States of it.

Despite all the distractions, we can see to it that CHRIST is at the center of our celebration.

Thomas S. Monson

Community Lutheran Church

December 8, 2024

The purpose of our Community is: محمی "Building Committed Followers of Jesus Christ" محمح

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

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus, #244

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

2 Corinthians 11:24-28 [NLT]

²⁴ Five different times the Jewish leaders gave me thirty-nine lashes. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked. Once I spent a whole night and a day adrift at sea. ²⁶ I have traveled on many long journeys. I have faced danger from rivers and from robbers. I have faced danger from my own people, the Jews, as well as from the Gentiles. I have faced danger in the cities, in the deserts, and on the seas. And I have faced danger from men who claim to be believers but are not. ²⁷ I have worked hard and long, enduring many sleepless nights. I have been hungry and thirsty and have often gone without food. I have shivered in the cold, without enough clothing to keep me warm. ²⁸ Then, besides all this, I have the daily burden of my concern for all the churches.

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Epistle Lesson

⁴Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice! ⁵Let everyone see that you are considerate in all you do. Remember, the Lord is coming soon. ⁶Don't worry about anything; instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank him for all he has done. ⁷Then you will experience God's peace, which exceeds anything we can understand. His peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Lesson

¹ "I am the true grapevine, and my Father is the gardener. ² He cuts off every branch of mine that doesn't produce fruit, and he prunes the branches that do bear fruit so they will produce even more.

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 Fa-ther 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, O Come, Emmanuel, #245

Sermon	"Distractions of Christmas"	Pastor Buchhorn			
Message Notes					

Philippians 4:4-7 [NLT]

John 15:1-2 [NLT]

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Message Notes cont'd:	
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Message Notes cont'd: :	-
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Prayers of the Church

Communion Song

O Come, All Ye Faithful, #249

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

There Is a Redeemer, #308

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 11 & 18, Wednesday - 2 pm - Advent Services

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

December 24, Tuesday - 7 pm - Christmas Eve Service

#### February 2, Sunday - Love Offering ... for Missions

Once a quarter, 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 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

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

#### Choir is on vacation.

#### 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.

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