



Calvary by the Sea Lutheran Church

“Sharing the Blessing of God’s Grace with Aloha”

5339 Kalanianaʻole Hwy. • Honolulu, HI 96821 • 808.377.5477 • www.CalvarybytheSea.org

6th Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2016

7:00 pm

October 31, 2017, marks the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther posting his *Ninety-Five Theses* on the church door in Wittenberg, Germany—an act that sparked the Lutheran Reformation. Rather than restricting the observance of this anniversary year to the *calendar year*, Calvary by the Sea Lutheran has chosen instead to follow the *Liturgical Year*. Welcome to this *Lutheran Year*—the 500th anniversary of The Reformation!

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 4th 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 2016 Church Year (6, 13, 20 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 second 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

A note of joyful expectation marks tonight's worship. Isaiah announces that the desert shall rejoice and blossom. Jesus points to signs of God's reign: the blind see, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear. We wait with patience for the coming of the Lord, even as we rejoice at his presence among us: in word and holy supper, in song and dance, in church and in our homes, in silent reflection and in works of justice and love. We pray that God would open our eyes and ears to the wonders of Christ's advent among us.

SOUNDING OF THE PŪ

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

GATHERING, *Calvary Bells* “Advent Medley: *O Come...Emmanuel, The King Shall Come, and Good King Wenceslaus*”

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: How long, O God, must we endure our brokenness?

ALL: Come, Lord Jesus, and make us whole!

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.

GATHERING HYMN 257 *standing* “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

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.

God of all time,

**ALL: you know us through and through—better than we know
ourselves. You claim us as your own. Yet we doubt you and
question your grace.**

We cling to our own abilities, and trust in our own skills.

We think we know better for our lives than you.

**We rely on our own achievements and elevate
personal desires to universal importance.**

We put ourselves above your command to love and serve.

**Remake us into your people. Rebuild what sin has broken,
that we and the whole creation may rejoice living in your
peace. Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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 the wills of all who look to you, Lord God,
and strengthen our faith in your coming, that,
transformed by grace, we may walk in your way;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives
and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. Amen.**

GREETING OF GUESTS *and* **SHARING OF ALOHA** *standing*

KAHU: May God's aloha be with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

WE HEAR THE WORD

CALL TO SCRIPTURE, *Calvary Choir*

“The Lord Has Done
Great Things”

The Lord has done great things for us, we are filled with gladness and joy.

When God set the captives of Zion free, we were more like children in a dream.
Then you could hear our laughter and cheers; then you could hear our shouts of joy.

They said in amazement to the world. "Indeed, God has done great things for them."

Truly our God has done great things, and so we are glad, we shout for joy.

Restore all our fortunes, God of love, like rivers that save the desert lands.

Those who have gone to sow in tears shall go back to reap with songs of joy.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 35: 1–10

The prophet describes the return from the Babylonian captivity as a joyous procession to Zion. God's coming reign will bring a renewal of creation in which health and wholeness will be restored. There is no need for fear, for God is coming to save.

ONE: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God. ³Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." ⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. ⁹No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

PSALM 33 *standing*

“Rain Down”

REFRAIN




Rain down, rain down, rain down your love on your peo - ple.




Rain down, rain down, rain down your love, God of life. _____

VERSE



1. Faith - ful and true is the word of our God. All of God's
2. We who re - vere and find hope in our God; live in the
3. God of cre - a - tion, we long for your truth; you are the



works are so wor - thy of trust. God's mer - cy falls on the
kind - ness and joy of God's wing. God will pro - tect us from
wa - ter of life that we thirst. Grant that your love and your



just and the right; full of God's love is the earth.
dark - ness and death; God will not leave us to starve.
peace touch our hearts; all of our hope lies in you.

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SECOND READING

James 5: 7–10

In anticipation of the Lord's coming, Christians are called upon to cultivate patience rather than discontent.

ONE: ⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is

near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *standing*

“Rain Down”

REFRAIN



GOSPEL *standing, read responsively*

Matthew 11: 2–11

John the Baptist expects the Messiah to bring God's judgment upon the earth. From a prison cell, he wonders whether Jesus is the one who will do this.

KAHU: ²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him,

ALL: "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?"

KAHU: ⁴Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." ⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger

ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' ¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

KAHU: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

KEIKI SERMON, *Kahu Tim*

Lighting of Advent Candle 6

(There is no Sunday School tonight.)

SERMON, *Kahu Tim*

“My spirit sings of wondrous things!”

SERMON HYMN 723 *standing*

“Canticle of the Turning”

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *standing*

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: As we anticipate the fullness of the presence of Christ, we join with the church throughout the world, praying for all who are in need.

A brief silence.

For the church and all messengers of the gospel, for all who call upon the name of the Lord, and for congregations throughout the world, and especially for this congregation, the Calvary by the Sea Lutheran Church;

ALL: let us pray that God work through us to bring harmony and reconciliation. *Aloha ke Akua* (God is love; love is God).

KAHU: For rain forests and deserts, for oceans and reefs, for wilderness and developed land, for islands and continents, for plants blossoming and dormant, for animals active and hibernating, for birds and sea creatures migrating;

ALL: let us pray that the splendor and diversity of creation proclaim the glory of the Lord. *Aloha ke Akua.*

KAHU: For our government, for the military and international relief workers, and for those who care for the stranger, widow, and orphan;

ALL: let us pray that God raise up leaders who work for the protection of all. *Aloha ke Akua.*

KAHU: For the hungry and homeless, for those in captivity, for the fearful and sorrowful, for those living with HIV/AIDS, and for the sick;

ALL: let us pray that those who help others serve with patience and grace. *Aloha ke Akua.*

KAHU: For all who call this community home, for those visiting from near and far, and for those preparing for and those stressing over the holiday season;

ALL: let us pray that the advent of Christ make our hearts and minds rejoice. *Aloha ke Akua.*

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

KAHU: In thanksgiving for the departed who were faithful to God's word;
ALL: let us pray that their words and actions direct us to the one who prepares a way for us. Aloha ke Akua.

KAHU: Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, those spoken aloud and those known only to you, and grant us peace through Jesus Christ, our coming Savior.

ALL: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

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, *Calvary Choir* “Goin’ to Bethlehem”

***Goin’ to Bethlehem, see that baby,
Goin’ to Bethlehem, see that child (gonna take a while).***

*Look over yonder and see the wise men, on a journey they travel a far.
Look over yonder and see the wise men, led to Bethlehem by a star.*

*Look over yonder and see the shepherds watching over their flocks by night.
Look over yonder and see the shepherds, by the light of a star so bright.*

*I’m gonna sing heavenly melodies when I see that child.
I’m gonna shout hallelujah when I see that child.*

*Look over yonder and see the angels; from the heavens they come to earth.
Look over yonder and see the angels, singing praise of a baby’s birth.*

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.

ALL: Amen.

WE ARE FED

HOLY COMMUNION HYMN *standing* “What Bread of Life” (Sung to VENI, EMMANUEL, “O Come...Emmanuel”)

*What bread of life is offered here? What wine of love is given now?
It is Christ's body and his blood, the sweetest gift of heav'n come down!*

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Take heart and do not fear,
God's chosen one, Immanuel, draws near.*

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.

KAHU: In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus Christ took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples saying: “Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.” In a similar manner, after supper, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all to drink, saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.”

THE LORD'S PRAYER *singing*

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil:
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

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 *standing*

“Choose to Hope”



Hope is born when we choose to be-lieve that love is strong-er than ha-tred;
Hope will grow when we choose to be-lieve that we are sis-ters and bro-thers;
Hope will shine when we choose to be-lieve a lit-tle child___ will lead us;



Love is born when our hearts learn to see that ev-'ry per-son is sa-cred.
Love will grow when our hearts learn to see the life we share with each oth-er.
Love will shine when our hearts learn to see that God is dwell-ing with-in us.



In the times of dark-ness, in times of fear,
In the times of dark-ness, in times of fear,
In the times of dark-ness, in times of fear,



choose to hope, choose to___ love, and know that God is near.
choose to hope, choose to___ love, and know that God is near.
choose to hope, choose to___ love, Em-man-u-el is near.

Marty Haugen composed this Advent 2016 song-hymn for his home church, The Mayflower Community Congregational Church (UCC) in Minneapolis, MN. He is sharing this song with the world as an advent gift.

BENEDICTION AND SENDING, *Kahu Tim, Sacred Moves with
Kailee Brandt, soprano*

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.

SACRED MOVES:

“God Bless Us Everyone”

Let the stars in the sky remind us of man’s compassion.
Let us love ‘til we die, and *God bless us, ev’ry one.*

In your heart there’s a light as bright as a star in heaven.
Let it shine through the night, and *God bless us, ev’ry one.*

‘Til each child is fed, ‘til all men are free, ‘til the world becomes a family,
Star by star up above and kindness by human kindness,
Light this world with your love, and *God bless us ev’ry one.*

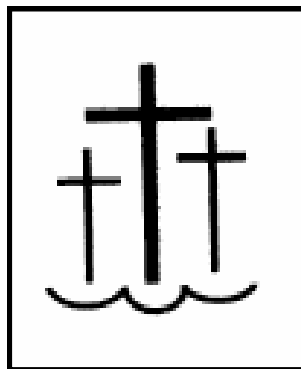
God bless us, ev’ry one.

KAHU: Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOING FORTH, *Ina*

“Love Came Down at Christmas”



Tonight, December 11, 2016

MINISTERS: All Members of Calvary by the Sea

KAHU: Tim Mason

WORSHIP AND THE ARTS: Tom Poole

ORGANIST AND PIANIST: Ina Young

MUSIC: Calvary Handbell Choir; Calvary Choir; Kailee Brandt, *soprano*

DANCERS: Sacred Moves, Lisa Kimsey, *director*

INSTRUMENTALISTS: Marc Adelberger, Edwin Ahlers, Charlie Holdaway, Chris Jansen, Bruce Kau, Amie Lawyer, Jon Osorio, Tim Sprowls

READER, USHERS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS, ALTAR CARE, SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP:
All Tribes—Renee Ako, Bonnie Beneke, Jim Holatz, Rosemary Holatz, Pulelehua Quirk, Laura Sprowls

WORSHIP PRODUCTION SUPPORT: Fletcher Young, Erin Day

SERVICE MUSIC: “Advent Medley: *O Come, Emmanuel; The King Shall Come; Good King Wencelaus*,” arr. John Behnke, © 2009 American Guild of English Handbell Ringers; “The Lord Has Done Great Things,” by Jaime Cortez, keyboard accompaniment by Jeffrey Honoré, © 1995 Jaime Cortez, published by OCP; “Rain Down,” by Jaime Cortez, © 1991 Jaime Cortez; published by OCP; “Goin’ to Bethlehem,” by Jay Althouse, © 2000 Alfred Publishing; “What Bread of Life,” text by Tom Poole and Barbara Lundblad, tune VENI EMMANUEL; “The Lord’s Prayer,” by Alfred Hay Malotte, arr. Donald P. Hustad, © 1935 (renewed) G. Schirmer; this arr. © 1985 G. Schirmer; “Choose to Hope,” by Marty Haugen, © 2016 Marty Haugen; “God Bless Us Everyone,” (from *A Christmas Carol*) by Alan Menken and Lynn Ahrens, © 1994 Trunksong Music; Menken Music; Madison Square Garden Productions; “Love Came Down at Christmas,” arr. Murray C. Bradshaw, © 2014 Wayne Leupold Editions. All music used by permission (One.License.net A-714410).

WORSHIP SERVICES AHEAD

Friday, December 16—Blue Christmas

7 pm, Calvary Sanctuary

A Service for All Burdened by Holidays

Preaching, Kahu Tim

Music, Nackil Sung, Martha Staff, Monika Day

Sunday, December 18—PAC Sunday

Performing Arts @ Calvary offers their Christmas Musical

“The First Leon”

at both morning services