



Calvary by the Sea Lutheran Church

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

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7th Sunday of Advent

December 18, 2016

7:30 am

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 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

During these final days of Advent we pray, “*O come, O come, Emmanuel,*” a beloved hymn based on ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday in Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death through the gift of the **Performing Arts @ Calvary** Christmas musical. We are led by children!

SOUNDING OF THE PŪ

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

GATHERING, *Ina*

“There’s a Song in the Air”

RINGING OF THE BELL

During the ***Ring*** 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.

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 your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE 7, *Kahu Tim*

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
THROUGH *PAC***

THE FIRST LEON

Uncovering the True Meaning of Christmas

Ever since Leon discovered that his name spelled backwards is Noel, he's felt called to tell the world the true meaning of Christmas. But when he tries out for every role in the annual pageant, he finds that he's the only one who doesn't get a part. Rejected, Leon understands better than anyone how Mary and Joseph must have felt when they heard the words, "No room" that night in Bethlehem. Without really trying to, however, Leon does uncover the true meaning of Christmas when he identified the real Star of Bethlehem.

CHARACTERS

Storytellers (Angels)—Paige Adelberger and Maile Hennington

Leon (Innkeeper)—Pono Lundell

Matthew (Shepherd)—Tyler Borrer

David (Shepherd)—Carter Holden

Jonathan (Joseph)—Miliana Sylvester

Madeline (Mary)—Sadie Young

Julie (Angel)—Izabella Sylvester

Brooke (Angel)—Zoe Kickland

Mr. Mosely, the Director (Wiseman)—Henry Lee

Assistant Director (Child Narrator, Wiseman)—Sky Yasutake

Angel—Kalia Sylvester

Wiseman—Travis Borrer

SONGS

Noel!

If You Wanna Be a Star, and *Reprise*

Just Two Words

While Shepherds Watched, *Parts 1 and 2*

Hark!

O Little Town of Bethlehem

You Can Have My Room

Joy to the World!

Light of the World

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH, *Kahu Tim*

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*

“Omo l’a o fi Gbe”

(“Glory Be to the Lord”—an indigenous Christian hymn from Nigeria)

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 (contemporary) *in unison*

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 *standing*

“Choose to Hope”

“Choose to Hope” is found on page 10.

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*

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.

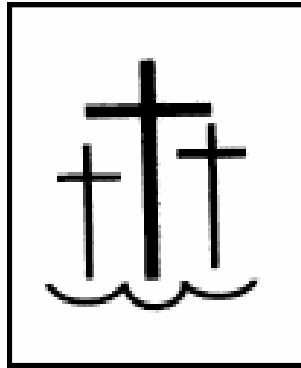
ALL: Amen.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOING FORTH, *Ina*

“Impressions on *We Three Kings*”



Today, December 18, 2016

MINISTERS: All Members of Calvary by the Sea

KAHU: Tim Mason

WORSHIP AND THE ARTS: Tom Poole

ORGANIST AND PIANIST: Ina Young

MUSIC: *Performing Arts @ Calvary*; Julie Okamura, *director*

READER, USHERS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS, ALTAR CARE, SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP:

All Tribes—Renee Ako, Bonnie Beneke, Diane Warncke, Peggy Trout, Monika Day, Leslie Dorman, Karen Sisler, Dottie Matting, Hui Suk Jones, Hao Zheng, Maria Tamura

WORSHIP PRODUCTION SUPPORT: Fletcher Young, Erin Day

SERVICE MUSIC: “There’s a Song in the Air,” arr. Wilbur Held, © 2005 Wayne Leupold Editions; “The First Leon,” by Dennis and Nan Allen, © 2003 New Spring Publishing; Brentwood-Benson Music; “Omo l’a o fi Gbe (Glory Be to the Lord),” by Godwin Sadoh, © 2005; “What Bread of Life” text by Tom Poole and Barbara Lundblad, tune VENI EMMANUEL; “Choose to Hope,” by Marty Haugen, © 2016 Marty Haugen; “Impressions on *We Three Kings*,” by Alfred Fedak, © 2005 Wayne Leupold Editions. All music used by permission (One.License.net A-714410).

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Saturday, December 24

5:30 pm, Family Worship

Christmas Pageant with Holy Communion and Candle Lighting

10:00 pm, "Midnight Service"

Candle Light, Holy Communion

Preaching, Kahu Tim

Hula, Nā Wahine O Ke Kai Ola

Choir, Calvary Choir

Bells, Calvary Handbells

Ballet, U'ila Marx

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICES

Sunday, December 25

7:30 am and 10:00 am

Christmas Carol Liturgy at Both Services

Preaching, Kahu Tim

Music, Ina Young and Tom Poole