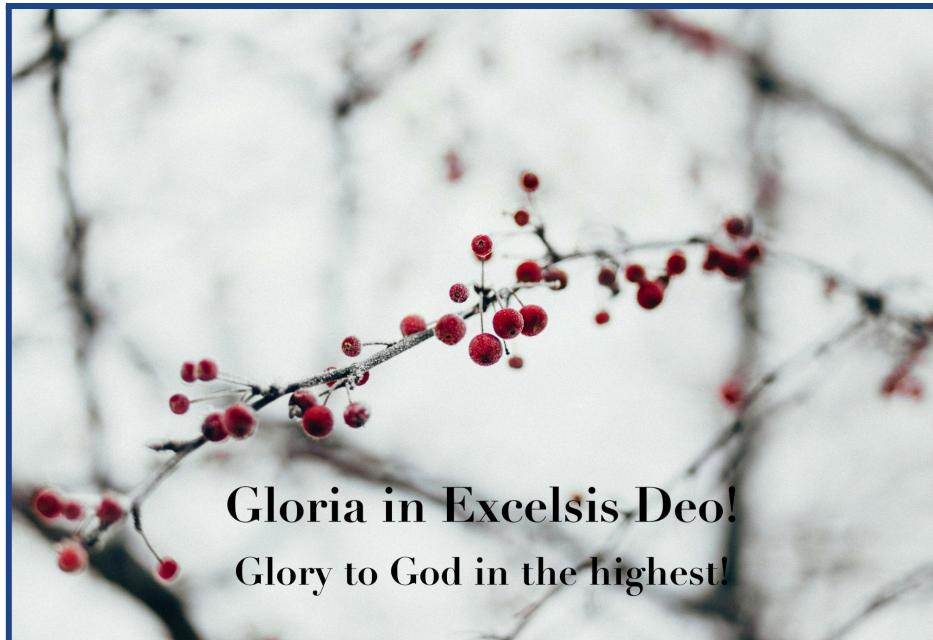




GLORIA DEI LUTHERAN CHURCH

Grace changes everything!

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THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 28, 2025
(8:30am, 10am, 5:00pm)

WELCOME TO WORSHIP! A blessed Christmas Season to you! We celebrate the birth of hope, compassion, and peace in the world, Jesus Christ! As the year of our Lord 2025 comes to an end and we approach a New Year, we thank God for His sustaining and guiding presence.

THE PRELUDE: *O Come All Ye Faithful* arr. Dan Forrest

Nathan Wilson & Micaela Lum (8:30am/10am)

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP

(People read **bold** words.)

Praise to the Christ, the newborn Prince of Peace!

We welcome to our world, the Light of all. We are no longer afraid.

Praise to the God who has come to us in the flesh, Jesus Christ!

We welcome to our world, the Light of all. We are no longer afraid.

Praise to the Spirit who calls us together to serve in His name!

We welcome to our world, the Light of all. We are no longer afraid.

Praise to the eternal God, who was, who is, and who is to come!

We welcome to our world, the Light of all. We are no longer afraid. Amen!

(The Christ Candle is lit during the hymn.)

THE GATHERING HYMN: *The First Noel*

#300 vv. 1-3

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.**

They looked up and saw a star

**shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light,
and so it continued both day and night. (Refrain)**

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)**

(The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**)

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

**God of our Christmas joy, break forth, O beauteous heavenly Light and
illumine our way to the paths You would have us tread; through the same
Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, one God, now and
forever. Amen.**

THE FIRST READING: *Isaiah 63:7-9*

I will recount the gracious deeds of the Lord, the praiseworthy acts of the Lord, because of all that the Lord has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to

the abundance of his steadfast love. For he said, "Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully, and he became their savior in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old. (Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**)

PSALM 148 (Read responsively)

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise him in the heights!
Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host!

Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!

Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the Lord, for he commanded and they were created.

He established them forever and ever; he fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.

Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,
fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and women alike, old and young together!

Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to him. Praise the Lord!

THE SECOND READING: Hebrew 2:10-18

It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters, in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." And again, "I will put my trust in him." And again, "Here am I and the children whom God has given me." Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might

become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested. (Word of God, Word of Life. **Thanks be to God.**)

(Please stand.)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Of the Father's Love Begotten*

#295 vv. 1

**Of the Father's love begotten ere the worlds began to be
he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,
of the things that are, that have been,
and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore.**

(The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the 2nd chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**)

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 2:13-23

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: "A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more." When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazarene." (The Gospel of our Lord. Praise to you, O Christ!)

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Preschool Director Shelli Parajeckas

THE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN OF THE DAY: *Away in a Manger*

#277

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

The cattle are lowing; the baby wakes,
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
and fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

THE MESSAGE:

Deacon Daneen Pysz

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY MUSIC: *Three Festive Carols* arr. Hayes & Gaspard
Nathan Wilson, Micaela Lum

OFFERTORY RESPONSE: Good Christian Friends Rejoice

#288

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gracious God,

Humbly we offer our gifts in joyful thanksgiving, in celebration of Your
Son's birth. May they be used to extend Your compassion to the entire
world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (After each prayer: Hear us O God. **Your mercy is great.**)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION FOR THE SACRAMENT

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your
will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive
us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time
of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

THE INVITATION TO THE TABLE

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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Good Christian Friends Rejoice

#288

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heav-en's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

#272

Lo, how a rose e'er bloom-ing from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming as seers of old have sung,
it came, a flow'r so bright, a-mid the cold of winter,
when half-spent was the night.

I-sai-ah 'twas fore-told it, the rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.
To show God's love a-right, she bore to us a Sav-ior,
when half-spent was the night.

This flow'r, whose fra-grance ten-der with sweet-ness fills the air,
dis-pels the glo-rious splen-dor the dark-ness ev'-ry where.
True man, yet ver-y God, from sin and death he saves us
and lightens ev'-ry load.

O Sav-ior, child of Mar-y, who felt our human woe;
O Sav-ior, king of glo-ry, who dost our weak-ness know:
bring us at length we pray to the bright courts of heav-en,
and to the end-less day.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSINGS

THE BLESSING FOR 2026

THE SENDING HYMN: Joy to the World

#267

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.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.**

Sending Words: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

THE POSTLUDE:

Micaela Lum, Organist/Pianist

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALTAR FLOWERS are provided by Ann and Jim St. Martin in celebration of their wedding anniversary.

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.

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 Alzheimer's of Orange County, 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.

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

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.

THANKS TO OUR WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY!

8:30am: Acolyte: Annabel Greer; Coffee Prep: Martyn & Vanessa Frost; Communion: Lisa & David Zylstra; Lector: David Zylstra; Ushers: Diane Kelly & John Gustavson; Welcome Table: Brenda & Bob Gaumer **10am:** Acolyte: Ansley Ramsaur; Coffee Clean-up: Ann & Jin St. Martin; Communion: Peggy Johnson & Melody Lieber; Lector: Jim St. Martin; Ushers: David & Susan Warneke; Welcome Table: Diane Scott **5pm** - Reader: Lorraine McCarty

OPPORTUNITIES FOR DECEMBER 28- January 3, 2026

Today: Worship (8:30am & 10am); Nursery (8:30am & 10am); (5pm) **Monday:** South Coast Literacy (10am); Prime Time Seniors (4pm); Al Anon (5:30pm); Alateen (5:30pm); AA Coed (7pm) **Tuesday:** AA Men (7am); Al Anon (7pm) **Wednesday:** NEW YEARS EVE; AA Men (7am); Mission Hospital AA (6pm); 12 Step Couples (7:30pm) **Thursday:** NEW YEARS DAY; AA Men (7am); AA Women (9:30am); Seniors and Friends AA (1pm); Al Anon (5:30pm); AA Meeting (7pm) **Friday:** Al Anon (10am); Laundry Love (2pm); 12 Step Meeting Men (6:30) **Saturday:** AA Men (7am); Prayer Shawl Meeting (9am); ACA Group (11:30am); Ukrainian School (1:30pm); Ukrainian Mass (2pm)

MARK YOUR CALENDARS:

❖ Aloha Luncheon/Annual Meeting (February 1, 2026, 11am) ❖ Women's Winter Bunco (February 6, 2026, 6pm) ❖ Mirabell Trio Benefit Concert (February 15, 2026, 5pm) ❖ 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 Parajeckas (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