



GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE CHANGES EVERYTHING.

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The Season of Advent

"The days are surely coming..."

December 19, 2021
(8:30am, 10:00am, 5:00pm)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! Guests, please sign in at the "Welcome Table" and receive a gift. For young children, a nursery is available - sign in your child and take a pager. We also love children in worship and have children's activity bags available.

TODAY, we celebrate the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, first done at King's College, Cambridge, 1918. Gloria Dei's version is a service of scripture and music that tells the story of God's grace - through the prophets foretelling of the Messiah and culminating in Jesus' birth. We hope this is a great preparation for the Savior's birth!

PRELUDE: *Still, Still, Still* by James Mansfield

Fred Johnson, Organist/Pianist

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM - GRANT WILLARD TAN
(Prior to the 10am service, the Sacrament will be celebrated at the Baptismal Font)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PROCESSIONAL: ***Once in David's Royal City***

#269 v. 1-3

**Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ, her little child.**

**He came down to earth from heav-en who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall:
with the poor, and meek, and lowly, lived on earth, our Savior holy.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above;
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.**

INVITATION TO WORSHIP AND BIDDING PRAYER

THE FIRST READING: Proverbs 8:22-31 (Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**)
The Book of Proverbs proclaims the eternity of Christ with God before the creation of the world.

Of the Father's Love Begotten

#295 vv. 1, 3

**Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see,
ev-er-more and ev-er-more.**

**This is he whom seers in old time chanted of with one accord,
Whom the voices of the prophets promised in their faithful word;
Now he shines, the long expected; let creation praise its Lord
Ev-er-more and ev-er-more.**

THE SECOND READING: Genesis 3:8-19 (Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**)
The first people rebel against God and reject the blessings of God's good creation.

THE SONG: *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus* arr. by Michael Cox Men's Choir and Percussion

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (On screen, People read **bold** words.)

LITANY FOR LIGHTING OF THE THIRD CANDLE

(Following the reading, we sing, O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel).

THE THIRD LESSON: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 (Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**)
Christ's birth and kingdom are foretold by the prophet Isaiah

THE SONG: The Holly and the Ivy arr. D. Kelley Kathy Person, violin; Fred Johnson, Pianist

THE FOURTH READING: Micah 5:2-4 (Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**)
The prophet Micah reveals how God will restore the people through a child born in Bethlehem

THE SONG: *How Far Is It To Bethlehem* Sanctuary Choir, Music Director Kathy Person

THE FIFTH READING: Luke 1:26-38 (The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**)
The angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will bear the Son of God

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming #272 v. 1, 3
**Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung,
it came, a flow'r so bright, a-mid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.**

**I-sai-ah 'twas fore-told it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love a-right, she bore to us a Sav-ior,
when half-spent was the night.**

THE SIXTH READING: Matthew 1:18-23 (The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**)
Joseph believes the angel and receives Jesus as his son, Immanuel, meaning "God with us"

THE SONG: *Cherry Tree Carol* arr. by A. Giamanco Sanctuary Choir, soloist Michelle Lum

THE SEVENTH READING: Luke 2:8-16 (The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**)
Jesus is born and the angels bring good news of God's peace to shepherds on the outskirts of town

SHARING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

THE SONG: *Sussex Carol* Music Director Kathy Person, Gloria Dei Bell Choir

THE EIGHTH READING: Matthew 2:1-11 (The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**)
The Magi follow the star and bring gifts for the newborn King

OFFERTORY AND OFFERTORY MUSIC: *Star in the East* arr. by Brad Holmes
Sanctuary Choir, Music Director Kathy Person

THE ADVENT OFFERTORY RESPONSE (Taize)

(Sung 2x)

In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful; in the Lord I will re -
joice! Look to God; do not be a - fraid. Lift up your
voic - es; the Lord is near. Lift up your voic - es; the Lord is near.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Savior of the nations, come. Make your home here in us. Feed us with your love, that our faith may shine ever new and our lives reveal your light; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Lord in Your mercy. **Hear our Prayer.**)

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (All who believe Christ is present in this Sacrament are welcome to receive. Non-communing children and others who wish to receive only a blessing may come forward also. For those who prefer, white juice is located in the center of each tray.)

HOLY COMMUNION MUSIC: Lamb of God
**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;**

grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

Come Now, O Prince of Peace

**Come now, O Prince of peace, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.**

**Come now, O God of love, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile your people.**

**Come now and set us free, O God, our Savior.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.**

**Come, Hope of unity, make us one body.
Come, O Lord Jesus, reconcile all nations.**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
yet in thy dark streets shineth, the everlasting light.
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv'n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.
No ear may hear his coming; but, in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.**

**O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!**

SENDING PRAYER AND BLESSING

THE NINTH READING: John 1:1-14 (The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**)
Saint John unfolds the great mystery of the incarnation of Christ

THE SENDING HYMN: Angels We Have Heard on High!
**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.**

Refrain: **Gloria... in excelsis Deo; Gloria...in excelsis Deo.**

#247

#279 v. 1, 2-4

#289 vv. 1, 3

**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king.** (Refrain)

SENDING WORDS: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: *Yuletide Joyeux* by Craig A. Penfield

Fred Johnson, Organist/Pianist

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are provided by Kirsten & Stefan Tan in celebration of Grant's baptism

CHRISTMAS EVE POINSETTIAS - Help beautify the sanctuary for Christmas Eve by providing a poinsettia in memory or honor of someone. Cost \$10. Forms are located at the Welcome Table or contact the office at gloriadei@mygloriadei.org or 949-493-3414 by Monday, December 20.

CHRISTMAS EVE HELP! We need assistance with ushers, parking attendants, welcome... Please see the sign-up at the Welcome Table and help us provide hospitality in celebration of Jesus' birth.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP will take place Friday, December 24, 3pm, 4:30pm, and 6pm. Candlelight, carols, special music, and more. Services will take place inside/outside/online. **Reservations** required. The inside 4:30pm service is now full, but there's plenty of room at other services and outside. To reserve your spot: www.mygloriadei.org/adventchristmas-at-gloria-dei. Invite a friend to experience the birth of hope!

THE ADVENT SEASON continues today, the 4 week preparation for Christmas. Thanks to the Confirmation students for reading and acolyting. An Advent Calendar is available at the Welcome Table and an Advent Devotional is available online: mygloriadei.org/adventchristmas-at-gloria-dei.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE - TONIGHT, 5pm. This contemplative service invites us to reflect on the grief we may feel at Christmastime and offer it all to our great sign of hope, the Holy Child of Bethlehem. We pray that all of us will find comfort in knowing that we are not alone.

PASTOR DAVID MATTSON is conducting a funeral in Seattle. He will return to the office on Tuesday.

GLORIA DEI COOK BOOK - Pick up your copy at the Welcome Table or the church office. Thanks to all for your recipe contributions. Thanks to the Women's Board for organizing.

DEVOTIONALS - Pick up a copy of "Christ in Our Home", January - March 2022, at the Welcome Table.

PRESCHOOL TEACHER AID - Preschool Director Shelli Parajeckas is interviewing for a part time position (15 hours/week), working with three year olds. Interested - preschool@mygloriadei.org.

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - In 2022, this study begins again on Wednesday, January 12, 10am. All women are invited to meet in the Sanctuary & refreshments will be served early

SANCTUARY CHOIR (Teens/Adults) - All levels of ability welcome! Practice is on Thursdays at 7:30pm for one hour. Choral masks provided. For details - Kathy Person: music@mygloriadei.org.

NURSERY is available at the 8:30am & 10am services. Services for babies - pre-K. The attendants are vaccinated and they will be wearing masks. They will be inside preschool room closest to the church..

GUIDELINES for worship - Please spread out and sit wherever you see a bulletin. Face masks required inside! Extra facemasks are at the Welcome Table. We continue to livestream the 8:30am service: www.youtube.com/GloriaDeiLutheranChurchDanaPoint. FYI - All church and preschool staff have been fully vaccinated.

BRASS GROUP rehearses Tuesdays, 5pm (Sanctuary). All levels of ability are welcome! Questions - pastordavid@mygloriadei.org.

OFFERING - Please place check/money in boxes, or **ELECTRONIC GIVING** - Venmo app - @GloriaDei-Dana Point. Alternatively, you can give via credit card or debit card through our secure site: mygloriadei.org/donate. Thank you for supporting the ministry of Gloria Dei Lutheran Church!

GOD SQUAD (3rd - 5th Graders) - LaserLand - Wednesday, January 12, 4pm. Meet at LaserLand (27741 Crown Valley #315A, Mission Viejo) followed by pizza. Contact the office or email Barb Collins if attending - sundayschool@mygloriadei.org. As always, feel free to invite a friend!

MEMBERSHIP AT GLORIA DEI: See the sign-up at the Welcome Table. There are two ways to join: Attend the Adult Inquiry Class (Saturday, Jan. 22, 9am) or transfer membership from another Lutheran congregation. To both groups, there will be a get-to-know-you brunch on Saturday, January 22, 11:15am. New Members will be officially received during worship - Sunday, January 30.

UPCOMING: Annual Meeting/Ministry Celebration (February 6).

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DECEMBER 19 - 25, 2021

Today: Worship (8:30am, 10am, 5pm); Nursery (8:30am & 10am); Grant Tan Baptism (9:45am); NA Meeting (6:30pm)

Monday: Alanon (5:30pm)

Tuesday: AA Men (7am); Al Anon Meeting (7pm); The Shack Group Study (7pm)

Wednesday: AA Men (7am); 12 Step Couples Group (7pm)

Thursday: AA Men (7am); AA Women (9:30am); AA Men (7pm)

Friday: Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship (3pm, 4:30pm, 6pm)

Saturday: AA Men's (7am); ACA Meeting (2pm); NA Meeting (7pm); MERRY CHRISTMAS!

THANKS TO OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY!

8:30am: Acolyte: Jenna Hallowell; Advent Reader: Emma Person; Coffee: Martyn & Vanessa Frost; Communion: Bill Jonas & Jim Wenrick; Lector: Annette & Larry Fettis; Usher: Tim Boyd & John Gustavson; Welcome Table: Gene Rathbun

10am: Acolyte: Hailey Brown; Advent Reader: Daeman Riggelman; Coffee: Daneen & Dennis Pysz; Communion: Melody Bacon & Roger Grefsrud; Lector: Jerry Combe & Neta Wenrick; Usher: David & Susan Warneke; Welcome Table: Betty Prock

5pm: Communion & Reader: Jeff Contestabile