



GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

GRACE CHANGES EVERYTHING.

Dana Point, California

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THE SEASON OF EPIPHANY 2024

Celebrating the Light of Lights

BAPTISM OF OUR LORD 2024

January 7, 2024

8:30am, 10:00am, 5:00pm

WELCOME to worship! We are glad you are here. We are now entering the *Season of Epiphany* (Jan./Feb.) and it begins with the baptism of Jesus' story. May the Light of Lights, Jesus Christ fill you with hope and peace in 2024.

PRELUDE: *By the Grace of God* by A. Giamanco Fred Johnson, Pianist/Organist (8:30am/10am)

Micaela Lum, Worship Leader (5pm)

GATHERING HYMN: *The First Noel*

#300 vv. 1, 3, 5

**The first Noel the angel did say
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.**

Refrain: **Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.**

**And by the light of that same star
three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent,
and to follow the star wher-ev-er it went.** (Refrain)

**Then entered in those wise men three,
full rev'rently upon their knee,
and offered there in his presence
their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.** (Refrain)

INVOCATION AND CONFESSION

THE APOSTOLIC GREETING

THE KYRIE (People sing refrain below.)

#154



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.



Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

THE FIRST LESSON: Genesis 1:1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

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

THE SECOND LESSON: Acts 19:1-7

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— altogether there were about twelve of them.

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

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (Please stand for the Gospel.)

#169



Leader: Speak, O Lord, Your servant is listening. You have the words of eternal life.

(People sing Alleluia again.)

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

THE GOSPEL: Mark 1:4-11

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." In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn

apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

(The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**)

THE APOSTLES' CREED

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (8:30am/10am)

Linda Smith

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN OF THE DAY: I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry

#732

"I was there to hear your borne cry,

I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized

To see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child,

with a faith to suit you well;

in a blaze of light you wandered off

to find where demons dwell."

"When you heard the wonder of the Word

I was there to cheer you on;

You were raised to praise the living Lord,

to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time

and you join your hearts as one,

I'll be there to make your verses rhyme

from dusk till rising sun."

"In the middle ages of your life,

not too old, no longer young,

I'll be there to guide you through the night,

complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in

and you shut your weary eyes,

I'll be there as I have always been

With just one more surprise."

"I was there to hear your borne cry,

I'll be there when you are old.

I rejoiced the day you were baptized

To see your life unfold."

THE MESSAGE: "Water it down"

Assistant Minister Dana Becker

OFFERTORY MUSIC: *Up from the Waters* (Leader sings verses. People sing refrain below.)

Up from the wa - ters God has claimed you, up
 from the wa - ters, child of light.
 Praise to the One who called and named you up
 from the wa - ters in - to life.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: The Doxology

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (After each prayer - Lord in Your mercy. **Hear our Prayer.**)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR HOLY COMMUNION (All who believe Christ is present in this sacrament are welcome. Non-communing children and adults who choose not to receive, may come forward for a blessing. Please cross your arms as a signal you would prefer a blessing. Juice is located in the center of each tray, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)

HOLY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION MUSIC:

Lamb of God (Agnus Dei)

#195

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.

Will You Let Me Be Your Servant

#659

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
 Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

We are pilgrims on a journey, we are trav-'lers on the road;
 we are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear;
 I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping; when you laugh I'll laugh with you.
 I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
 Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant, too.

Taste and See

#493

Refrain: Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord.
 Oh, taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.

I will bless the Lord at all times.
 Praise shall always be on my lips; my soul shall glory in the Lord;
 for God has been so good to me. (Refrain.)

Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us all praise God's name.
 I called the Lord, who answered me;
 from all my troubles I was set free. (Refrain.)

Worship the Lord, all you people.
 You'll want for nothing if you ask.
 Taste and see that the Lord is good;
 in God we need put all our trust. (Refrain.)

Children of the Heavenly Father

#781

Children of the heav'n-ly Father safely in his bosom gather;
 nestling bird nor star in heaven such a refuge e'er was given.

God his own doth tend and nourish, in his holy courts they flourish.
 From all evil things he spares them, in his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever from the Lord his children sever;
 unto them his grace he showeth, and their sorrows all he knoweth.

**Though he giveth or he taketh, God his children ne'er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely to preserve them pure and holy.**

POST COMMUNION PRAYER AND BLESSING

THE BENEDICTION

THE SENDING HYMN: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

#836

**Joyful, joyful we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love!
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before thee, praising thee, their sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away.
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.**

**All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heav'n reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flow-'ry meadow, flashing sea
chanting bird, and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.**

**Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine!**

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

POSTLUDE: *When the Morning Stars Sang Together* by Gene Clarke

Fred Johnson, Pianist/Organist (8:30am/10am)
Micaela Lum, Worship Leader (5pm)

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THANKS TO OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY!

8:30am: Coffee Prep: Dianne & Greg Blanda; Communion: Barbara Keim & Gene Rathbun; Lector: David Macher; Refreshments: Dianne & Greg Blanda; Ushers: Lynne & Wes Morgan; Welcome Table: Denise & Tim Boyd

10am: Coffee Clean-up: Scott Lund; Communion: David Warneke & Gini Sherwood; Lector: Neta Wenrick; Refreshments: Virginia Anderson; Usher: David Warneke Gini Sherwood; Welcome Table: Betty Prock

5pm: Communion & Lector: Nancy Marcello

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are provided by Doug & Linda Smith in honor of all blessings to come in 2024!

NURSERY is available on Sunday mornings at 8:30am & 10am services (babies - pre-K.). It is located inside the preschool room, closest to the church. Sign your child in and grab a pager.

NEW ARTWORK by Arts & Outreach Minister Michelle Lum and volunteers, "*Lights of the World*" is hanging from the window near organ pipes/bell choir. Thanks to Jeff Contestabile for helping construct the artwork & to all those who made it possible!

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Age 4 - 5th grade/8:30am & 10am service) is on Christmas break & resumes next week, January 14. Kids leave worship with their teacher following the Children's Message and return at Communion. To [register](#) your child for Sunday school, speak with Susie Boland: fellowship@mygloriadei.org. Thanks to all our leaders and teachers in this ministry!

CONFIRMATION (Middle School) - resumes January 21, 11:15am with class & lunch. It is led by Pastor David, Assistant Minister Dana Becker or Youth Director Paige Gulck.

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - Every Wednesday, 10am and reconvenes Wednesday, January 10, 2024. All women are invited to join in! Great way to start the new year! Study is led by Assistant Minister Dana Becker and Pastor David.

BIBLE YEAR STUDY Thursdays, 6:30pm, Pastor David leads a study on the readings and answers questions. (1/7/24 Psalm 5: 1 - Psalm 32:11). Next meeting is January 11, 2024. Never too late to join. All are welcome in this read-through-the-Bible program. Questions - contact the office.

SANCTUARY CHOIR AND GLORIA DEI BELLS begin again on Thursdays, starting up on January 11. The Bells rehearse, 6:30pm and the Sanctuary Choir (Teens/Adults), 7:30pm. Questions, speak with Music Director Kathy Person.

MEMBERSHIP AT GLORIA DEI: Two ways to join the Gloria Dei family: 1) From a non-Lutheran background, attend the Adult Inquiry Class, January 20, 2024 at 9am [QR](#) 2) Transfer your membership from a Lutheran church. [To all joining](#), there will be a New Member Orientation, Sunday, January 21, 2024 at 11:15am. New members received in church on Sunday, January 28, 2024. Sign-up.

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: January 12, 6:00p - 8:00pm: We begin the year with bowling. Who doesn't love striking down some pins after the holidays? Meet at Saddleback lanes (25402 Marguerite Pkwy, Mission Viejo) for some grub and games. Contact Paige Gulck at youthdirector@mygloriadei.org.

GLORIA DEI ART MINISTRY — 2nd Friday monthly at 6:30pm in Bankson Hall - Next gathering is Friday, January 12, 2024. For all artists and creatives at any experience level. Contact: Arts and Outreach Minister Michelle Lum (michellelum@mygloriadei.org).

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY - Saturday, January 13, 2024 at 8am, Bankson Hall. All men are invited to a Bible study, good conversation, and wonderful food. Call the office for more details.

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.

ALOHA LUNCHEON - Ministry Celebration/Annual Meeting: All members are welcome for a wonderful luncheon (donation) and election of new Church Council, approval of annual budget, and celebration of new ministries. Sunday, February 4, 11:15am. Mark your calendars and join us.

FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION begins for young children in the Sanctuary on three Wednesdays: February 28, March 7, & March 14 at 5:15pm. Sign-up. Child and a parent need to attend.

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.

AMAZING CONCERT: Stephanie Trick & Paolo Alderighi Piano Concert - Monday, February 12, 7pm. Appetizers/drinks beforehand at 6pm. Join us for this great time of fellowship and music.

MEN'S SPRING TRAINING RETREAT (Arizona). All men and sons are invited to join in this wonderful time of watching baseball and fellowship. We leave early Friday morning from the church and return late Sunday afternoon. (March 1-3). See the sign-up. This is first-come, first-served, only room for 30.

"FOOTSTEPS OF SAINT PAUL" (Greece Trip) - Pastor David will be leading a group to Greece (land/sea), April 9-20, 2024. Flier available at the Welcome Table. 2 spots remain.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS: Ash Wednesday Worship and soup suppers begin (Feb.14); Billy Steele leads morning music (Feb.25); First Communion Classes begin (Feb. 28); Women's One Day Retreat (Mar. 16);

GLORIA DEI STAFF

Pastor David R. Mattson (pastordavid@mygloriadei.org)

Assistant Minister Dana Becker (danabecker@mygloriadei.org)

Minister of Arts and Outreach Michelle Lum (michellelum@mygloriadei.org)

Administrative Assistant Carol Weinhardt (gloriadei@mygloriadei.org)

Preschool Director Shelli Parajekas (preschool@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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR JANUARY 7 - 13, 2024

Today: Worship (8:30am, 10am, & 5pm); Nursery (8:30am & 10am); NA Meeting (6:30pm)

Monday: South Coast Literacy Council (10am); Al Anon (5:30pm); GIFT (Growing In Faith Together) Group (6:30pm); ELCA Foundation (6:30pm)

Tuesday: AA Men (7am); Surfside Quilters Guild General Meeting (9am); Heart Lifters (6:30pm); Al Anon (7pm); Church Council Meeting (7pm)

Wednesday: AA Men (7am); Surfside Quilters Guild (9am); Women's Bible Study (10am); Mission Hospital Alumni Group (6pm); 12 Step Couples Group (7:30pm)

Thursday: AA Men (7am); AA Women (9:30am); Al Anon Coed (5:30pm); Bell Choir (6:30pm); Bible Year Study (6:30pm); Lindsey Engel & Brian Worek Premarital Meeting (6:30pm); AA Men (7pm)

Friday: Worship Planning Meeting (12pm); Art Ministry Gathering (6:30pm)

Saturday: AA Men's (7am); Men's Breakfast Bible Study (8:30am); Women's Board Meeting (9am); (ACA Meeting Meeting (10:30am); ACA Meeting (11:30am); Ukrainian School of Orange County (1:30pm); NA Meeting (7pm)