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12TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 31, 2025
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 and grab a pager. We also love children in worship!

On this Labor Day Weekend, we thank God for the gift of work and labor. May God bless all workers and employers that together they would bring glory to God. This unofficially is the end of summer. Watch the bulletin (and newsletter-grab one at the Welcome Table) for the many Bible studies, choirs, and ministries that are starting up.

PRELUDE:

Stephanie Assisi, Pianist (8:30am/10am)
Harrison Michael, Worship Leader (5pm)

WELCOME AND INVOCATION

THE CONFESSION

Gracious God, have mercy on us.

We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

(A moment of silence. Proclamation of forgiveness.)

GATHERING HYMN: O God beyond All Praising

#880 vv.1-2

**O God beyond all praising, we worship you today
and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;
for we can only wonder at ev-'ry gift you send,
at blessings without number and mercies without end:
we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word,
we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.**

**The flow'r of early splendor in time must surely die,
its fragile bloom surrender to you, the Lord most high;
but hidden from all nature the eternal seed is sown-
though small in mortal stature, to heav-en's garden grown:
for Christ, your gift from heaven, from death has set us free,
and we through him are given the final victory.**

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Psalm 90)

(People read **bold** words.)

Let the favour of the Lord our God be upon us.

O prosper the work of our hands!

Our God, in the glory of late summer, we come to worship
revelling in the beauty of your handiwork.

Give us insight this morning

into how the work of our hands is part of the work of your hands.

We join with you in lifting the heavy-hearted,
comforting the sorrowful, and calming the anxious.

Fill us with the joy of service this morning.

We pray all these things in the name of Jesus Amen.

THE HYMN: O God beyond All Praising

#880 v.3

Then hear, O gracious Savior, accept the love we bring,

**that we who know your favor may serve you as our King;
and whether our tomorrows be filled with good or ill,
we'll triumph through our sorrows and rise to bless you still:
to marvel at your beauty and glory in your ways,
and make a joyful duty our sacrifice of praise.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

THE FIRST LESSON: Proverbs 25:6-7.

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great, for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

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

THE SECOND LESSON: Hebrews 13:1-8;15-16

Let mutual affection continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them, those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. (Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: (Please stand for the Gospel.)

page 188

S 188

Al-le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.
Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

(The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the 14th chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**)

THE GOSPEL: Luke 14:1,7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, **"When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."** (The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ!**)

THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended into hell. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right

hand of the Father, and He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE (8:30am/10am) Art & Music Minister Michelle Lum

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN OF THE DAY: Gather Us In

#532 vv.1-3

Here in this place the new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away;
see in this space our fears and our dreamings
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in, the lost and forsaken,
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mys-t'ry,
we are the old who yearn for your face;
we have been sung throughout all of his-t'ry,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in, the rich and the haughty,
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

THE MESSAGE: "Who's Watching You?"

Deacon Daneen Pysz

OFFERTORY MUSIC:

Harrison Michael

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: The Doxology

OFFERTORY PRAYER

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

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

Page 191

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.

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.

Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus

#501

Come with us, O blessed Jesus, with us ever-more to be.
And, in leaving now thine altar, let us never-more leave thee!
Let thy bright celestial chorus never cease the heav'n-ly strain;
But in us, thy loving children, come with peace, good will to reign.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER AND BLESSING

THE BENEDICTION

THE SENDING HYMN: Rise Up, O Saints of God!

#669

Rise up, O saints of God! From vain ambitions turn;
Christ rose triumphant that your hearts with nobler zeal might burn.

Speak out, O saints of God! Despair engulfs earth's frame;
as heirs of God's baptismal grace, the word of hope proclaim.

**Rise up, O saints of God! The kingdom's task embrace;
redress sin's cruel consequence; give justice larger place.**

**Give heed, O saints of God! Creation cries in pain;
stretch forth your hand of healing now, with love the weak sustain.**

**Commit your hearts to seek the paths which Christ has trod;
and, quickened by the Spirit's power, rise up, O saints of God!**

SENDING WORDS

POSTLUDE: Stephanie Assisi (8:30/10am)
Harrison Michael (5pm)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS - are provided in loving memory of Cliff Anderson.

LAUNDRY LOVE - Next volunteer service will be September 5, 2pm - 5:30pm. Sign-up at the Welcome Table. For more info: deacondaneen@mygloriadei.org.

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER is available to pick up as a paper copy at the welcome table or go to the Church website to see an online version.

WOMEN'S BUNCO NIGHT - Friday, September 5, 6pm - Come join the Women's Group for a fun night! \$5. Bring an appetizer to share. No experience needed. See sign-up.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER'S MEETING - Sunday, September 7 (after the 8:30 service) to go over all you need to know for teaching Sunday School (how to sign up, curriculum, crafts, substitutes, and more!).

MEMBERSHIP AT GLORIA DEI - See the sign-up for details or speak with Pastor David. (New members will be received on Rally Sunday - September 21.)

WOMEN'S WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY - Beginning September 10. All women are invited to this weekly study led by Pastor David and Deacon Daneen, 10am.

SEPTEMBER ART GATHERING - Our monthly gatherings are starting back up on the 2nd Wednesdays of each month. Join us on September 10 at 6:30pm in Bankson Hall.

PRIME-TIMERS (SENIORS) - Visiting the South Coast Butterfly & Botanical Gardens Friday, September 12, 10:30 am, located in Palos Verdes Peninsula. Sign-up.

MEN'S BREAKFAST BIBLE STUDY: All men are invited to join in on Saturday, Sept. 13, 8:30am, Knudson Hall. Join in the 2nd Saturday/month for a good breakfast, brief study, and wonderful fellowship. Questions, speak with Pastor David.

CHOIR AUDITIONS & VOCAL PLACEMENT - September 25 from 6-9pm. For new and preexisting members of our Sanctuary Choir and Gloria Dei Chorale (new). Please sign up for a 6 minute audition slot at the welcome table.

CHOIR REHEARSALS - begin October 9. Handbell Choir (6pm), Sanctuary Choir and Gloria Dei Chorale (7:15pm). Interested in joining an ensemble? Sign up for an audition (vocal only) or email michellelum@mygloriadei.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL begins Sept. 14 during morning services for children ages 4-5th grade. Teachers and helpers needed. See the sign-up. Contact Children's Ministry Director, Molly Healey with any questions. (childrensministry@mygloriadei.org)

ANDY DEGAN CONCERT - September 14, 5pm in the sanctuary. Come out for an evening of good music and fellowship!

DENIM AND DIAMONDS JUBILEE - 60th Anniversary of Gloria Dei! - Celebration Dinner - Friday, Sept. 19, 5pm, upper circle & Bankson Hall. Music, BBQ, games, kids' activities - Bubbleologist, childcare offered, photo booth, and more. Sign-up.

PARENTS CONFIRMATION MEETING: 6th-8th grade youth meet with Pastor David and Paige for Confirmation. An orientation for parents will be held Sunday, September 21, 9:30am (sanctuary). Schedule/program will be discussed.

LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE TRIP - Saturday, September 27. Details: See sign-up.

2025 WOMEN'S RETREAT WEEKEND: Friday- Sunday, October 3-5 in Escondido at the Welk Resort! Come for the weekend or even just join the group on Saturday. Fellowship, Bible study and lots of fun activities! Sign-up at the Welcome Table.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS - Sunday, October 5 at 5pm. Bring your pet out for a special blessing.

YOUNG ADULT GROUP (20/30s) email list. If you'd like to be contacted related to activities, sign-up. Questions, call the office or speak with Lindsey Engel.

OFFERING - Thank you for supporting Gloria Dei! Please place check/money in donation boxes or give electronically - Venmo app - @GloriaDei-DanaPoint or Zelle - gloriadei@mygloriadei.org. You can also donate via credit/ debit card through Vanco, our secure site: mygloriadei.org/donate.

PRAYERS? - Before or after services, meet a prayer partner at the Candle Station.

THANKS TO OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY!

8:30am: Coffee Prep: Martyn & Vanessa Frost; Communion: Shelli Parajeckas & Susie Boland; Lector: Denise Boyd; Ushers: Elvia & John Gustavson; Welcome Table: Karen Sanchez. **10am:** Coffee Clean-up: Liz Flippin; Communion: Colleen McCray & Roger Grefsrud; Lector: Katherine Dickinson; Ushers: Laurene Holmes-Hylton & Gia Lugo-Overton; Welcome Table: Peggy Johnson
5pm: Lector & Communion: Guy Boicey

OPPORTUNITIES FOR AUGUST 31- SEPTEMBER 6, 2025

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

Monday: Al Anon (5:30pm); Alateen (5:30pm); AA Coed (7pm)
Tuesday: AA Men (7am); GIFT (10); Staff Meeting (11am); Al Anon (7pm)
Wednesday: AA Men (7am); Mission Hospital AA (6pm); 12 Step Couples (7:30pm)
Thursday: AA Men (7am); AA Women (9:30am); Al Anon (5:30pm); AA Men (7pm)
Friday: Al Anon (10am); Laundry Love (2pm); Women's Bunco Night (6pm)
Saturday: AA Men (7am); New Member Adult Inquiry (9am); Prayer Shawl Meeting (9am) ACA Group (11:30am); Ukrainian School (1:30pm)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- ❖ Rally Sunday (September 21)
- ❖ Blessing of the Animals (October 5)
- ❖ Oktoberfest (October 11)
- ❖ Reformation Sunday - Bible Presentation (October 25)
- ❖ Trick-or-Trunk (October 25)

GLORIA DEI STAFF: Rev. David R. Mattson (pastordavid@mygloriadei.org);
Minister of Art & Music Michelle Lum (michellelum@mygloriadei.org);
Preschool Director Shelli Parajekas (preschool@mygloriadei.org); Administrative
Assistant Susie Boland (gloriadei@mygloriadei.org);
Deacon Daneen Pysz (deacondaneen@mygloriadei.org);
Youth Director Paige Gulck (youth@mygloriadei.org);
Children's Ministry Director Molly Healey (childrensministry@mygloriadei.org)
Pianist/Organist Micaela Lum (pianist@mygloriadei.org);
5pm Worship Leader Harrison Michael