15th Sunday after Pentecost

September 17, 2017
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

In today's second reading Paul questions why we judge one another, since we all stand before the judgment of God. Yet we do sin against one another, and Jesus' challenge that we forgive seventy-seven times reveals God's boundless mercy. When we hear the words of forgiveness in worship and sign ourselves with the cross, we are renewed in baptism to be signs of reconciliation in the world.

SOUNDING OF THE PŪ

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

GATHERING, *Ina*  “Variations on ‘All Things Bright and Beautiful’”

A TIME TO BE STILL (*RINGING OF THE BELL*)

During the *Stillness* and 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 *standing*

**KAHU:** Jesus says, “*Come to me, all you that are weary and carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.*”

**ALL:** Amen.

**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 and FORGIVENESS, Kahu Tim

KAHU: Blessed be the + holy Trinity,
      the one who fashions us,
      the one who heals us,
      the one who reforms us again and again.

ALL: Amen.

KAHU: Let us confess our sin, calling for God’s transforming power.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Source of all life,

ALL: we cling to our guilt instead of letting your grace free us.
We continue in our sin afraid of letting your love change our lives.

We turn your church inward. We keep it comfortable for us. We treat it as our own personal property.

Forgive us. Stir us. Reform us.

Make us into your church powered by love,
   speaking for what is right,
   acting for what is just,
   and seeking the healing of your whole creation.

KAHU: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven, +
God’s love is unconditional, and we are raised up as God’s people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

ALL: Amen.

KYRIE standing

The liturgy continues with the Kyrie on page 120 in the front of the hymnal.
GLORIA standing

The Gloria begins on page 121 in the front of the hymnal.

PRAYER OF THE DAY standing

ALL: O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREETING OF GUESTS AND SHARING OF ALOHA seated

KAHU: May God’s aloha be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

WE HEAR THE WORD

FIRST READING Genesis 50: 5‒12

After Jacob's death, the brothers of Joseph begged for forgiveness for the crime they had done against him. You intended to do me harm, Joseph said, but God used this as an opportunity to do good and save many lives.

ONE: Realizing that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph
said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

**PSALM, sung responsively**

Psalm 103: 8–13

8 LORD, you are full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love;
9 you will not always accuse us,
nor will you keep your anger forever.
10 You have not dealt with us according to our sins,
nor repaid us according to our iniquities.
11 For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so great is your steadfast love for those who fear you.
12 As far as the east is from the west,
so far have you removed our transgressions from us.
13 As a father has compassion for his children,
so you have compassion for those who fear you, O LORD.

**SECOND READING**

Romans 14: 1–12

This Christian community has significant struggles with diversity. Here Paul helps us understand that despite different practices in worship and personal piety, we do not judge one another. All Christians belong to the Lord Jesus Christ who died for all of us and will judge each of us.

ONE: Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they
stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. 5Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. 6Those who observe the day, observe it in honor of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honor of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honor of the Lord and give thanks to God. 7We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. 8If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. 9For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. 10Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. 11For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." 12So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION standing


Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

GOSPEL standing, read responsively

Matthew 18: 21–35

When Peter asks about the limits of forgiveness, Jesus responds with a parable that suggests human forgiveness should mirror the unlimited mercy of God.

KAHU: 21Peter came and said to [Jesus],
ALL: "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"
KAHU: 22Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. 23For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to
a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart.'

ALL: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON, Kahu Tim
“If we live, we live to the Lord….”

SERMON HYMN 605 standing
“Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive”
(Sung to ST. ANNE; “O God, Our Help in Ages Past”)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH standing
“The Apostles’ Creed”

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 *seated*

**KAHU:** Open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit, we pray for the church, the world, and all of God’s creation.

*A brief silence.*

*Good and gracious God, we pray for the church.*

**ALL:** Bless the ministries of congregations in our community, and here at Calvary by the Sea. Bless the *Stephen Ministers*; the *Calvary Montessori Preschool*; *Angel Network Charities*; *Calvary in the Sea*; *Calvary Sunday School*; *Calvary Youth*; the *Calvary Choir* and *Instrumentalists*—*Handbells, Keiki and Adult; PAC; Sacred Dance; Kaleidoscoping Hearts; Adult Forum; Book of the Month Group; Prayer Circle; Global Missions; Zumba by the Sea; Yoga by the Sea; Ke Ala Ola; Council of Deacons; AA and Helping Groups; Calvary Tribes*, and every expression of your love, grace, and mercy coming from Calvary by the Sea. Unite us in the proclamation of your life-giving gospel. Hear our prayer, *Aloha ke Akua* (God is love; love is God).

**KAHU:** *Creator God, you spoke light into being, you separated the waters, you formed the dry land.*
ALL: Protect and enliven the creation you so love, and make us willing partners in its care and rebuilding. We pray for our sisters and brothers in the Caribbean, Cuba, Texas, Florida, Georgia whose homes and lives are devastated. We remember the first responders, and the arborists, electricians, linemen, plumbers, and all offering their services so people may live. Hear our prayer, *Aloha ke Akua.*

KAHU: *God of the nations, you love all tribes, peoples, and languages.*

ALL: We pray for all who govern. Give them wise and generous hearts for those they serve. Hear our prayer, *Aloha ke Akua.*

KAHU: *Divine Healer, calm the anxiety of those who are wrongly accused, who suffer under crushing debt, or who are in prison.*

ALL: Reassure those who are lonely, impatient, brokenhearted, homebound, hospitalized, or ill. Hear our prayer, *Aloha ke Akua.*

KAHU: We pray for this assembly;

ALL: for our guests and visitors, for newcomers to this community, for those who are certain and those who doubt, and for all who seek you in this place. Hear our prayer, *Aloha ke Akua.*

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

KAHU: We remember and give thanks for the faithful of every age who did not live to themselves but lived to you.

ALL: Raise us with them on the last day. Hear our prayer, *Aloha ke Akua.*

KAHU: Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting the power of Christ and the gifts of the Spirit.

ALL: Amen.
PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS, *Ina*  
“*Thy Strong Word*”

DOXOLOGY *standing*  
“*Ho‘onani i ka Makua Mau*”

    Ho‘onani i ka Makua mau. Ke keiki me ka ‘Uhane nō.  

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

OFFERING PRAYER *standing*

**KAHU:**  God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources  
of our life and our labor. Take them, offered in great  
thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole  
creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Light. **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 (contemporary)**

**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.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** seated

**KAHU:** Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

**ALL:** Amen.

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**WE ARE SENT**
God, Bless the Hands
for all those affected by Hurrican Harvey

God, bless the hands stretched out in love through
Bring comfort to the hearts that mourn, left
Oh God, our strength and refuge sure, our

floods below and storms above; They search and rescue,
broken, emptied by the storm; Give hope to those in
hope while storms of life endure; Teach us to live in

comfort, calm, give shelter, offer healing balm.
depest grief, and show us how to bring relief.
harmony, with earth and river, sky and sea.

O guide us with your healing hand, reach out in love and help us stand.
To you, O God, we raise our hands, save us, we pray, from sinking sands.
to nurture waters, air and lands as holy work for human hands.

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BENEDICTION AND SENDING, Kahu Tim

Kahu: God, creator of all things, speaking reformation into being;
Jesus Christ, savior of the world, raising the dead;
Holy Spirit, living voice, calling and enlightening the church:

Almighty God,
Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.

ALL: Amen.

KAHU: Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Go in peace. Sound the good news.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

GOING FORTH, Ina

“Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Thy Word”

Today, September 17, 2017

MINISTERS: All Members of Calvary by the Sea
KAHU: Tim Mason
WORSHIP AND THE ARTS: Tom Poole
ORGANIST AND PIANIST: Ina Young
READER, USHERS, COMMUNION ASSISTANTS AND ALTAR CARE: Tribe Five—Kelly Holden, Jeanie Evans, leaders
WORSHIP PRODUCTION SUPPORT: Fletcher Young, Erin Day, Kanoa Pick
INTERCESSIONS FOR HEALING

Individual and private *Intercessions for Healing* will be offered today following the morning worship by members of the Stephen Ministry. Please go to the back of the sanctuary following the *Benediction* for anointing and intercessory prayers for healing. Calvary by the Sea, in its ministry of healing, does not replace the gifts of God that come through the scientific community nor does it promise a cure. Rather Calvary by the Sea offers and celebrates gifts such as these: God’s presence with strength and comfort in time of suffering, God’s promise of wholeness and peace, and God’s love embodied in this community of faith.
WORSHIP and EVENTS AHEAD

Friday, September 22—Peace Day Celebration
6:30 pm, Honpa Hongwanji (Pali)
Featured Speaker, Kahu Tim
Music, Calvary Choir, “Imagine”

Saturday, September 23—Pentecost 16
Saturday Service Held in ‘Ohana Lani, 6:30 pm
Preaching, Kahu Tim
Music, Tom

Sunday, September 24—Pentecost 16
Preaching, Kahu Tim
Music, Calvary Choir, “Jesu, Joy of Our Desiring”

Saturday, September 30—Pentecost 17
Saturday Service Held in ‘Ohana Lani, 6:30 pm
Preaching, Kahu Tim
Music, Ms. Amie