



*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.*

## **Confession and Absolution:**

*Pastor: Together, we confess our sins:*

**All: Most merciful God, we are unworthy of Your love because we have sinned by what we have done and left undone. We have at times abandoned the new life given to us by our Savior, sinning against You and others in our thoughts, words, and deeds. At times we are troubled by doubt and live as if Christ has not risen from the dead. For the sake of the crucified and risen Lord Jesus Christ, forgive our sins and daily restore to us the joy of our salvation.**

*Pastor: Upon this, your confession, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, I announce to you the forgiveness of all your sins and the victory Christ has won for us. May God keep you in His grace by the Holy Spirit, lead you in ways of peace and joy, and finally bring you to live with Him forever, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior.*

**People: Amen.**

*Pastor: Christ is risen!*

**People: He is risen indeed!**

**All: Alleluia!**

## **Opening Hymn**

*Christ, the Lord, Is Risen Today, Alleluia!, #108*

## ***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 Reading***

***Acts 5:12-32 [NIV]***

<sup>12</sup> The apostles performed many signs and wonders among the people. And all the believers used to meet together in Solomon's Colonnade. <sup>13</sup> No one else dared join them, even though they were highly regarded by the people. <sup>14</sup> Nevertheless, more and more men and women believed in the Lord and were added to their number. <sup>15</sup> As a result, people brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats so that at least Peter's shadow might fall on some of them as he passed by. <sup>16</sup> Crowds gathered also from the towns around Jerusalem, bringing their sick and those tormented by impure spirits, and all of them were healed. <sup>17</sup> Then the high priest and all his associates, who were members of the party of the Sadducees, were filled with jealousy. <sup>18</sup> They arrested the apostles and put them in the public jail. <sup>19</sup> But during the night an angel of the Lord opened the doors of the jail and brought them out. <sup>20</sup> "Go, stand in the temple courts," he said, "and tell the people all about this new life." <sup>21</sup> At daybreak they entered the temple courts, as they had been told, and began to teach the people. When the high priest and his associates arrived, they called together the Sanhedrin—the full assembly of the elders of Israel—and sent to the jail for the apostles. <sup>22</sup> But on arriving at the jail, the officers did not find them there. So they went back and reported, <sup>23</sup> "We found the jail securely locked, with the guards standing at the doors; but when we opened them, we found no one inside." <sup>24</sup> On hearing this report, the captain of the temple guard and the chief priests were at a loss, wondering what this might lead to. <sup>25</sup> Then someone came and said, "Look! The men you put in jail are standing in the temple courts teaching the people." <sup>26</sup> At that, the captain went with his officers and brought the apostles. They did not use force, because they feared that the people would stone them. <sup>27</sup> The apostles were brought in and made to appear before the Sanhedrin to be questioned by the high priest. <sup>28</sup> "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name," he said. "Yet you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and are determined to make us guilty of this man's blood." <sup>29</sup> Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings! <sup>30</sup> The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from the dead—whom you killed by hanging him on a cross. <sup>31</sup> God exalted him to his own right hand as Prince and Savior that he might bring Israel to repentance and forgive their sins. <sup>32</sup> We are witnesses of these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

## **The Psalmody**

*Psalm 148:1-4, 13-14 [NIV]*

<sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord. Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights above.  
<sup>2</sup> Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts. <sup>3</sup> Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars. <sup>4</sup> Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies. ~~~<sup>13</sup> Let them praise the name of the Lord, for his name alone is exalted; his splendor is above the earth and the heavens. <sup>14</sup> And he has raised up for his people a horn, the praise of all his faithful servants, of Israel, the people close to his heart. Praise the Lord.

## **Second Reading**

*Revelation 1:4b-8, 17b-18 [NIV]*

<sup>4b</sup> Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. <sup>7</sup> “Look, he is coming with the clouds,” and “every eye will see him, even those who pierced him”; and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.” So shall it be! Amen. <sup>8</sup> “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.” ~~~<sup>17b</sup> “Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. <sup>18</sup> I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.

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

## **Gospel Reading**

*John 20:19-31 [NIV]*

<sup>19</sup> On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive anyone’s sins, their sins are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven.” <sup>24</sup> Now Thomas (also known as Didymus), one of the Twelve, was not with the disciples when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord!” But he said to them, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands and put my finger where the nails were, and put my hand into his side, I will not believe.” <sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were in the house again, and Thomas was with them. Though the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. Stop doubting and believe.” <sup>28</sup> Thomas said to him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup> Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.” <sup>30</sup> Jesus performed many other signs in the presence

*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.*

**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:** *"Doubting Thomas?"* John 20:19-31 [NIV]  
Pastor Mark Demel

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins or other markings on the paper.

Message Notes cont'd:

---



---



---



---



---

## ***Prayers of the Church***

***Communion Hymn:***

*Just As I Am Without One Plea, #417*

## ***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 and believes that He is truly present in this meal 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:***

*Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee, #197*

***Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord.***

**Everyone: Thanks be to God**

~~~~~

## **TODAY:**

**Bible Class:** About 10-15 minutes after the conclusion of worship, you are invited to join us for a brief Bible study. Pastor Demel will help us look at the Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27 reading, under the theme: "The Great I AM".

## **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!**

**May 4, 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.

**May 19, 2025, Monday - 9 am— NO Bible Study**  
**- 10 am—Council Meeting**

**June 16, 2025, Monday - 9 am—Bible Study**  
**- 10 am—Council Meeting**

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**  
                      **30-minute Bible Study**

**3rd Monday:**    **9:00 am**    **All Church Study**  
                          **10:00 am**    **Council Meeting**

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.