NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

Christmas Eve

December 24, 2014

5:30 pm

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 early on this long Hawaiian winter evening to be taught by our children. In the familiar account of Christ's birth, the evening sky is bright with the heavenly host singing, "Glory to God in the highest." Amid our broken and chaotic world we proclaim that the prince of peace is born among us. God comes to us in human flesh—in Christ's body and blood—so that we may be bearers of divine light to all the world.

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 HYMN seated “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

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 King of nations, come, O Cornerstone that binds in one:
Refresh the hearts that long for you; restore the broken, make us new.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.
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 come into the light of Christ, confessing our need for God’s mercy.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of peace,

All: we confess that we are not at peace—
with others or with ourselves.

We bring to you all that tears us apart:
distrust of others,
discord in our families,
vioence in our world,
our own conflicted hearts.

In your mercy, mend us.
Reconnect us to one another and to you.
Let peace reign over all the earth,
through the Prince of peace,
our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.
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.

ALL:   Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE and

PRAYER OF THE DAY standing

ALL:   Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HYMN standing “Joy to the World”

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
Let ev’ry heart prepare him room, and heav’n and nature sing,
And heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.
He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.

GREETING OF GUESTS and SHARING OF ALOHA standing

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

THE STORY OF JESUS’ BIRTH

THE CHRISTMAS PROMISE

MILLY: Soon after God created people, God made a promise to them.
A child would be sent to teach them, and to show them how
to treat each other.

First Reading Isaiah 9: 2b, 6–7

BELLA: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light
has shined.

ASHTON: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority
rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority
shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the
throne of David and his kingdom.

CHRISTMAS CAROL seated “O Little Town of Bethlehem”

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
 Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;  
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light.  
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above  
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond’ring love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth,  
And praises sing to God the king, and peace to all the earth.

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.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF JESUS’ BIRTH

MAKELA: Finally, it was time for God’s son to come to earth.

   How should a king come?
   Even a child knows the answer, of course,
   In a coach of gold with a pure white horse.
   In a beautiful city in the prime of the day
   And the trumpets should cry
   And the crowd make way.
   And the flags fly high in the morning sun,
   And the people all cheer for the sovereign one.
   Everyone knows that’s the way that it’s done.
   That’s the way that a King should come.

   How should a king come:
   Even a commoner understands.
   He should come for his treasures,
   And his houses and lands.
   He should dine upon summer strawberries and milk,
   And sleep upon bedclothes of satin and silk.
   And high on a hill his castle should glow
With the lights of the city like jewels below.
And everyone knows that’s the way that it’s done.
That’s the way that a King should come.

PAIGE: How should a King come? Well, not that way, not this king.
Two things happened. First, a beautiful shining star suddenly appeared in the heavens. It was moving toward a little town called Bethlehem. The second thing was an angel appeared to a poor woman in a small town with a very strange message. What a surprise—she would be the mother of God’s son, Jesus. He would not come as a king riding in a chariot or even as a grown man living in a big, beautiful city. No crowds would cheer his coming. He would come as a tiny baby.

Second Reading

Luke 1: 26–35

MAKELA: God sent the angel Gabriel to a town in Galilee named Nazareth. He had a message for a young woman promised in marriage to a man named Joseph, who was a descendant of King David. Her name was Mary. The angel came to her and said,

NICHOLAS/ASHTON: “Peace be with you! The Lord is with you and has greatly blessed you.”

MILLY: Mary was deeply troubled by the angel’s message, and she wondered what his words meant. The angel said to her,

NICHOLAS/ASHTON: “Do not be afraid Mary, God has been gracious to you. You will give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be called the Son of the most high God.”

BELLA: “How shall this be, since I have no husband?”

NICHOLAS/ASHTON: The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and God’s power will rest upon you. The child will be called the Son of God. For with God, nothing is impossible!

BELLA: “I am the Lord’s servant. May it happen to me as you have said.”
CHRISTMAS CAROL seated

“It Came Upon a Midnight Clear”

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heav’n’s all gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.

And you, beneath life’s crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow:
Look now, for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing;
Oh, rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing!

For lo! The days are hast’ning on, by prophets seen of old,
When with the ever circling years shall come the time foretold,
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And all the world give back the song which now the angels sing.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS

PAIGE: While Mary was getting ready to have her baby, the emperor (who was sort of like a king) decided to count everyone so he could be sure everyone was paying their taxes. He ordered everyone to go immediately to the town where their family had come from. So Joseph walked and Mary rode their donkey from Nazareth to Bethlehem. When Mary and Joseph got to Bethlehem they could not anywhere to stay so they camped out in a stable—camping, can you imagine how the expecting mom felt about that? That night the baby was born. As it had been predicted in the early part of the Bible, the Messiah was born in Bethlehem, the town where David, the most famous King of Israel had lived.

Third Reading

LUKE 2: 1–4

NATHAN: Emperor Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Roman Empire. Joseph went from Nazareth to Bethlehem in
Judea, the birthplace of King David. Joseph went there because he was a descendant of David.

**CHRISTMAS CAROL seated**

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

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.*

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heav’nly song?
*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.*

**THE SHEPHERDS AND THE ANGELS**

**Megan:** Everyone wants to visit a new baby. Don’t you? The first visitors to the baby Jesus were a group of shepherds. They had been taking care of sheep out in the fields outside Bethlehem all night. They were pretty frightened when they heard angels singing in the sky and then, those angels invited them to go see the baby!

**Fourth Reading**

Luke 2: 8–14

**Samantha:** Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid.

**Milly:** “Do not be afraid; for behold, I bring you good news of great joy which shall be for all people; for to you is born this day in the city of David, a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.”
Ferris: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

Zoe: “Glory to God in the highest and on earth peace, goodwill to all.”

Nathan: Let’s go to Bethlehem to see Jesus.

Samantha: So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph and saw the baby lying in the manger.

**CHRISTMAS CAROL seated**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him born the king of angels:
*O come, let us adore him O come let us adore him,*
*O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

The highest, most holy, light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;
Son of the Father now in flesh appearing!
*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,*
*O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God . . . in . . . the . . . highest:
*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,*
*O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

**THE VISIT OF THE WISE ONES**

Nathan: The Bible says the next visitors were very wise men who lived a long distance from where the baby was born. They learned about his birth from studying the beautiful star in the
sky. The star guided them all the way to Bethlehem. They brought presents to the baby and his family.

**Fifth Reading**

Matthew 2: 1, 10–12

**Ashton:** In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When they saw the star, they rejoiced with exceedingly great joy. And when they had come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary, his mother, and fell down and worshiped him. And when they had opened their treasures, they presented gifts to him of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Then they departed for their own country another way.

**CHRISTMAS CAROL seated**

“The First Noel”

The first Noel the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep, on a cold winter’s night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in those wisemen three, full rev’rently upon their knee,
And offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.
GOD’S GIFT TO THE WORLD

Megan: What can we learn from all this? First, God wanted his Son to grow up just like we are doing—with a family who loved him and taught him about God, how to work hard and how to act toward others. Most of all, we can look at Jesus and learn from him: that God loves us everyone, that God wants us to follow Jesus, to love ourselves and each other, to care for our world, to feed the hungry, to clothe the naked, to care for the sick, and always to do what is right and just and loving. Jesus is our example.

Following the service the Pageant characters will assemble under the Hau tree for pictures and conversation.

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: 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.
God of glory, fill our hearts with the joy of this night. Stir your church in every place to join the angels' song, praising you for your birth among us and your presence within us. In your mercy, hear our prayer,

ALL: Aloha ke Akua (God is love; love is God).
KAHU: The seas thunder, the fields rejoice, and the trees shout for joy at your coming. Renew the earth and all its creatures to declare your praise. In your mercy, hear our prayer,

ALL: Aloha ke Akua
KAHU: Scatter the bitterness of hatred and fear, that all people seek your peace on earth and work to establish goodwill among the nations. In your mercy, hear our prayer,

ALL: Aloha ke Akua
KAHU: Shine your healing light on those who are alone and long for companionship, those who are rejected, weak, troubled, or sick. In your mercy, hear our prayer,

ALL: Aloha ke Akua
KAHU: Free us from our preoccupation with what has been. Relieve our fears of what may come. Assure us that we live in the light of your unfailing compassion. In your mercy, hear our prayer,

ALL: Aloha ke Akua
KAHU: Comfort us with the gracious vision of our departed loved ones basking in the light of your eternal presence until we too inherit the fullness of your glory. In your mercy, hear our prayer,

ALL: Aloha ke Akua
KAHU: Hear the hopes and prayers of our hearts on this holy night, O God, and magnify our joy at the birth of your Light among us, Jesus Christ our Savior.

ALL: Amen.

OFFERTORY, organ  “Judean Pastorale”

DOXOLOGY standing  “Hoʻonani i ka Makua Mau”

Hoʻonani i ka Makua mau. Ke keiki me ka ‘Uhane nō.


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 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

15
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.

ALL: Amen.

WE ARE SENT

SENDING CAROL standing

“Away in a Manger”
“Silent Night, Holy Night!”

During the singing of “Away in a Manger,” and “Silent Night” the candles will be lit with flame from the Christ Candle. Light your candle from the candle of the person beside you. Then allow the person next to you to light her/his candle from your candle. At the conclusion of the hymns please extinguish your candle.

Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, 
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head; 
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, 
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love you, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky
And stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in your tender care
And fit us for heaven, to live with you there.

Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
Round yon virgin mother and child, holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Pō-laʻi e, Po-kamahaʻo, Ma–lu–hia, Ma–lama–lama,
Ka ma–kua a–hi–ne a–lo–ha e, Me ke keiki He–mo–lele e,
Moe me ka ma–lu–hia lani, Moe me ka ma–lu–hia lani.

Stille Nacht, heilige Nacht! Alles schläft, einsam wacht
nur das traute, hochheilige Paar, holder Knabe im lokkigen Haar,
schlaf in himmlischer Ruh, schlaf in himmlischer Ruh.

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight;
Glories stream from heaven a far, heav’nly hosts sing, alleluia!
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love’s pure light
Radiant beams from your holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace.
Jesus, Lord, at your birth, Jesus, Lord, at your birth.

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

“Resonet in Laudibus”
Tonight, December 24, 2014

MINISTERS: All Members of Calvary by the Sea
KAHU: Tim Mason
WORSHIP AND THE ARTS: Tom Poole
ORGANIST AND PIANIST: Ina Young
USHERS AND ALTAR CARE: Alana Ako, Mira Ako, Kai Mason, Marissa Okamoto, Kanoa Pick, Essence Sylvester, Ben Taylor
WORSHIP PRODUCTION SUPPORT: Fletcher Young, Erin Day


CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

COORDINATORS:
Lara Adelberger
Renee Ako
Pulelehua Quirk

READERS:
Megan Adelberger
Paige Adelberger
Nicholas Benner
Nathan Geller
Samantha Geller
Zoe Lewis
Makela Pick
Izabella Sylvester
Miliana Sylvester
Ashton Taylor
Ferris Young

PAGEANT CHARACTERS:
Mary: Kari Larson
Joseph: Ryan Larson
Baby Jesus: Ben Larson

Kings:
Marc Adelberger
James Rosenberry
Milton Staackman

Angels:
Pari Kickland
Pulelehua Quirk
Gloria Staackman

Shepherds:
Paul Jones
Niels Taylor
Becky Taylor

Sheep:
Sophia, Palala

Camel: Butters
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE

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

Kahu Tim, preaching
Featuring the inspirational musical stylings of
Diane and Mark Yasuhara,
Christmas Carols, hula,
and Holy Communion!

(Pajamas OK)