



**GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
*Grace changes everything.*

Dana Point, California  
gloriadei@mygloriadei.org Mygloriadei.org 949-493-3414



## 2ND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 7, 2025  
(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 2nd Sunday in Advent. Our theme during this four week preparation for Christmas is **MESSENGERS OF HOPE** ("Angels We Have Heard on High"). In Scripture, there are many messengers who help prepare for the Messiah's coming - John the Baptist, Mary, Angels, and many others. May this time be a wonderful preparation for your preparation for the hope of the world.

PRELUDE:

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

(After each morning service, the Sacrament of Baptism:  
Jordan Kaiser and Lennon Brownell. Please join in the celebration.)

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. 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.**  
(A moment of silence for confession.)

The prophet Jeremiah 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: O Christmas Tree**  
**O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!**  
Thy leaves are so unchanging;  
**O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!**  
Thy leaves are so unchanging;  
Not only green when summer's here,  
But also when 'tis cold and drear.  
**O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!**  
Thy leaves are so unchanging!

**O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!**  
How richly God has decked thee!  
**O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!**  
How richly God has decked thee!  
Thou bidst us true and faithful be,  
And trust in God unchangingly.  
**O Christmas Tree! O Christmas Tree!**  
How richly God has decked thee!

LITANY FOR LIGHTING OF THE SECOND CANDLE

(Following the reading, we sing, **O, Come, O, Come, Emmanuel**)  
**O come, O come, Emmanuel,**  
**and ransom captive Israel,**  
**that mourns in lonely exile here**  
**until the Son of God appears.**

#257 vv.1,3

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

Art & Music Minister Michelle Lum

(Children may leave for Sunday school and return during Communion.)

THE FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD. His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD. He shall not judge by what his eyes see or decide by what his ears hear, but with righteousness he shall judge for the poor and decide with equity for the oppressed of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist and faithfulness the belt around his loins. The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze; their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious. (Word of God. Word of Life. **Thanks be to God!**)

THE SECOND LESSON: Romans 15:4-13

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors and in order that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles, and sing praises to your name"; and again he says, "Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people"; and again, "Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** (Please stand.)

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

**Alleluia, alleluia. O come to us Emmanuel.**

(The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**)

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

**In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight.'" Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then Jerusalem and all Judea and all the region around the Jordan were going out to him, and they were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for his baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruit worthy of repentance, and do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; therefore every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire. "I baptize you with water for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is more powerful than I, and I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."**

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

ANTHEM (10am): *This Silent Night* by Steven James

Sanctuary Choir, Art & Music Minister Michelle Lum

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**HYMN OF THE DAY: Infant Holy, Infant Lowly**

#276

**Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;**

**oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.**

**Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing:**

**Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!**

**Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new  
saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a Gospel true.**

**Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:**

**Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!**

THE MESSAGE: *Hope's Beautiful Daughters*

Pastor David R. Mattson

THE OFFERING, OFFERTORY MUSIC:

Andy Degan

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE:**

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 Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

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

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. Gluten free wafers are also available.)

**HOLY COMMUNION MUSIC:**

**Lamb of God** (Agnus Dei)

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**'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!**

**Once in Royal David's City**

#269

**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.**

**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.**

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING AND PRAYER

THE BLESSING

**SENDING HYMN: The Bells of Christmas  
The bells of Christmas chime once more;  
the heav'n-ly guest is at the door.**

#298 vv.1-3

**He comes to earthly dwellings still  
with new year gifts of peace, good will.**

**This world, though wide and far outspread,  
Could scarcely find for you a bed.  
Your cradle was a manger stall,  
No pearl nor silk nor kingly hall.**

**Now let us go with quiet mind,  
The swaddled babe with shepherds find,  
To gaze on him who gladdens them  
The love-liest flow'r of Jesse's stem.**

SENDING WORDS: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God!**

POSTLUDE: Micaela Lum (8:30/10am)  
Harrison Michael (5pm)

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## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are provided by Kelsey, Lindsey and Brian in honor of John Engel's 69th birthday and by Linda Curie in loving memory of John Curie.

**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. Place completed forms in an offering box. Due by December 14.

### **CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

Wednesday, December 24, 2025

**4pm, 5:30pm, and 10pm**

All services are candlelit with carols, choirs, instrumental musics, and more.

Holy Communion celebrated at the 5:30/10pm service.

Invite a friend to the celebration of the world's greatest hope - the Savior's born!

**ADVENT DEVOTIONS** - Join Pastor David for a brief video devotion counting down the days to Christmas: [www.mygloriadei.org/advent-devotions-2025](http://www.mygloriadei.org/advent-devotions-2025). Join him on a walk and conversation (with Siggys).

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** is during morning services: children ages 4-5th grade. If you have any questions, contact Children's Ministry Director Molly Healey.

**GIFT CARDS** - See Christmas tree at the Welcome Table and grab a tag. Place all gift cards in the offering box or return to the church office by Wednesday, December 17.

**ART RECEPTION & CONCERT** - December 10, 6:30pm, Sanctuary. Join the art ministry for our *Illuminated Letters* show with music by Micaela Lum & Kathy Person.

**SENIOR HIGH CHRISTMAS PARTY** - December 12 at 6pm in Bankson Hall. Pizza and Christmas cookies! Let's decorate some cookies for the shut-ins! Contact Paige.

**LOS ANGELITOS ORPHANAGE TRIP** - This Saturday, Dec. 13. See the sign-up at the Welcome Table for details.

**WOMEN'S COOKIE PARTY & CHRISTMAS CONCERT** - Saturday, December 13, 2pm, Bankson Hall. They will be exchanging cookies (bring 3 dozen to share) and having a special concert with Harrison Michael.

**MEN'S BREAKFAST** - This Saturday, 8:30am, Knudson Hall. All men invited!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PAGEANT** - Please join us Sunday, December 14 at the 10am service for the Children's Christmas Pageant! Details at the Welcome Table.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING** - Sunday, December 14, will be meeting in the upper parking lot at 3pm to head out for Christmas caroling. Sign-up at the Welcome Table.

**BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE** - Sunday, December 21 at 5pm. A time of reflection, meditation, and remembrance.

**PRIME TIME SENIORS - MISSION IN LIGHTS** - December 29, 4pm, see the sign-up at the Welcome Table.

**TRICK AND ALDERIGHI CONCERT** - January 4, 2026 at 5pm. Jazz piano duo Stephanie Trick and Paolo Alderighi are back with another concert this January! They are also playing special music at the morning services.

**MEMBERSHIP AT GLORIA DEI?** If you are interested in becoming a member and for all the details, see the sign-up at the Welcome Table. New members received February 1.

**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](mailto:gloriadei@mygloriadei.org). You can also donate via credit/debit card through Vanco, our secure site: [mygloriadei.org/donate](http://mygloriadei.org/donate).

#### **THANKS TO OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY!**

**8:30am:** Acolyte: Annabel Greer; Coffee Prep: Kristina Mayfield; Communion: Henri Nurminen & Christian Asis; Lector: Carol Weinhardt; Ushers: Pam Weiss & Craig Collins; Welcome Table: Shelli Parajekas & Karen Sanchez **10am:** Acolyte: Ansley Ramsaur; Coffee Clean-up: Tami Engel; Communion: Donna & Jerry Combe; Lector: Jay Pederson; Ushers: Dean Frascie & Dennis Pysz; Welcome Table: Mary Jane Rylaarsdam; 5pm Reader & Communion: Jeff Contestable

#### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR DECEMBER 7-13, 2025**

**Today:** Worship (8:30am, 10am & 5pm); Nursery (8:30am & 10am); Confirmation Class (11:15am); John Curie Internment (11:30am) **Monday:** South Coast Literacy (10am); Al Anon (5:30pm); Alateen (5:30pm); AA Coed (7pm) **Tuesday:** AA Men (7am); Surfside Quilters (9am); Staff Meeting (11am); Heart Lifters (6:30pm); VFW Auxiliary (6:30pm); Al Anon (7pm); Church Council Meeting (7pm) **Wednesday:** AA Men (7am); Women's Bible Study (10am); Mission Hospital AA (6pm); Art Reception and Concert (6:30pm); 12 Step Couples (7:30pm) **Thursday:** AA Men (7am); AA Women (9:30am); Seniors and Friends AA (1pm); Al Anon (5:30pm); Handbell Choir (6pm); AA Men (7pm); Sanctuary Choir (7:15pm) **Friday:** Al Anon (10am); Kenny's Music (6pm) **Saturday:** AA Men (7am); Men's Breakfast (8:30am); Women's Board Meeting (9am); ACA Group (11:30am); Ukrainian School (1:30pm); Women's Ministry Christmas Event (2pm); Ukrainian Holiday Gathering (5pm)

#### MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

- ❖ Aloha Luncheon/Annual Meeting (February 1, 2026, 11am)
- ❖ Men's Spring Training Retreat (March 6-9, 2026)
- ❖ Women's 1 Day Retreat (March 14, 2026)
- ❖ Sara Groves in Concert (May 2, 2026)
- ❖ Church Campout (June 12-14, 2026)
- ❖ Vacation Bible School (July 6-10, 2026)

**GLORIA DEI STAFF:** Rev. David R. Mattson (pastordavid@mygloriadei.org);  
Art & Music Minister 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