



GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Grace changes everything.

33501 Stonehill Drive Dana Point, California 92629
gloriadei@mygloriadei.org Mygloriadei.org 949-493-3414



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP

December 24, 2025
4:00pm, 5:30pm, 10:00pm

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! A blessed Christmas to you. Tonight, we celebrate the birth of hope and light in the world, Jesus Christ. May the presence of His Spirit fill you with strength and peace. Thank you for being with us!

PRELUDE MUSIC

Micaela Lum, Organist/Pianist
Kathy Person, Violin (4pm & 5:30pm)
Handbell Choir (4pm & 5:30pm)

GREETING & CALL TO WORSHIP (Luke 1:78-79) (People read/sing **bold** words.)

GATHERING HYMN: *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

#283 vv. 1-2

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;

come and behold him, born the king of angels:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

**The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,
born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!**

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

THE FIRST CHRISTMAS READING: Luke 2:1-7

THE HYMN: *Angels We Have Heard on High*

#289 v. 1

THE SECOND CHRISTMAS READING: Luke 2:8-14

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *The First Noel* (Please stand.)

#300 v.1

THE GOSPEL: Luke 2:15-20

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

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

ANTHEM: *Angels We Have Heard on High* by René Clausen (5:30pm)

Sanctuary Choir, Art & Music Minister Michelle Lum

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HYMN OF THE DAY: *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

#279 vv. 1, 4

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.

**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.**

THE MESSAGE: "Pieces of Peace"

Pastor David R. Mattson

THE OFFERING

WAYS TO GIVE

Please place check/money in donation boxes, or give with:
Venmo - [@GloriaDei-DanaPoint](#) or Zelle - gloriadei@mygloriadei.org
or donate via secure credit/debit card site: mygloriadei.org/donate. Thank you!

OFFERTORY MUSIC: *Shalom* by Dan Forrest (4pm & 5:30pm)

Andy Degan, Michelle Lum, Kathy Person, Micaela Lum
Pastorale from the Christmas Concerto by A. Corelli (10pm)
Kathy Person, Micaela Lum

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

#270 v. 1

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled."
Joyful, all you nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (5:30/10pm)

(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. Please cross your arms in front as a signal. For those who prefer, white juice is located in the center of each tray and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

MUSIC DURING HOLY COMMUNION (5:30pm & 10pm only):

Lamb of God #191
Away in a Manger

#277

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES (To avoid hot wax, keep lit candles upright. Thank you!)

THE READING: John 1:1-5,9-14

THE HYMN: *Silent Night, Holy Night*

#281 vv. 1, 3

CLOSING PRAYER AND BLESSING

THE SENDING HYMN: *Joy to the World*

#267 vv. 1-2

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing, and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.**

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!

**Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

POSTLUDE: *Joy to the World* arr. Sarah Rimkus

Micaela Lum, Organist/Pianist

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GLORIA DEI STAFF: Rev. David R. Mattson (pastordavid@mygloriadei.org);
Art & Music Minister Michelle Lum (michellelum@mygloriadei.org);
Preschool Director Shelli Parajeckas (preschool@mygloriadei.org);
Administrative Assistant Susie Boland (gloriadei@mygloriadei.org);
Deacon Daneen Pysz (decondaneen@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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR UPCOMING 2026 EVENTS:

- ❖ Women's Winter Bunco (February 6, 2026, 6pm)
- ❖ Mirabell Trio Benefit Concert (February 15, 5pm)
- ❖ Women's 1 Day Retreat (March 14)
- ❖ Sara Groves in Concert (May 2)
- ❖ Church Campout (June 12-14)
- ❖ Vacation Bible School (July 6-10)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL is during morning services (children ages 4-5th grade). They are now on Christmas break, but will return on January 11, 2026. Questions - contact Children's Ministry Director Molly Healey childrensministry@mygloriadei.org.

ILLUMINATED LETTERS - Selections from our Art Show are hanging in the Sanctuary, visit the foyer to see them.

PRIME TIMERS (Seniors) - MISSION IN LIGHTS - December 29, 4pm. See the sign-up.

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

LUNCH & LEARN - Sunday, January 11, 11:15am will be having an informational meeting given by The Alzheimer's Association, Meals on Wheels and the Dana Point Police Department. Donation for lunch. Please sign-up at the Welcome Table.

ART GATHERING on Wednesday, January 14 at 6:30pm in Bankson Hall. We continue our series on Still Life and resume our Working Artist Discussions.

WEEKLY CHOIR REHEARSALS resume January 15. Handbell Choir (6pm), Sanctuary Choir and Chorale (7:15pm). All choirs are open to new members for the Spring season. Email michellelum@mygloriadei.org to join a choir.

NEW G.I.F.T. GROUP (Growing in Faith Together) (50+), Madelyn and Jim Jansma's home. Studying Romans, meeting 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm. Dessert served. First meeting - Jan. 20. Sign-up at the Welcome Table.

MUSEUM TRIP to the Broad and MOCA on January 30 from 9am-3:30pm. Sign up to join us for a ride up. Details at the welcome table.

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.

KERYGMA BIBLE OVERVIEW led by Pastor David, Thursdays, 6:30pm beginning January 15. Thirty lessons covering both the Old and New Testament. Questions - pastordavid@mygloriadei.org.

MIRABELL TRIO BENEFIT CONCERT - In partnership with Music for Food, violinist Julie Ayer, cellist Martha Lippi, and pianist Dr. Karen Follingstad are performing a benefit concert on February 15, 5pm. All donations collected go to FAM.

MEN'S SPRING TRAINING RETREAT (March 6-8, 2026): See a couple baseball games, great friendship time. This is a very popular event and is "first come, first served." Sign-up begins January 4.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY - Weekly Wednesday study (10am) led by the Pastor David or Deacon Daneen starts up again on January 7. All women are welcome. Knudson Hall.

PRAYERS? - Meet with a prayer partner at the Candle Station before or after services.

THANKS TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS FOR DONATING POINSETTIAS!

John & Susan Adams
Kathi Anderson
Christa Bartha
Susan Behnke
James & Yvonne Bell

Barb Collins

Lisa & Kristopher Cowen
Jan Cox
Linda Curie
Kathy Evans
Brenda Gaumer
Frank & Julie Hettman
Laurene Holmes-Hylton
Rebecca Horner
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Gene Rathbun
The Ross Family
Donna Sandidge
Bob Schultz

Dianne Scott
Jim & Ann St. Martin
Karen Ungerman
Cindy & John Valentin
David & Susan Warneke
Jon & Jane Zeiger

In memory of Big John & Marjorie Adams
In memory of Cliff Anderson & Matthew Court
In memory of Andreas Bartha
In memory of Fred Voss
In memory of the Bell Family and the Welcher Family
In celebration of our grandchildren, Zoey & Sebastian
In celebration of Christmas
In celebration of my granddaughter, Palmer
In memory of John Curie
In memory of Jack Evans
In memory of my sister, Jan
In celebration of all our blessings
In celebration of Gia, Henry & Eric
In celebration of the beautiful season
In memory and celebration of Ron Heuer, all family and Carla
In memory of Joyce Knuf
In memory of our parents
In celebration of the hope that Christmas brings
In honor of Rachel Herbener Larson
In memory of Reverend Karl & Mrs. Herbener
In memory of Grandma & Great-Grandma
In memory of Ray & Marie Cunningham & Walt & Ann Masciorini
In celebration of our grandchildren
In memory of my son & wife
In memory of Bruce & Shirley McNaughton, Sandra Burns & Norm Clifford
In honor of Jack & Carolyn Scott & Jack Scott Jr.
In honor of our children & grandchildren
In memory of my husband & my parents & in celebration of my granddaughter
In memory of Donna Bardswich & Gladys Nelson
In memory of Dad, Richard Kolesar
In memory of Annie Rathbun
In honor of the birth of Jesus
In memory of my dad, Don Wilson
In memory of Don & Ruth Schultz and William Schultz
In memory of John & Margaret Vislocky
In honor of Christ the King
In memory of Edward Ungerman
In memory of our beautiful parents
In honor of the Sacrifice
In memory of Lois & Helen Zeiger & Scotty & Josephine Owen