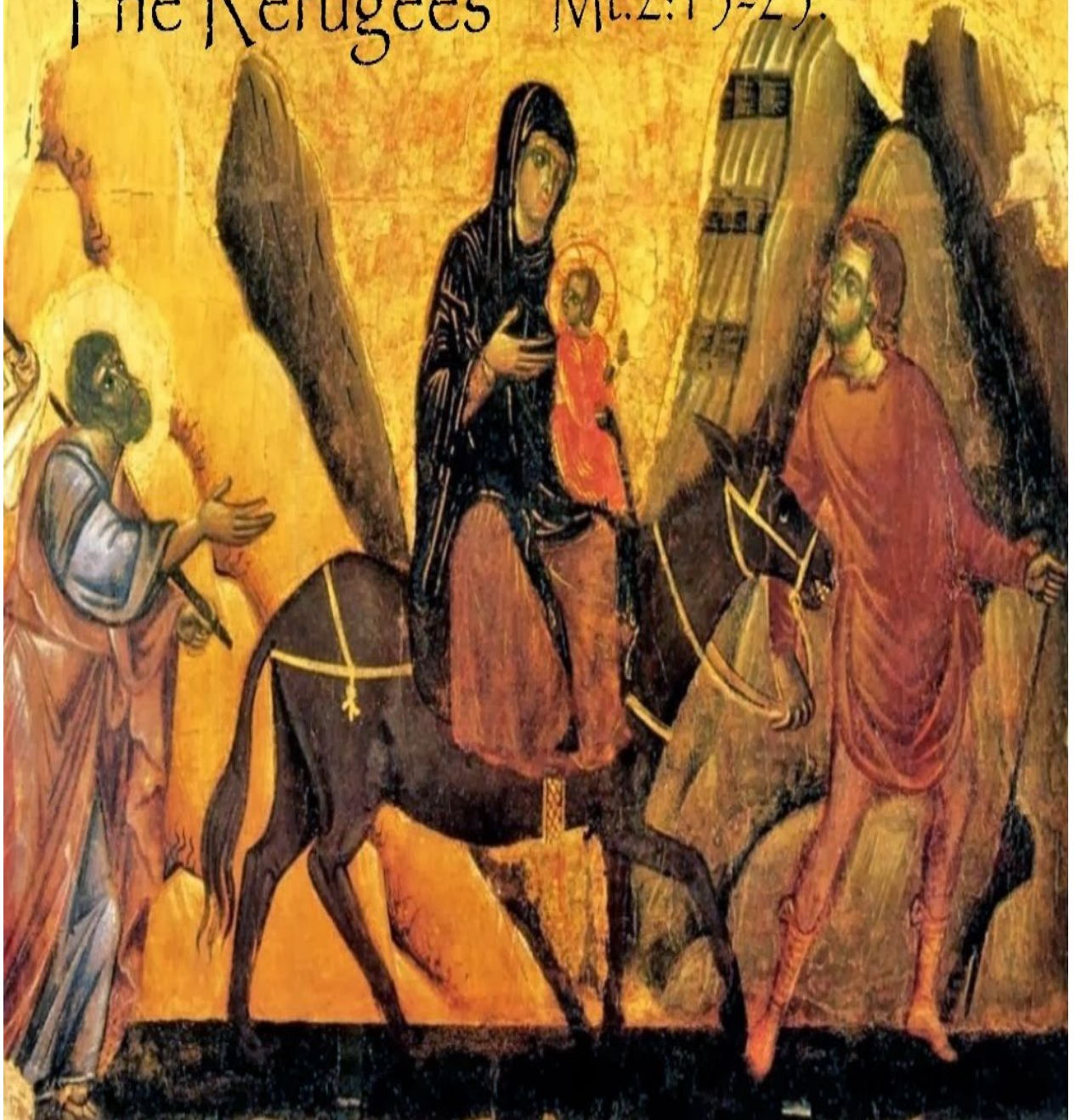


The Refugees Mt.2:13-23.



The Second Sunday After Christmas

The purpose of our Community is:
“Building Committed Followers of Jesus Christ”

Prelude

Aretta Englehardt or Shirlene Everhart

Welcome and Announcements

THE INVOCATION:

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

THE CONFESSION OF SINS & ABSOLUTION: *(Before we can praise or enter into the presence of God, we confess our sins and for Christ's sake, our Heavenly Father forgives, inviting us to enter into His Holy Presence.)*

Pastor: Arise, shine; For your light has come!

People: And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.

Pastor: For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth,

People: And deep darkness the people;

Pastor: But the LORD will arise over you,

People: Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her that her hard service has been completed, that her sin has been paid for.

Pastor: As this Christmas Season comes to a close this week, we remember with thankfulness, Christ's first coming to save us,

People: We confess our sins for which He came to forgive, for the Lord is gracious, compassionate, and rich in mercy.

(A moment of silent personal confession is observed)

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins together unto our gracious Lord. We confess together:

People: Lord, we have been blessed so that, once again this Christmas, we have observed and celebrated Your first coming into our world. You have also blessed us with another year of grace as 2024 has come to a close and a new year begins. Forgive us our impatience at times, when we have not trusted You enough to wait without undue anxiety for Your will to take place in our lives. Forgive us our sins this past year and strengthen our faith for the new year. We have not always trusted You enough. Increase our faith. Forgive our sins.

3

Pastor: Because of substitutionary person and work of our Lord Jesus Christ, true God and true human, who died physically and spiritually on our behalf, thus making payment for our sins, I therefore, as one of the servants of Christ in this place, announce unto you the forgiveness of all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Hymn of the Day

From Heaven Above To Earth I Come, #27

Children's Sermonette: "The Wonders of Our God" *Pastor Droegemueller*

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.

The Old Testament

Psalm 77:11-20 [ESV]

¹¹ But then I recall all you have done, O Lord; I remember your wonderful deeds of long ago. ¹² They are constantly in my thoughts. I cannot stop thinking about your mighty works. ¹³ O God, your ways are holy. Is there any god as mighty as you? ¹⁴ You are the God of great wonders! You demonstrate your awesome power among the nations. ¹⁵ By your strong arm, you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph. ¹⁶ When the Red Sea saw you, O God, its waters looked and trembled! The sea quaked to its very depths. ¹⁷ The clouds poured down rain; the thunder rumbled in the sky. Your arrows of lightning flashed. ¹⁸ Your thunder roared from the whirlwind; the lightning lit up the world! The earth trembled and shook. ¹⁹ Your road led through the sea, your pathway through the mighty waters—a pathway no one knew was there! ²⁰ You led your people along that road like a flock of sheep, with Moses and Aaron as their shepherds.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Everyone: Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Lesson:

Ephesians 1:3-14 [ESV]

³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ,

according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Everyone: Thanks be to God.

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

Holy Gospel Lesson:

Matthew 2:13-23 [ESV]

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 2nd chapter.

Everyone: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹³ Now when they had departed, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Rise, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” ¹⁴ And he rose and took the child and his mother by night and departed to Egypt ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet, “Out of Egypt I called my son.” ¹⁶ Then Herod, when he saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, became furious, and he sent and killed all the male children in Bethlehem and in all that region who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had ascertained from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what was spoken by the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸ “A voice was heard in Ramah, weeping and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be comforted, because they are no more.” ¹⁹ But when Herod died, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt, ²⁰ saying, “Rise, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who sought the child's life are dead.” ²¹ And he rose and took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there, and being warned in a dream he withdrew to the district of Galilee. ²³ And he went and lived in a city called Nazareth, so that what was spoken by the prophets might be fulfilled, that he would be called a Nazarene.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord

Everyone: Praise to You, O Christ!

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

Our God Our Help In Ages Past, #50

Sermon

“The Reality of Life”

Pastor Droegemueller

Message Notes: _____

Message Notes cont'd: _____

Prayers of the Church

Communion Hymn

What Child Is This?, #26

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 Hymn

Angels From The Realms of Glory, #25

Pastor: Go In Peace and Serve the Lord!

Everyone: Thanks be to God

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### **Postlude**

## **TODAY:**

**Bible Class:** About 10-15 minutes after the conclusion of worship, you are invited to join us for a brief Bible study on:  
 “The Background and Traditions of Advent”

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

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

**Choir practice 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!**

**January 20, Monday - 9 am, *No Bible Study***  
**- 10 am, *Council Meeting***

**February 2, 2025, 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 2024 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:

**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    **Usually Women's Bible**  
                          10:00 am    **Usually Council Meeting**

**Choir practice 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.

