Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2014
7:30 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

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, organ

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

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: Tear open the heavens, and come down.
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 shapes the whole creation,
who comes with might and mercy,
who fills the hungry with good things.

**All:** Amen.

**Kahu:** Let us approach the throne of grace with repentant hearts.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Creator God,

**All:** forgive us for we deny our humanity and act as our own gods.

- We advance ourselves at the expense of others.
- We elevate personal desires to universal importance.
- We put ourselves above your command to love and serve.

Yet you, O Lord, are the potter, and we are the clay.
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 *standing*

**Kahu:** God is patient, not wanting any to perish, but all to come to repentance.
In the name of + Jesus Christ, I bring you this good news:

- You are free from all that imprisons you;
- your sins are forgiven;
- God heals your broken hearts.

Live in peace and harmony as you wait for the day of God.

**All:** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!
KYRIE standing, the Assembly responds singing “Lord have mercy,” and “Amen”

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mercy.

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. 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. Come, Lord Jesus!

GREETING OF GUESTS and SHARING OF ALOHA standing

KAHU: The Lord be with you.
ALL: And also with you.

WE HEAR THE WORD

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE 4

ALL SINGING:

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Wisdom from on high,
Embracing all things far and nigh:
In strength and beauty come and stay;
Teach us your will and guide our way.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O come, O Lord of might,
As to your tribes on Sinai’s height
In ancient times you gave the law
In cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.
O come, O Branch of Jesse,
Free your own from Satan’s tyranny;
From depths of hell your people save,
And give them vict’ry o’er the grave.
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

ONE: We praise you, O God, for this wheel of time that marks our days of preparation for Christ’s advent. As we light the candles on this wreath, open our eyes to see your presence in the lowly ones of this earth.

ALL: Enlighten us with your grace, that we may sing of your advent among us in the Word made flesh. Grant this through Christ our Lord, whose coming is certain and whose day draws near.

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: Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, 2 the 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." 3 Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." 4 But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: 5 Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? 6 "I 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. Wherever 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?" Now 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; and 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. And 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, from 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. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

PSALM sung responsively


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

54 You have come to the aid of your servant Israel, to remember the promise of mercy,

55 the promise made to our forebears, to Abraham and his children 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: 25 Now 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 but 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—27 to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION standing “Ka Mana’o ‘I’o”

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

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

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

ALL: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. 31 And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. 32 He 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. 33 He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

KAHU: 34 Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?"

KAHU: 35 The angel said to her,

ALL: "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. 36 And 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. 37 For nothing will be impossible with God."

KAHU: 38 Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.


ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.
“The Young Woman said: ‘Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.’ ”

“My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness”

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.

With longing and hopeful expectation, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

Fill the church with your Spirit, that it may be a messenger of peace and goodwill. Hear us, O God, and

Come, Lord Jesus.

Anoint the leaders of nations to protect and care for those who are vulnerable, weak, poor, and oppressed. Hear us, O God, and

Come, Lord Jesus.

Fill us with gratitude for sun, moon, and stars as we today mark the shortest day of the year and welcome the light. Hear us, O God, and
ALL: Come, Lord Jesus.
KAHU: If today is the shortest day of the year, it is also the longest night. We especially remember our sisters and brothers who struggle in the darkness with depression and loneliness, with the tyranny of too much happiness and cheer, and who are overwhelmed with sadness and fatigue. Bring to them your wholeness. Hear us, O God, and
ALL: Come, Lord Jesus.
KAHU: Shelter all who are hungry and homeless, strengthen all who are perplexed or afraid, and comfort all who are grieving or ill. Hear us, O God, and
ALL: Come, Lord Jesus.
KAHU: Draw near to all in this assembly who will travel or welcome others this week, who are expecting a child or struggling with infertility, and who face the holidays with eagerness or anxiety. Hear us, O God. Hear us, O God, and
ALL: Come, Lord Jesus.

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

KAHU: With Mary we ponder the mystery of your grace, and give thanks for those who have gone before us in the faith. Hear us, O God, and
ALL: Come, Lord Jesus.
KAHU: Receive our prayers, faithful God, as we watch and wait for your coming among us in 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, organ “Once in Royal David’s City”
DOXOLOGY standing

“Hoʻonani i ka Makua Mau”


OFFERING PRAYER standing

KAHU: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

WE ARE FED

GREAT THANKSGIVING standing

The Lord be with you. And also 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.”

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: Lord God, we give you thanks that you have fed us even now with the banquet that is yet to come. Keep us alert for signs of your presence in the world around us. Send us as healing oil and sheltering comfort to those in need, and make us bold in testifying to the light of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

ALL: Amen.

WE ARE SENT

SENDING HYMN 267 standing

“Joy to the World”

All Keiki are invited to dance.

BENEDICTION AND SENDING, Kahu Tim

KAHU: God most high,
    God with us,
    God poured out on us,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

**ALL:** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

**KAHU:** Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**ALL:** Thanks be to God.

**GOING FORTH** *organ*  
“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”

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**Today, December 21, 2014**

**MINISTERS:** All Members of Calvary by the Sea  
**KAHU:** Tim Mason  
**PSALMIST:** Manning Richards  
**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  

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5:30 pm, Christmas Eve Pageant

This is the keiki friendly service featuring an “upside-down” pageant—the children are the readers, the adults are the characters! Holy Communion and the traditional Candle-lighting concludes the service.

10:30 pm, Calvary Choir Concert

featuring choruses from “Messiah”

11:00 pm, Midnight Candle Light Service and Holy Communion

This is Calvary Christmas Eve Worship at its best—Choir, Hula, Christmas Carols, Ballet, Holy Communion, and the traditional Candle-lighting only as Calvary does it!

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

10:00 am, “Local-kine” Christmas Morning Service

Featuring the inspirational musical stylings of Diane and Mark Yasuhara, surprise hula, Christmas Carols, and Holy Communion! (Pajamas OK)