Saturday Sunset Worship

Reign of Christ/Advent 3

November 19, 2016
6:30 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 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

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears so utterly contradictory that the king should be crucified with the criminal. This victory appears for all the world as ignominious defeat. Yet through the gate of death our Lord opens the door to paradise.

SOUNDING OF THE PŪ

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

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 SONG standing

“Rain Down”

REFRAIN

Rain down, rain down, rain down your love on your people.

VERSE

1. Faithful and true is the word of our God. All of God's works are so worthy of trust. God's mercy falls on the just and the right; full of God's love is the earth.

2. We who revere and find hope in our God live in the kindness and joy of God's wing. God will protect us from darkness and death; God will not leave us to starve.

3. God of creation, we long for your truth; you are the water of life that we thirst. Grant that your love and your peace touch our hearts; all of our hope lies in 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.
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:** O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. 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

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE 3, Kahu Tim

FIRST READING Jeremiah 23: 1–6

Today's reading builds on the common ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah’s unjust rulers have caused their people, their “flock,” to be scattered. Nevertheless, the Lord will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

ONE:  

1Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.  
2Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD.  
3Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply.  
4I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.  
5The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.  
6In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."
1 God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

2 Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

3 though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

5 God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

6 The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

7 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

8 Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

9 behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.

10 "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

11 The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

SECOND READING

Colossians 1:11–20

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.
ONE: 11 May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. 13 He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; 16 for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. 17 He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION standing

“Rain Down”

REFRAIN

Rain down, rain down, rain down your love on your people.

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

GOSPEL standing, read responsively


Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.
When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying,

"He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!"

The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying,

"If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying,

"Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

But the other rebuked him, saying,

"Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong."

Then he said,

"Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON, Kahu Tim

“COSTLY GRACE”

SERMON HYMN 803 standing  “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”
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 Christ’s church on earth and for those who proclaim the good news of your reign, that all divisions cease, let us pray.

**ALL:** *Have mercy, O God. Aloha ke Akua.* (God is love; love is God)

**KAHU:** For your creation in all its beauty, for water and land, plants and animals, and for those who advocate for the just use of the earth, that all creatures enjoy life abundant, let us pray.

**ALL:** *Have mercy, O God. Aloha ke Akua.*

**KAHU:** For government leaders, for those who provide justice and safety, and for those in war-torn places, that all be guided by the peace of the Lord, let us pray.

**ALL:** *Have mercy, O God. Aloha ke Akua.*

**KAHU:** For the alienated, for the sick and suffering, for those living with HIV/AIDS, and for those in need of reconciliation, that God
provide them with skilled medical practitioners and counselors, let us pray.

**ALL:** Have mercy, O God. *Aloha ke Akua.*

**KAHU:** For those traveling this week, for those gathered with family and friends, for protection from inclement weather, and for the body of Christ gathered here, let us pray.

**ALL:** Have mercy, O God. *Aloha ke Akua.*

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

**KAHU:** In thanksgiving for all the saints who lived their lives giving thanks to God and are now at rest, that their witness strengthen our confidence in the resurrection to eternal life, let us pray.

**ALL:** Have mercy, O God. *Aloha ke Akua.*

**KAHU:** Almighty God, you have promised to hear those who call upon your name. We commend all our spoken and silent prayers to you, trusting in your abundant mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**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,** Tom

> “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

**DOXOLOGY standing**

> “Ho‘onani i ka Makua Mau”


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*

**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.

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*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.*

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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.

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WE ARE SENT
SENDING HYMN 263 standing  “Savior of the Nations, Come”

This Advent Hymn, “Savior of the Nations, Come,” is attributed to Ambrose of Milan. Martin Luther translated it from Latin into German probably for Advent in 1523.

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.
Today, November 19, 2016

MINISTERS: All Members of Calvary by the Sea
KAHU: Tim Mason
WORSHIP AND THE ARTS: Tom Poole
Advent Worship Ahead

Sunday, November 20—Advent 3
Preaching, Kahu Tim
Music, Calvary Choir, “Today, You Shall Be With Me in Paradise”
“Woman, Behold Your Son”

Sanctuary adorned for Advent/Christmas following the 10 am service

Saturday, November 26—Advent 4
6:30—7:30 pm, Sunset Worship in ‘Ohana Hale
Preaching, Pastor Dale Burke
Music, Ina and Ms. Amie

Sunday, November 27—Advent 4
Preaching, Kahu Tim
Music, Calvary Choir, “LightShine”

Saturday, December 3—Advent 5
6:30—7:30 pm, Sunset Worship in ‘Ohana Hale
Preaching, Kahu Tim
Music, Tom and Ms. Amie

Sunday, December 4—Advent 5
Preaching, Kahu Tim
Music, Calvary Choir, “Shut de Dō”