

Calvary by the Sea Lutheran Church

"Sharing the Blessing of God's Grace with Aloha"

5339 Kalaniana'ole Hwy. ● Honolulu, HI 96821 ● 808.377.5477 ● www.CalvarybytheSea.org

4th Sunday of Advent

December 3, 2017 10:00 am

God calls us to be a welcoming people! Welcome to people new to faith, to Christians of every flavor, and to long time Lutherans. Welcome to all with no church home, who need strength, want to follow, have doubts, or do not believe. Welcome to new guests and old friends. Welcome to people of every age and size, color and culture, ability and gift, to gay and straight, to old and young, to believers and questioners, and questioning believers. This is a place where we live past the labels, where we are welcome to celebrate and grieve, rejoice and recover. This is a place where our lives are made new. Welcome to worship God on this day!

An Advent Explanation

The Western Church Year is structured around the two great celebrations of the Christian Church—**Easter** and **Christmas**. Easter, based on the Jewish Passover, is determined by the phase of the moon. It is a "moveable" date. Christmas, on the other hand, is a fixed date determined in the 4^{th} century to coincide with the pagan observance of the winter solstice, which at that time fell on December 25.

In the early church there was much diversity in regard to rites and calendars. Local churches were not always in sync with one another. Even today there is not uniformity in the observances of the Church Year, especially between the Western Church and the Eastern Church.

In 2006 **The Advent Project** (theadventproject.org) began as a continuing seminar of the North American Academy of Liturgy. This ecumenical project proposes to expand the observance of Advent from 4 Sundays to 7 Sundays in order to reclaim Advent "as the time of preparation for the coming of Christ at the end of time even as we welcome his appearance in our weekly assembly and in the world to which we are sent." This expansion of Advent to 7 Sundays is an attempt to enable the Church to focus once again on the **full manifestation of the reign of God**.

The Advent Project does not change any of the assigned readings in the Revised Common Lectionary. The majority of the readings in November already have an end-time focus. The final three Sundays of the 2017 Church Year (12, 19, 26 November) are simply given an Advent overlay.

This proposal has great attractiveness for us at Calvary by the Sea Lutheran because our current Advent Worship observances are curtailed by the Honolulu Marathon and by PAC Sunday. Thus, in expanding Advent to 7 Sundays we are able as a community of faith to explore more fully and completely what it means to "long for the Lord's coming."

This is the third season that Calvary joins **The Advent Project** as we all strive to follow Jesus more closely both as a community of faith and as individual disciples.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Stir up your power, and come! The psalmist's plea in Psalm 80:2 has become familiar to us in the Advent prayers. Isaiah wants God to rip the heavens open. Both cry out for an apparently distant, angry God to show up, to save, to restore. When we hear Jesus describing the coming of the Son of Man with stars falling from heaven, it can sound dire and horrible, not like anything we would ever hope for. But when we really look at the suffering of people God loves, we can share the hope that God would tear open the heavens and come.

SOUNDING OF THE PU

Please gather as the sounding of the conch shell calls us to worship.

GATHERING, Ina

"Veni Emmanuel"

RINGING OF THE BELL

During the *Ringing of the Bell* please center your thoughts on *Makua*–God the Creator, *Keiki Kane*–Jesus Christ our Redeemer, and 'Uhane Hemolele–the Holy Spirit our Comforter.

GREETING, Kahu Tim

KAHU: The days are surely coming, says our God, when I will bring my

promised salvation to the world.

ALL: Amen! Come Lord Jesus!

KAHU: The days are surely coming, says our God, when justice and mercy

will be executed throughout the land.

ALL: Amen! Come Lord Jesus!

KAHU: The days are surely coming, says our God, when my promised

One will teach transgressors my ways, and heal the world with love and mercy.

ALL: Amen! Come Lord Jesus!

KAHU: The grace of Jesus Christ,

the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

ALL: And also with you.

CONFESSION OF SIN, Kahu Tim

KAHU: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,

who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

ALL: Amen.

KAHU: Let us prepare the way of the Lord

by confessing our sin against God and neighbor.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful Creator,

ALL: we have made ourselves gods.

We claim what is not ours,

neglect what you have given,

and think ourselves smarter and better than others.

Forgive us for rejecting you.

In your mercy, teach us to forgive ourselves and others, accept our humanity,

and serve you in newness of life.

May we receive the gift of your presence this Advent season through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen! Come, Lord Jesus!

ASSURANCE OF PARDON standing

KAHU: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. In + Jesus Christ

your sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this

good news!

ALL: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY standing

ALL: Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GATHERING HYMN 257 *standing* "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

In the medieval Western church—from the time of Charlemagne in the eighth century or earlier, seven "O antiphons," (sentences beginning with 'O'), became the basis for this hymn we sing today (O Emmanuel; O Wisdom; O Lord of might; O Branch of Jesse; O Key of David; O Dayspring; O King of nations). These seven verses were sung consecutively on the seven days before Christmas. This hymn is the quintessential Advent hymn.

KEIKI SERMON, Kahu Tim

Lighting of Advent Candle 4

Following the Keiki Sermon the children, ages 3-12, are dismissed to attend Sunday School.

GREETING OF GUESTS AND SHARING OF ALOHA seated

KAHU: May God's aloha be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

WE HEAR THE WORD

CALL TO SCRIPTURE, Calvary Choir, flute

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, And with fear and trembling stand. Ponder nothing earthly minded, For with blessing in his hand.

Christ our God to earth descending, Come our homage to demand. King of kings, yet born of Mary, As of old on earth he stood.

Lord of lords in human vesture, In the body and the blood, He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the light of light descending from the realms of endless day,
Comes the powers of hell to vanquish,
As the darkness clears away.

—Liturgy of St. James

FIRST READING

Isaiah 64: 1–9

This lament comes from a people who have had their hopes shattered. The visions of a rebuilt Jerusalem and a renewed people of God, spoken of in Isaiah 40–55, have not been realized. Instead, the people experience ruin, conflict, and famine. This lament calls God to account—to be the God who has brought deliverance in the past.

ONE: ¹O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—

²as when fire kindles brushwood

and the fire causes water to boil—
to make your name known to your adversaries,
so that the nations might tremble at your presence!

³When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

⁴From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.

⁵You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed.

⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

⁷There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity.

⁸Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

⁹Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

PSALM sung responsively

¹Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph | like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned up- | on the cherubim.

Psalm 80: 1–7, 17–19

²In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

³Restore | us, O God;

let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

⁴O LORD | God of hosts.

how long will your anger fume when your | people pray?

⁵You have fed them with the | bread of tears;

you have given them bowls of | tears to drink.

⁶You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

⁷Restore us, O God of hosts;

let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

¹⁷Let your hand be upon the one at 'your right hand, the one you have made so strong | for yourself.

¹⁸And so will we never turn a- way from you; give us life, that we may call up- on your name.

¹⁹Restore us, O LORD | God of hosts;

let your face shine upon us, and we | shall be saved.

SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 1: 3–9

As the Christians in Corinth await the advent of Jesus, Paul reminds them how the Lord has already enriched them through spiritual gifts and will continue to strengthen them until the coming day of the Lord.

ONE: ³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION standing

"Ka Mana'o 'I'o"



"Ka Mana'o 'I'o (Faithful, Faithful Is Our God)," by Joe Camacho, © 1999 Joe Camacho; arr. John L. Bell, © 2002 GIA.

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This is the chorus from a song composed by Joe Camacho as the theme song for the 1999 Big Island Liturgy and Arts Conference, also known as BILAC.

GOSPEL standing

Mark 13: 24-37

In today's reading, Jesus encourages his followers to look forward to the day when he returns in power and glory to end all suffering.

KAHU: [Jesus said:] ²⁴"In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. ²⁷Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Beware, keep alert; for

you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

KAHU: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON, Kahu Tim

"Cause Us to Remember"

SERMON HYMN 247 standing

"Come Now, O Prince of Peace"

This hymn was composed by Geonyong Lee for the opening worship service of the world conference for the peace and reunification of the Korean peninsula, held in Inchon, April 25, 1988.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH standing

"The Apostles' Creed"

ALL: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. 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 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH standing

KAHU: Guided by the light of Christ, let us pray for the coming dawn of joy, healing, and comfort for all God's people.

A brief silence.

Give light to your people, Lord.

ALL: As the darkness grows and we await the return of daylight, give new life to your church. Shape our communities to be faithful vessels of the gospel for the sake of the world. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. *Come*, *Lord Jesus*.

KAHU: Restore your creation, Lord.

ALL: You give the earth opportunities for both sleep and awakening. Thank you for the gift of rainy seasons so new life may grow according to your appointed time. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. *Come, Lord Jesus*.

KAHU: Bring peace to the nations, Lord.

ALL: Keep us alert to injustice and oppression, give us courage to cry out for what is right, and guide local and world leaders toward fairness and peace for all. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. *Come*, *Lord Jesus*.

KAHU: Stir up compassion in us for all who wait for you, Lord.

ALL: Be near to those whose lives are shaken, those who are experiencing loss, those who long for healing and wholeness, those who live with HIV and AIDS, and those who are in any kind of need. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. *Come*, *Lord Jesus*.

Kahu: We pray for child care workers, teachers, Sunday school leaders, and all who nurture and educate children.

ALL: We give you thanks for their diligence and devotion. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. *Come, Lord Jesus*.

W.H.A.L.E., a time of thanks for answered prayer and prayer requests.

Kahu: From ages past, your faithfulness has never failed. Shine your face

upon us and bring us into the company of all your saints in light.

ALL: Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer. Come, Lord Jesus.

KAHU: We raise our prayers to you, O God, in the name of the one who is,

who was, and who is to come, Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

Anyone desiring individual prayer and intercessions please contact Kahu Tim or members of the Stephen Ministry team at the conclusion of the worship service.

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS, Ina

"Glory be to the Lord"

DOXOLOGY standing

"Ho'onani i ka Makua Mau"

Ho'onani i ka Makua mau. Ke keiki me ka 'Uhane nō. Ke Akua mau ho'omaika'i pū. Kō kēia ao kō kēlā ao. Amene.

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER standing

KAHU: 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. **Amen.**

WE ARE FED

GREAT THANKSGIVING standing

KAHU: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you. KAHU: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them to the Lord.

KAHU: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

SANCTUS standing

The **Sanctus** and **Words of Institution** are sung following, "...we praise your name and join their unending hymn."



THE LORD'S PRAYER (traditional)

ALL: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in

heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION, Calvary Bells

"Behold a Branch Is Growing"

At Calvary by the Sea all those who have a relationship with Jesus Christ and those who are seeking such a relationship are invited to experience the real presence of Christ in the sacrament of Holy Communion. You are invited to follow the direction of the Kahu and come forward to encircle the altar area. There are kneelers for those who prefer to kneel. Dip the bread in either the red wine or the white grape juice and then eat the element.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION seated

KAHU: God for whom we wait, you come to us in the broken bread and

the cup we share. Make us ready always to welcome Christ into our hearts, and send us forth to be your people in the world, announcing your coming among us in Jesus Christ our Lord.

ALL: Amen.

WE ARE SENT

SENDING HYMN 260 standing

"The King Shall Come"

This text, by John Brownlie (1859-1925) from Glasgow, Scotland, was first published in 1907 in a collection of hymns from the Eastern Church suggested for use in the Free Church of Scotland. The text embodies the early church's sense of Christ as light and victor.

BENEDICTION AND SENDING, Kahu Tim

KAHU: May Christ, the Sun of righteousness,

shine upon you and

scatter the darkness from before your path.

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,

bless you now and forever.

ALL: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

KAHU: Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and

supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,

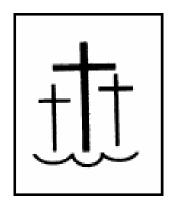
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOING FORTH, Ina

"See Amid the Winter's Snow"



INTERCESSIONS FOR HEALING

Individual and private *Intercessions for Healing* will be offered today following the morning worship by members of the Stephen Ministry. Please go to the back of the sanctuary following the *Benediction* for anointing and intercessory prayers for healing. Calvary by the Sea, in its ministry of healing, does not replace the gifts of God that come through the scientific community nor does it promise a cure. Rather Calvary by the Sea offers and celebrates gifts such as these: God's presence with strength and comfort in time of suffering, God's promise of wholeness and peace, and God's love embodied in this community of faith.

Today, December 3, 2017

MINISTERS: All Members of Calvary by the Sea

KAHU: Tim Mason

WORSHIP AND THE ARTS: Tom Poole **ORGANIST AND PIANIST:** Ina Young

MUSIC: Calvary Choir; Calvary Bell Choir; Jennifer Welch, flute

INSTRUMENTALISTS: Marc Adelberger, Edwin Ahlers, Charlie Holdaway, Chris

Jansen, Bruce Kau, Amie Lawyer, Jon Osorio, Tim Sprowls

READER, USHERS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS AND ALTAR CARE: All Tribes Worship Production Support: Fletcher Young, Erin Day, Kanoa Pick

SERVICE MUSIC: "Veni Emmanuel," arr. Martha Sobaje, © 2012 Wayne Leupold Editions; "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence," arr. Doug Denisen, © 2006 Kjos Music Press; "Ka Mana'o 'I'o (Faithful, Faithful Is Our God)," by Joe Camacho, © 1999 Joe Camacho; arr. John Bell, © 2002 GIA Publications; "Glory be to the Lord," arr. Godwin Sadoh, © 2005 Wayne Leupold Editions; "Behold a Branch is Growing (Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming)," arr. Patricia Kickland, © 2017 Patricia Kickland; "See Amid the Winter's Snow," arr. Dennis Johnson, © 2012 Wayne Leupold Editions. All music used by permission (One.License.net A-714410).

SERVICES AND EVENTS @ CALVARY

Saturday, December 9—Advent 5 Saturday Service Held in 'Ohana Lani, 6:30 pm

Preaching, Kahu Tim Music, Tom

REMINDER

Sunday, December 10 is Marathon Sunday NO Morning Worship Services

Evening Worship at 6 pm
Featuring Christmas scenes and music by PAC