

A close-up photograph of a single, glossy red Christmas ornament. The ornament is spherical and has a gold-colored cap with a small loop at the top. It is positioned on the left side of the frame, resting on a light-colored wooden surface. The background is a soft, out-of-focus wooden texture.

Preparing Our Hearts
for Christmas

Isaiah 40:3

The purpose of our Community is:

“Building Committed Followers of Jesus Christ”

Prelude**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.

Opening Song**We Have Come into His House, #224****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**Isaiah 40:3 [NLT]**

³ Listen! It's the voice of someone shouting, "Clear the way through the wilderness for the Lord! Make a straight highway through the wasteland for our God!"

Second Lesson**Acts 20:35 [NLT]**

³⁵ And I have been a constant example of how you can help those in need by working hard. You should remember the words of the Lord Jesus: "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

Epistle Lesson**Philippians 2:14-15 [NLT]**

¹⁴ Do everything without complaining and arguing, ¹⁵ so that no one can criticize you. Live clean, innocent lives as children of God, shining like bright lights in a world full of crooked and perverse people. give than to receive."

Gospel Lesson

Luke 18:15-17 [NLT]

¹⁵ One day some parents brought their little children to Jesus so he could touch and bless them. But when the disciples saw this, they scolded the parents for bothering him.¹⁶ Then Jesus called for the children and said to the disciples, "Let the children come to me. Don't stop them! For the Kingdom of God belongs to those who are like these children."¹⁷ I tell you the truth, anyone who doesn't receive the Kingdom of God like a child will never enter it."

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 Song

O Come, Let Us Adore Him, #196

Sermon

"Getting Ready for Christmas"

Pastor Buchhorn

Message Notes _____

Message Notes cont'd: : _____ -

Prayers of the Church

Communion Song

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, #245

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

A blessing we receive to send us out into the world once again.

Sending Song

They'll Know We Are Christians, #429

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**

**Choir is on vacation.**

## ***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 17, Monday*** - 9:00 am - Church Bible Study, open to all women & men.  
10 or 10:30 am - Council Meeting

***February 2, 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) 378-7973**

**Preschool Schedule: Monday – Friday ... 7:15 am to 5:00 pm**

Kristen Erwin, Preschool Director

## Weekly Schedule:

|                 |                 |                                                                   |
|-----------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sundays:</b> | <b>10:00 am</b> | <b>Worship Service &amp; Sunday School</b>                        |
|                 | <b>11:00 am</b> | <b>Community Fellowship Time</b>                                  |
| <b>Mondays:</b> | <b>9:00 am</b>  | <b>Women's Bible Study [usually the 3rd Monday of each month]</b> |
|                 | <b>10:00 am</b> | <b>Council Meeting [usually the 3rd Monday of each month]</b>     |

**Choir is on vacation.**

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.

