



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

7th Sunday of Advent

December 24, 2017

7:30 and 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 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 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

God keeps the promise made to David, to give him an everlasting throne. The angel tells Mary that God will give David's throne to her son Jesus. She is perplexed by Gabriel's greeting and by the news of her coming pregnancy, but she is able still to say, "Count me in." We who know that Jesus is called king only as he is executed still find it a mystery hard to fathom, but with Mary today we hear the news of what God is up to and say, "Count us in."

SOUNDING OF THE PŪ

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

GATHERING, *Tom*

“Silence”

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.

**ALL: Most merciful Creator,
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. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, 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” **and LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE 7**

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.*

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

FIRST READING

2 Samuel 7: 1–11, 16

Instead of David building a house (temple) for the Lord, the Lord promises to establish David's house (dynasty) forever. Centuries later, after the Babylonian exile, no king sat on the throne. Even then, however, the people of Israel remembered this promise and continued to hope for a king, the messiah, the Lord's anointed.

ONE: ¹Now when David the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." ³Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." ⁴But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ⁸Now

therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. ¹⁶Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

PSALM *sung responsively*

Luke 1: 46b–55

- ^{46b}My soul proclaims the greatness | of the Lord,
⁴⁷**my spirit rejoices in | God my Savior,**
- ⁴⁸for you, Lord, have looked with favor on your | lowly servant.
From this day all generations will | call me blessed;
- ⁴⁹you, the Almighty, have done great | things for me,
and holy | is your name.
- ⁵⁰You have mercy on | those who fear you,
from generation to | generation.
- ⁵¹You have shown strength | with your arm;
and scattered the proud in | their conceit,
- ⁵²casting down the mighty | from their thrones
and lifting | up the lowly.
- ⁵³You have filled the hungry | with good things,
and sent the rich | away empty.
- ⁵⁴You have come to the aid of your | servant Israel,
to remember the prom- | ise of mercy,

⁵⁵the promise made¹ to our forebears,
to Abraham and his chil-¹ dren forever.

SECOND READING

Romans 16: 25–27

Paul closes his letter to the Romans by praising God because in the proclamation of the gospel of Jesus Christ God has revealed the promised, divine plan of salvation for all humanity. Paul proclaims this gospel of Christ in order to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations.

ONE: ²⁵Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages
²⁶but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—²⁷to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *standing*

“Ka Mana‘o ‘I‘o”



Ka ma-na - ‘o - ‘i - ‘o, o ko kā-kou A - ku - a, Faith - ful, faith-ful is our God.



Ka ma-na - ‘o - ‘i - ‘o, o ko kā-kou A - ku - a, Faith - ful, faith-ful is our God.

“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.

In this annunciation, Luke makes clear that God comes with good news for ordinary people (Mary) from little known places (Nazareth). This king will not be born to royalty in a palace, but to common folk in a stall. Here Luke highlights the role of the Spirit, a special emphasis in his gospel.

KAHU: ²⁶In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸And he came to her and said,

MEN: **"Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you."**

KAHU: ²⁹But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰The angel said to her,

MEN: **"Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³²He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."**

KAHU: ³⁴Mary said to the angel,

WOMEN: **"How can this be, since I am a virgin?"**

KAHU: ³⁵The angel said to her,

MEN: **"The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷For nothing will be impossible with God."**

KAHU: ³⁸Then Mary said,

WOMEN: **"Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word."**

Kahu: Then the angel departed from her.

KAHU: The Gospel of the Lord.

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON, *Kahu Tim* “**FIRST, Faithfulness; THEN...Wait a Minute!**”

SERMON HYMN 263 *standing* “Savior of the Nations, Come”

This hymn, written in Latin, can be attributed to Ambrose of Milan (340-397). Martin Luther translated it into German, probably for Advent in 1523. Luther not only wrote hymns, but also wrote and adapted hymn tunes. We began our “Reformation 500” observance last Advent with this hymn. It is fitting that we use this same hymn to conclude Calvary’s observance of this “Reformation 500” year.

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.

Your eternal reign has come into the world.

ALL: Give us ears to hear your call to serve your kingdom, and send us out to those who are hurting and in need of good news. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Come, Lord Jesus.

KAHU: *You created the mystery and beauty of the earth.*

ALL: Replenish rivers, lakes, seas, and all bodies of water, so that plants, animals, and humans can have life and be refreshed. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Come, Lord Jesus.

KAHU: *You bring down the powerful and raise up the lowly.*

ALL: Where war rages, shatter hatred with forgiveness and peace. Where fear rules, make your all-powerful and eternal presence known. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Come, Lord Jesus.

KAHU: *You remember us with mercy, Lord, as you have done for all generations.*

ALL: Fill us, comfort us, strengthen us, and enlighten us. Make your will known to all in need. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Come, Lord Jesus.

KAHU: *You called Mary to bear your Son.*

ALL: We pray for pregnant women, for mothers and fathers of infants and small children, and especially for couples who bear the pain of infertility, miscarriage, or stillbirth. 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: *Your kingdom has no end.*

ALL: **With your servants throughout time, women and men, old and young, unite us forever in your reign of peace and joy. 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, *Tom*

“Remembrance”

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

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.”



Let all mor-tal flesh keep si-lence And with fear and trem-bling stand;
In the night his friends be-trayed him Je-sus took the bread of life.
King of kings yet born of Ma-ry, as of old on earth he stood.
Then he took the cup of bless-ing, thanked the Lord for this sweet wine.
At his feet the six-winged se-raph, che-ru-bim with sleep-less eye,



Pon-der no-thing earth-ly mind-ed, For with bless-ing in his hand
Blessed and broke it for all peo-ple giv-en to end hu-man strife.
Lord of lords in hu-man ves-ture, in the bo-dy and the blood.
Gave it to be-wil-dered foll'-wers; Sac-ra-ment of peace di-vine.
Veil their fa-ces to the pres-ence As with cease-less voice they cry:



Christ our God to earth de-scend-ing Comes our hom-age to de-mand.
Take and eat this is my bo-dy. Do this to re-mem-ber me.
He will give to all the faith-ful his own self for heav'n-ly food.
Take and drink this cup, my love out-poured. Do this to re-mem-ber me.
“Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia, Lord Most High!”

*This setting of the **Sanctus** and **Words of Institution** comes from the 2015 Professional Leaders Conference sponsored jointly by the Pacifica Synod and the Southwest Synod.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(contemporary)*

ALL: **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.**

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 254 *standing* “Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”
(Sung to HYFRYDOL, “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”)

Charles Wesley, the brother of John, was one of the students known as “Methodists” at Oxford University. He wrote hymns (over nine thousand) for every occasion. This is from his small collection Hymns for the Nativity (1745).

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!

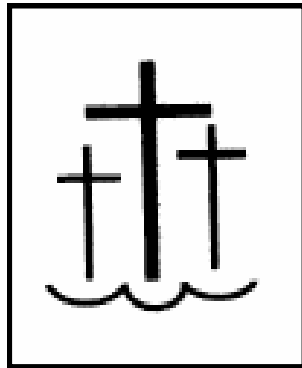
KAHU: *Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.*

Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOING FORTH, *Tom*

“Comfort”



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 24, 2017

MINISTERS: All Members of Calvary by the Sea

KAHU: Tim Mason

WORSHIP AND THE ARTS: Tom Poole

ORGANIST AND PIANIST: Ina Young

READER, USHERS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS AND ALTAR CARE: All Tribes

WORSHIP PRODUCTION SUPPORT: Fletcher Young, Erin Day, Kanoa Pick

SERVICE MUSIC: “Silence,” PICARDY, French Carol, arr. Christ de Silva, © 2016 GIA Publications; “Ka Mana’o ‘I’o (Faithful, Faithful Is Our God),” by Joe Camacho, © 1999 Joe Camacho; arr. John Bell, © 2002 GIA Publications; “Remembrance,” by Chris de Silva, © 2016 GIA Publications; “Comfort,” GENEVA 42, *Genevan Psalter*, 1551, arr. Chris de Silva, © 2016 GIA Publications. All music used by permission (One.License.net A-714410).

CHRISTMASTIDE SERVICES AND EVENTS @ CALVARY

Christmas Eve Services

Pageant and Holy Communion, 5:30 pm

“Midnight” Candlelight and Holy Communion, 10 pm

Christmas Morning, 10 am

Preaching, Kahu Tim

Music, Don Conover, Ernest Harada, and Shari Lynn

Saturday, December 30—Advent 7

Saturday Service Held in 'Ohana Lani, 6:30 pm

Preaching, Kahu Tim

Music, Tom

Sunday, December 31—1st Sunday after Christmas

Preaching, Kahu Tim

*Music, Calvary Choir, "And the Glory of the Lord," and
"Hallelujah Chorus" from Messiah*

Saturday, January 6—Epiphany

Saturday Service Held in 'Ohana Lani, 6:30 pm

Music, The Holden Evening Prayer

Sunday, January 7—The Baptism of Christ

Preaching, Kahu Tim

*Music, Calvary Choir, "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light"
"Rain Down"*

Sunday, January 7—4 pm

Memorial Service for

Dr. Arthur Harvey