



# **Calvary by the Sea Lutheran Church**

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

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## **NATIVITY OF OUR LORD Christmas Day**

December 25, 2014

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!

# WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

We gather at the ocean's edge on this Christmas morning in Hawai'i nei to celebrate the birth of the Word made flesh, Christ our Lord. Luke recounts the familiar story of shepherds and angels; John's gospel tells of the Word that dwells among us, full of grace and truth. The meaning of Christmas is made clear: the light shines in the darkness. We celebrate this day with music, laughter, and delight; with the sharing of a lei—and perhaps a surprise hula! We go forth to be bearers of light as we proclaim and share this aloha to all the ends of the earth.

## SOUNDING OF THE PŪ

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

## 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.

## GATHERING, *Diane and Mark Yasuhara*

“Manger Medley: *Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella; What Child is This? Go, Tell It on the Mountain*”

## GREETING, *Kahu Tim*

KAHU: Today Christ is born:

ALL: **Alleluia, alleluia!**

KAHU: The grace of our Lord 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,  
the Maker of heaven and earth,  
the Word made flesh,  
the Lord and giver of life.

**ALL: Amen.**

KAHU: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and one another by singing stanzas 3 and 4 of “O Little Town of Bethlehem.”

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**ALL: How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is giv’n!  
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav’n.  
No ear may hear his coming; but, in this world of sin,  
Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.  
  
O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;  
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!**

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

KAHU: In the Word who has come to dwell with us,  
God has given us grace upon grace:  
forgiveness that is stronger than our sins,  
love that can heal every broken heart.

Hear this word of God’s pardon and peace:  
*in the name of + Jesus our Savior,  
you are free from all your sins.*

Rise, shine, for your light has come. **Amen.**

**GLORIA** *standing* “Angels We Have Heard on High” (*stanzas 1 and 3*)

**ALL: Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,  
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.**

**Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;  
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king.  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo. Gloria in excelsis Deo.***

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY** *standing*

**ALL:** All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

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

**KAHU:** The Lord be with you.

**ALL:** And also with you.

# **WE HEAR THE WORD**

## **FIRST READING**

Isaiah 52: 7–10

*A messenger races home to Jerusalem with the marvelous words: "Your God reigns!" In comforting the people, God proves to be the best brother or sister (redeemer) they have ever known. Everyone will witness the victory (salvation) of God.*

**ONE:** <sup>7</sup>How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." <sup>8</sup>Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. <sup>9</sup>Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. <sup>10</sup>The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

## SECOND READING

Hebrews 1: 1–4

*This letter opens with a lofty declaration of Jesus' preeminent status as the Son through whom God created the world and through whom our sins are cleansed. God speaks to us now through the Son, who is exalted even above the angels.*

ONE: <sup>1</sup>Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. <sup>3</sup>He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION, *Diane and Mark*

“Some Children See Him”

By Wihla Hutson and Alfred Burt, © 1954 Hollis Music.

*Some children see Him lily white, the Baby Jesus born this night, some children see Him lily white, with tresses soft and fair. Some children see Him almond-eyed, this Savior whom we kneel beside, some children see Him almond-eyed, with skin of yellow hue.*

*Some children see Him bronzed and brown, the Lord of heav'n to earth come down; some children see Him bronzed and brown, with dark and heavy hair. Some children see Him dark as they, sweet Mary's Son to whom we pray; some children see Him dark as they, and, ah! They love Him, too!*

*The children in each diff'rent place will see the Baby Jesus' face like theirs, but bright with heav'nly grace, and filled with holy light. O lay aside each earthly thing, and with thy heart as offering, come worship now the Infant King, 'tis love that's born tonight!*

## GOSPEL *standing, read responsively*

John 1: 1–14

*The prologue to the Gospel of John describes Jesus as the Word of God made flesh, the one who reveals God to be "full of grace and truth."*

KAHU: In the beginning was the Word,

**ALL: and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**

KAHU: He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him,

**ALL: and without him not one thing came into being.**

KAHU: What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

**ALL: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.**

KAHU: There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.

**ALL: He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light,**

KAHU: but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

**ALL: He was in the world, and the world came into being through him;**

KAHU: yet the world did not know him.

**ALL: He came to what was his own,**

KAHU: and his own people did not accept him.

**ALL: But to all people who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God,**

KAHU: who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

**ALL: And the Word became flesh and lived among us,**

KAHU: and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son,

**ALL: full of grace and truth.**

KAHU: The Gospel of the Lord.

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

**SERMON, *Kahu Tim***

**“It IS the Beginning!”**

**SERMON HYMN 288**

**“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”**

**APOSTLES' CREED *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:** Rejoicing in the light of Christ that shines upon us, we pray for the church, the world, and all according to their needs.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, shine the light of Christ on your church throughout the world. Make us a powerful witness, testifying to your love made known in Jesus. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**ALL:** **Aloha ke Akua** (*God is love; love is God*).

**KAHU:** Shine the light of Christ across barren trees, fallow fields, and dying reefs. Reveal the beauty of your Word who created all things. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**ALL:** **Aloha ke Akua.**

**KAHU:** Shine the light of Christ on our conflicted world. Stir our leaders to seek compassion, justice, and truth among the nations. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**ALL:** **Aloha ke Akua.**

**KAHU:** Shine the light of Christ on those who live in fear, those who are enslaved, oppressed, or hungry. Enfold in your light those who will die this day and those who are ill or hospitalized. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**ALL:** **Aloha ke Akua.**

**KAHU:** Shine the light of Christ into this assembly. Bless all visitors among us, those who are traveling, and those who cannot be with us today. Unite us through your word and meal. Lord, in your

mercy, hear our prayer.

**ALL: Aloha ke Akua.**

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

KAHU: Shine the light of Christ in the hearts of those who face empty chairs where loved ones once laughed. Join us with all the saints until we reflect your glory face-to-face. Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

**ALL: Aloha ke Akua.**

KAHU: Hear the hopes and prayers of our hearts, O God, and magnify our joy at the birth of your Light among us, Jesus Christ our Savior.

**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,** *Diane and Mark*

“Gloria”

**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.

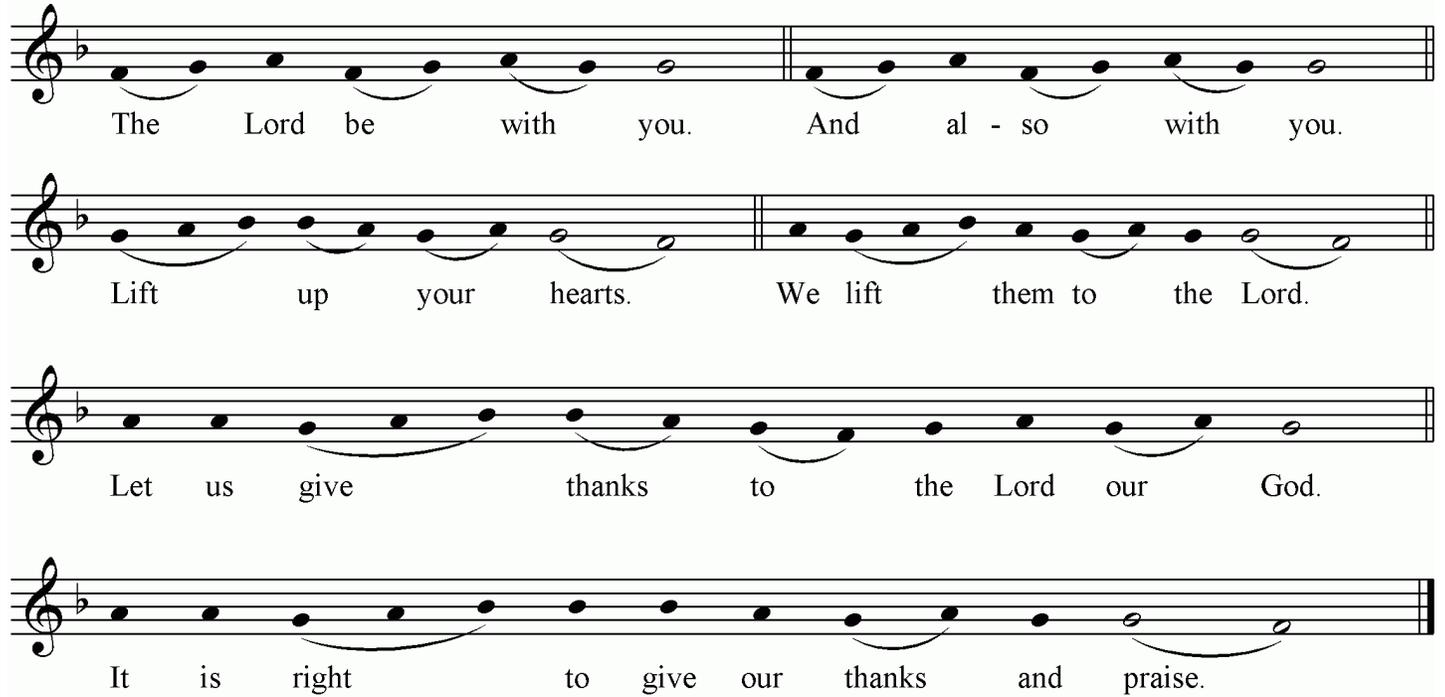
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**OFFERING PRAYER** *standing*

KAHU: Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**WE ARE FED**

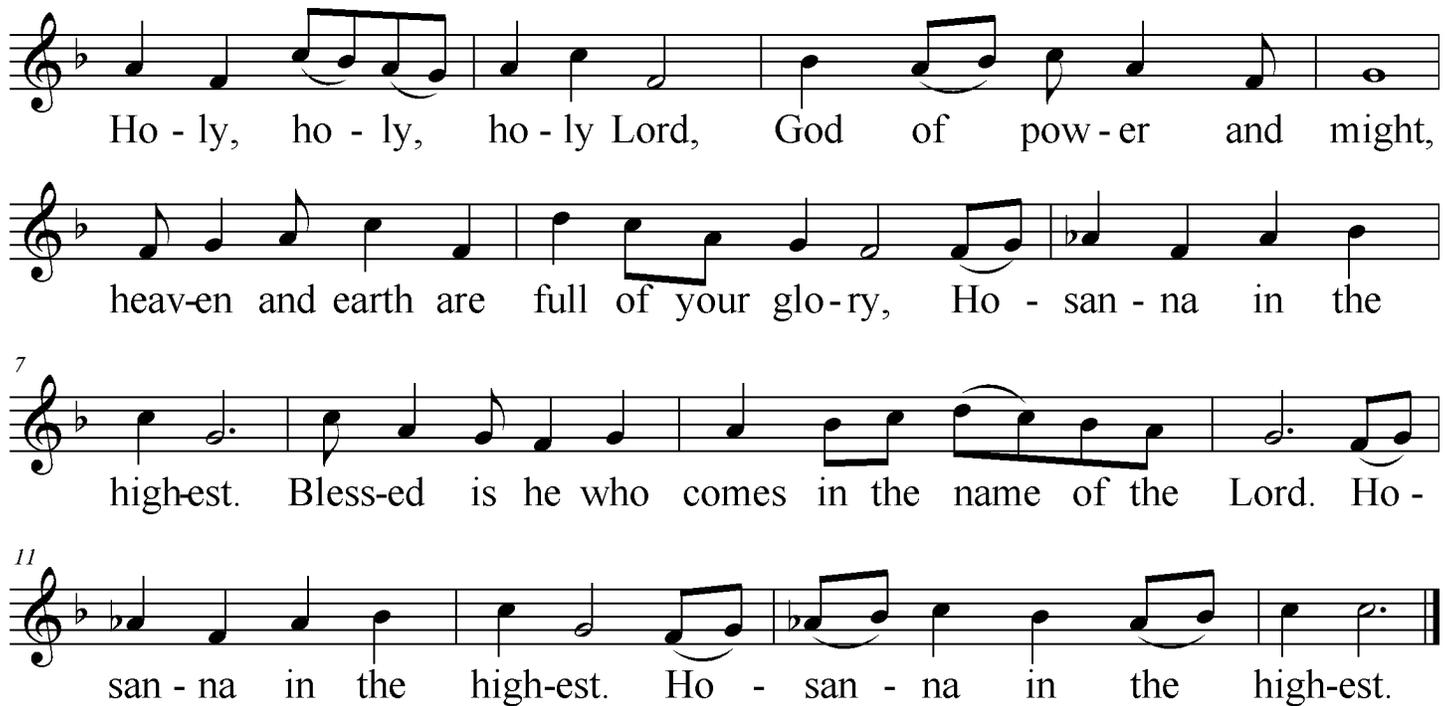
# GREAT THANKSGIVING *standing*



The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

# SANCTUS *standing*

The Sanctus is sung following, “...we praise your name and join their unending hymn.”



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo-ry, Ho - san - na in the  
7 highest. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
11 san - na in the high-est. Ho - san - na in the high-est.

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** *standing*

KAHU: We give you thanks, O God, that in this bread and cup of Christ's very life, you give us food for our journey. As you led the magi by a star, as you brought the holy family home again, guide us on the way unfolding before us. Wherever we go, may our lives proclaim good news of great joy in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

# **WE ARE SENT**

# SENDING SONG *standing*

“Mele Kalikimaka”

Me-le Ka - li - ki - ma - ka is the thing to say on a bright Ha -  
6 wai - ian Christ-mas day. That's the is - land greet-ing that we  
11 send to you from the land where palm trees sway.  
17 Here we know that Christ-mas will be green and bright. The sun will shine by  
22 day and all the stars at night. Me-le Ka - li - ki - ma - ka is Ha -  
27 wai - i's way to say "Mer-ry Christ-mas" to you.

## BENEDICTION AND SENDING, *Kahu Tim*

KAHU: May the Word that Mary brought to birth  
carry you into new and abundant life.

**ALL: Amen.**

KAHU: May the Word that Joseph cradled in his arms  
enfold you with love and strength.

**ALL: Amen.**

KAHU: May the Word that angels proclaimed in song  
bring harmony to our world.

**ALL: Amen.**

KAHU: And the blessing of almighty God,  
the Father,

the + Son,  
and the Holy Spirit,  
be upon you and remain with you always.

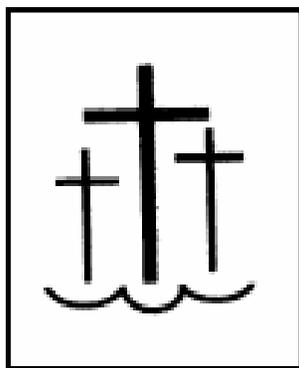
**ALL: Amen.**

**KAHU:** Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**ALL: Thanks be to God!**

**GOING FORTH,** *organ*

*“Toccata from Symphony No. 5 for Organ”*



## **Today, December 25, 2014**

**MINISTERS:** All Members of Calvary by the Sea

**KAHU:** Tim Mason

**WORSHIP AND THE ARTS:** Tom Poole

**ORGANIST AND PIANIST:** Ina Young

**GUEST MUSICIANS:** Diane and Mark Yasuhara

**INSTRUMENTALISTS:** Marc Adelberger, Charlie Holdaway, Bruce Kau, Amie Lawyer, Jon Osorio, Tim Sprowls

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

**WORSHIP PRODUCTION SUPPORT:** Fletcher Young, Erin Day

**SERVICE MUSIC:** “Manger Medley: *Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella, What Child Is This? Go, Tell It on the Mountain,*” arr. Mark Yasuhara, © Mark Yasuhara; “Some Children See Him,” by Alfred Burt and Wihla Hutson, © 1954 Hollis Music; arr. Mark Yasuhara; “Gloria,” arr. Mark Yasuhara, © Mark Yasuhara; “Sanctus,” by Marty Haugen, © 2006 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America; “The Lord’s Prayer,” by Albert Hay Malotte, arr. Donald P. Hustad, © 1961 G. Schirmer; “Mele Kalikimaka,” by R. Alex Anderson, © 1949 PolyGram Publishing; “*Toccata from Symphony No. 5 for Organ,*” Charles-Marie Widor, © 1991 Dover Publications. All music used by permission (One.License.net A-714410).