



2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 10, 2023 (Worship: **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 grab a pager. We also love children in worship and Sunday school (8:30am and 10am).

TODAY is the Second Sunday in Advent. Our theme during this four week preparation for Christmas is "4 Prophets - 4 Christmas". We will read the prophecies of Scripture related to the coming of the Messiah, the coming of hope. May this time of preparation be "profitable", not in monetary terms, but in terms of amazing hope!

PRELUDE: *Brightest and Best* by Mark Hayes Fred Johnson, Organist/Pianist (8:30am/10am)

THE INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (People read/sing **bold** words.)
Blessed be God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit - who comes to wake us from sleep, and leads us into the light of grace. **Amen.**

Let us prepare the way of the Lord by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.
(A moment of silence for confession.)

God of all hopefulness,
We confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.

The prophet Isaiah announced, "*The days are surely coming,*" saith the Lord. Christ, the Savior has come and brings new life to the entire world. Rejoice in this good news - your sins are forgiven in His name! **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN: *Go Tell It on the Mountain* #290
Refrain: **Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev-'ry-where; Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (Refrain.)

The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. (Refrain.)

Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born; and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain.)

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**)

LITANY FOR LIGHTING OF THE FIRST CANDLE
(Following the reading, we sing, *O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel* #257 vv. 1, 3)
O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appears.

Refrain: **Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O come, O come, O Lord of might, as to your tribes on Si-nai's height
in ancient times you gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe.** (Refrain.)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (8:30am) Arts & Outreach Minister Michelle Lum
(Children may leave for Sunday school and return during Holy Communion.)

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT PRESENTATION (10am): *"What's Up With That?"*

THE LESSON: Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and gently lead the mother sheep.

(Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**)

THE LESSON: 2 Peter 3:8-15a

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years are like one day. The Lord is not slow about his promise, as some think of slowness, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and everything that is done on it will be disclosed. Since all these things are to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons ought you to be in leading lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set ablaze and dissolved, and the elements will melt with fire? But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. Therefore, beloved, while you are waiting for these things, strive to be found by him at peace, without spot or blemish; and regard the patience of our Lord as salvation. So also our beloved brother Paul wrote to you according to the wisdom given him.

(Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**)

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Please stand.)

Tune: *O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel*

Alleluia, alleluia. O come to us Emmanuel.

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Mark the 1st chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

THE GOSPEL: Mark 1:1-8

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight;'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." (The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**)

APOSTLES' CREED (8:30am)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTHEM (10:00am): *Advent Peace Canon* arr. by Ruth Elaine Schram

Sanctuary Choir, Music Director Kathy Person

HYMN OF THE DAY: Sing We Now of Christmas (Tune: NOEL NOUVELET)

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel, sing we here!

Hear our grateful praises to the babe so dear.

Refrain: **Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!**

Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

**Angels called to shepherds, "Leave your flocks at rest,
journey forth to Bethlehem, find the lambkin blest."** (Refrain)

**In Bethlehem they found him; Joseph and Mary mild,
seated by the manger, watching the holy child.** (Refrain)

THE MESSAGE: *"W's & L's"*

Pastor David R. Mattson

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC: *Heaven Everywhere* by Battistelli Arts & Outreach Minister Michelle Lum

ADVENT OFFERTORY RESPONSE: (Tune - *The First Noel*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**)

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 and gluten-free wafers are also available.)

HOLY COMMUNION MUSIC:

Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)

**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.**

Page 191

Once in Royal David's City

**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.**

#269

**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.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heav-en, set at God's right hand on high;
there his children gather round, bright like stars, with glory crowned.**

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

#284

**'Twas in the moon of wintertime when all the birds had fled,
That God, the Lord of all the earth, sent angel choirs instead.
Before their light the stars grew dim, and won-d'ring hunters heard the hymn:
Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!**

**Within a lodge of broken bark the tender babe was found:
a ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty round;
but as the hunter braves drew nigh, the angel song rang loud and high:
Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!**

**The ear-liest moon of winter-time is not so round and fair
as was the ring of glory around the infant there.
The chiefs from far before him knelt with gifts of fox and beaver pelt.
Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!**

**O children of the forest free, the angel song is true;
the holy child of earth and heav'n is born today for you.
Come, kneel before the radiant boy, who brings you beauty, peace, and joy.
Jesus your king is born! Jesus is born, in excelsis gloria!**

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

THE BLESSING

**SENDING HYMN: Prepare the Royal Highway
Prepare the royal highway; the King of kings is near!
Let ev-'ry hill and valley a level road appear!
Then greet the King of glory, foretold in sacred story:
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!**

#264 vv. 1-3

**God's people, see him coming: your own eternal king!
Palm branches strew before him! Spread garments! Shout and sing!
God's promise will not fail you! No more shall doubt assail you!
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!**

**Then fling the gates wide open to greet your promised king!
Your king, yet ev-'ry nation its tribute too may bring.
All lands will bow before him; their voices join your singing:
Hosanna to the Lord, for he fulfills God's word!**

SENDING WORDS: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: *People, Look East* by James Mansfield

Fred Johnson (8:30/10am)

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GLORIA DEI STAFF: Pastor David R. Mattson (pastordavid@mygloriadei.org); Assistant Minister Dana Becker (danabecker@mygloriadei.org); Administrative Assistant Carol Weinhardt (gloriadei@mygloriadei.org); Preschool Director Shelli Parajeckas (preschool@mygloriadei.org); Minister of Arts & Outreach Michelle Lum (michellelum@mygloriadei.org); Congregational Life Susie Boland (fellowship@mygloriadei.org); Youth Director Paige Gulck (youth@mygloriadei.org); Music Director Kathy Person (music@mygloriadei.org); Organist/Pianist Fred Johnson (organist@mygloriadei.org); 5pm Worship Leader Micaela Lum

THANKS TO OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY!

8:30am: Acolyte: Emma Person; Advent Reader: Elijah Don; Coffee Prep: Martyn & Vanessa Frost; Communion: Pam & Steve Weiss; Lector: Ren Higgins; Ushers: Dave & Judy Ross; Welcome Table: Judy Young
10am: Acolyte: Will Ramsaur; Advent Reader: Bryan Hallowell; Coffee Clean-up: Daneen & Dennis Pysz; Communion: Daneen & Dennis Pysz Lector: Betty Prock; Usher: John Cummings & Sharon Miller; Welcome Table: Melody Bacon

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are provided by Gini Sherwood in honor of her mom's birthday! They are also given by Melody Bacon in celebration of Ron Bacon's birthday!

ADVENT SEASON - The four week preparation for Christmas has begun - lighting of the Advent candles, singing carols, and more. Theme: "*4 Prophets 4 Christmas.*" (A study of Isaiah)

THANKS to our Sunday school children (and parents) and teachers for portraying the Christmas story at the 10am service. They will rehearse during Sunday school today, 9am in Bankson Hall.

OFFERING ENVELOPES - For those who don't give electronically, you may pick up your 2024 offering envelopes on the patio at the Welcome Table.

GIVING TREE - Thanks to all who have taken a tag from the tree. Return gift cards to the offering box or office by December 10. Gift cards are for children/students in need at Foster All & DHHS.

ADVENT DEVOTION ONLINE with Pastor David: Each day during the Season of Advent, join Pastor David for a "walk" - brief message and prayer. Link is at mygloriadei.org.

THANKS - To Diane Kelly, the women's Bible Study group & the preschool teachers & students for helping at the Alzheimer's luncheon. It was a great success!

NATIVITY DISPLAY - Bankson Hall will be open today from 9:30am - 10am (between the morning services) for folks to check out the Nativity Scenes on display.

WOMEN'S COOKIE EXCHANGE/NATIVITY DISPLAY - Today, 3pm, Bankson Hall. Bring 3 dozen cookies (homemade or from store). Containers given to take some and extra cookies delivered at caroling.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING - Today, 5pm - meet at the church & caravan to sing at shut-ins homes. Maps and song sheets provided that evening.

PRESCHOOL SING ALONG - Thursday, December 14, 3-5pm with Michelle and Micaela Lum. Christmas sing along for preschoolers, sign up through the church office.

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 Sunday, December 17.

WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP - RIOT (Reading Is Our Thing) meets the *third Monday of each month at 2pm*. The group meets in Knudson Hall. The next meeting is December 18 & they will bring books to exchange. If interested in the book club, contact Diane Kelly or contact the office at 949-493-3414.

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP

Sunday, December 24, 8:30am, 4pm, 5:30pm & 10pm.
Carols, candlelight, special music, & uplifting message.
Holy Communion will be celebrated at 8:30am and 10pm.
Invite a friend to worship with you!

CHRISTMAS EVE INVITATION to share with your family, friends, neighbors at the Welcome Table. Pick one or many invitations up to share with acquaintances to join in worship.

BIBLE YEAR STUDY Thursdays, 6:30pm, Pastor David leads a study on the readings and answers questions. (12/10: 1 Chronicles 17:1 - 2 Chronicles 16:14). Never too late to join. All are welcome!

OFFERING - Please place check/money in donation boxes in the sanctuary or at the Welcome Table, or give ELECTRONICALLY - Venmo app - @GloriaDei-DanaPoint or ZELLE - gloriadei@mygloriadei.org. Alternatively you can donate via credit card or debit card through Vanco, our secure site: mygloriadei.org/donate. Thank you for supporting Gloria Dei!

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY meets the *first Saturday/month, 9am, Knudson Hall*. Next meeting - January 6. If you know of someone in need of a shawl or for more information, call Peggy Johnson or the office.

MEMBERSHIP at Gloria Dei? We offer two ways to officially join the Gloria Dei family:

- 1) From a non-Lutheran background, attend the Adult Inquiry Class, January 20, 9am OR
- 2) Transfer your membership from a Lutheran church.

To all joining, new & transfer, there will be a New Member Orientation, Sunday, January 21, 11:15am. New members will be received in church on Sunday, January 28. Sign-up at the Welcome Table.

LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE TRIP - A day trip to Los Angelitos (Tijuana, Mexico) on January 27, 2024, 7am - 7pm. Passports are required. Please sign-up at the Welcome Table for more information.

MEN'S BOOK GROUP - Meets the *last Tuesday of the month, 7pm* at members' homes. *They will be meeting on January 30.* For information contact the church office.

"FOOTSTEPS OF SAINT PAUL" (Greece Trip) - As an alternative to the Holy Land, Pastor David will be leading a group to Greece (land/sea), April 9-20, 2024. Flier available at the Welcome Table.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Los Angelitos Trip (Jan. 27); Ministry Celebration/Annual Meeting & Aloha Luncheon (Feb.4); Stephanie Trick & Paolo Alderighi Piano Concert (Feb.12); Ash Wednesday Worship and soup suppers begin (Feb.14); Billy Steele leads morning music (Feb.25); First Communion Classes begin (Feb. 28); Men's Spring Training Retreat (March 1-3); Women's One Day Retreat (March 16).

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DECEMBER 10 - 16, 2023

Today: Worship (8:30am & 10am); Nursery (8:30am & 10am); Women's Cookie Exchange & Nativity Display (3pm); Caroling (5pm); NA Meeting (6:30pm)

Monday: South Coast Lit. Council (10am); Al Anon (5:30pm)

Tuesday: AA Men (7am); Preschool Pageant Recording in Sanctuary (9am); Heart Lifters (6:30pm); VFW Auxiliary (6:30pm); Al Anon (7pm); Church Council (7pm)

Wednesday: AA Men (7am); Surfside Quilters Guild (9am); Staff Meeting (12:30pm); Piano Tuning (1pm) Mission Hospital Alumni Group (6pm); 12 Step Couples Group (7:30pm)

Thursday: AA Men (7am); AA Women (9:30am); South Coast Lit. Council Games & Fun (1pm); Preschool Sing-Along (3pm); Al Anon Coed (5:30pm); Bell Choir (6:30pm); The Bible Year Study (6:30pm); AA Men (7pm); Sanctuary Choir (7:30pm)

Friday: Aliso Niguel High School Choral Concert (6:30pm)

Saturday: AA Men's (7am); Serra's Pantry (8:30am); ACA Meeting Meeting (10:30am); Nativity Display Set Up in Bankson (11am); ACA Meeting (11:30am); Ukrainian Christmas Gathering (1pm)