

The Lihu'e Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hawai'i

Ka Hale Pule 'O Na Lahui Apau . . . Church Of All Peoples . . .

... Hele Pu Makou me Iesu Kristo ... Walking Together With Christ

December 21, 2025 9:00am

Those Serving Us Today

Rev. David Hendrickson, Pastor

Rhonda Pabo, Organist Tony Kment, Technology

Mele Schweitzer, Greeter ~ Vickie Oana, Lector

David & Laurie Hutchinson, Ushers

Kaleb Medeiros, Acolyte Keisha Medeiros, Crucifer

Altar Flowers

If you would like to honor your family or friends on their birthday or anniversary and to the glory of God with altar flowers for Sunday morning services. Please see the Flower Chart at the back entrance of Church to sign up.

Aloha Hour

Aloha Hour is being hosted by *Lihue Lutheran Church and Michael Koerte*.

Please join us in the fellowship hall after worship for refreshments & fellowship. If you would like to host an Aloha Hour the sign up calendar is posted at the front entrance of church

Weekly Event

- ♦ Mobile Munchies—Every Thursday morning in the fellowship hall @ 7:30am
- CENTERING PRAYER in the SANCTUARY, SATURDAY 8:30-9:30 AM Everyone welcome, short intro will be provided. A 20 minute contemplative prayer period followed by Lectio Divina (a contemplative reading and listening and reflecting period) Liedeke, Ibulderart@gmail.com or 808-652-8234

Worship Theme for Today

Today Isaiah prophesies that a young woman will bear a son and name him Emmanuel. The gospel is Matthew's account of the annunciation and birth of the one named Emmanuel, God-with-us. During these final days of Advent we pray, "O come, O come, Emmanuel," a beloved hymn based on ancient prayers appointed for the seven days preceding Christmas. On this final Sunday in Advent we prepare to celebrate the birth of the one born to save us from the power of sin and death.

Lihue Lutheran Spotlight

Hau'oli Lā Hānau to Kathy Miller (12.23); Kolby Javinar (12.23); Vickie Oana (12.24); Denese Alcott (12.25); Derek Iha (12.26)

In Loving Memory - Patrick Pavao (12.26)

The Lihu'e Evangelical Lutheran Church of Hawai'i 4602 Ho'omana Road, Lihue, HI 96766 Church: (808) 245-2145 Website: lihuelutheranchurch.com

E-Mail: lihuelutheran@gmail.com

Welcome to Our Guests

It is always a joy to share our faith and worship with people visiting from around the world. Please know your presence and participation in our service is most appreciated. At Lihue Lutheran we celebrate Holy Communion at every service. You are certainly welcome in joining us as our Lord comes to us in this holy meal.

Prayer Concerns

Please remember these people in your prayers during the week: Michael Ovalles, Lauretta Geren, Isaac Silva Baker, Larry Arndt, ,Vanessa Fujiyama, Liedeke Bulder, Joyce Obenauer, Carrie Jilek, Lavonne Francis, Leslie Davies Gibb, Bertram Almeida, Kathy Rosare, Kai Wayne Parraga, Kristin & Kayla Tomas Deyro, Vickie Oana, Ernest Koerte, Donna Childers, Mary Speegle, John & Lowe Danner, Lisa & Rodd Sunada, Wendy & John Dobbs, Regina & Ryan Jimenez, James F., Karen Kirchner, John Thiele, Gregory Honnold, Jr.; The Family of Karen Olson, Sindy Dayment (Dawn & Bernard Connors daughter's sister-in-law), Italee Rodriguez (Penny Parraga's Grand daughter), Susan Pittman, Wendy Smith (Liedeke's daughter-in-law), Ray O'Flaherty, Sharon & Berndt Kammer (Karen Kinoshita's cousin), Dave Hamry, Ken Garrett, Beverly Robertson (Shannon Lorenzo's Mother), Kurt Medeiros, Bob & Joann Clash, Sally Rasay, Stan Weeks, David Gragg, Joe Morgan, Zosimo and Virginia Austria, Karen Kinoshita, Rick Rentz, Norman Dibble, Kazue Zaima, John Mattek, Robert Girald II (Bobby Girald's son), Lolli Hagen, Abraham Torres, Sr., Kristy Kahananui, Uncle Joe, Mallory Rodriguez, Peter Alisna, Tirzah Pope, Pastor Matthew Weber, Stephen Shioi, Peggy Hood, Jason Shimono, Richard Rasay, Nancy Nelson (formerly Mandell), Karen Pavao, Edward Rasay, Marcos Larson (Liedeke's son), Penny Parraga, Yvonne Shinseki, Al Dressler (Larry's Father), Shirley Hallman (Denese Alcott's Mother), Mercy Ballesteros, Anna Marie & Phil Croghan, Sheila Belarmino, Ray Roderick, Sayla Hachey, Julie Sweeny, The Church Council, and leaders in the ELCA. If you have additional prayer requests, please let the church office know. "Ask it in my name . . ." Mahalo for your love.

Remembering Our Military

As we gather for worship, please remember those serving us in the military, and the families of our Hawai'i National Guard. These names have been given by loved ones and family members: Navy - TJ Javinar, Kristian Matsumoto, Kiana Alisna, Coast Guard - Brian Rodriguez, Ke'ale Renta, Army - Jason Lumacad, Brandon Perkinson, Drew Cox, Tony Garton, Air Force - Kasey Kajiwara, Steven Javinar, National Guard - Benji MacKenzie, Eddie Resinto, Fred Casticimo, Philip Kamakea, Anthony Y. Torres, Master Sgt. If you know of someone you would like added to our prayer list, please advise the church office.

Fourth Sunday of Advent Order for Worship

*Confession and Forgiveness

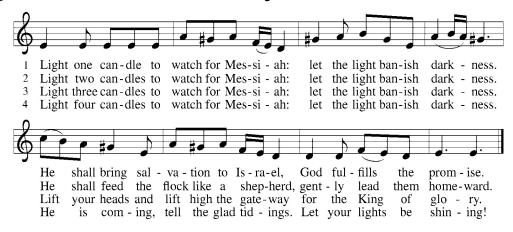
- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose home is heaven and earth, whose salvation is sure.
- C Amen.
- P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

- P Long-expected God,
- C we confess that we look to ourselves for the peace and security only you can provide. We reach for swords and spears, reluctant to release our grip on the ways of war. We become impatient while waiting and weary of keeping awake. Free us from self-reliance, and teach us to live in harmony with our neighbors. Increase our trust in God's timing, and awaken us to your advent among us, that we may abound in the hope you have promised. Amen.
- P God judges us not as we deserve, but according to God's own righteousness.

 You are freed and forgiven, saved by grace, and ready to welcome the Savior.
- C Amen.

Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah

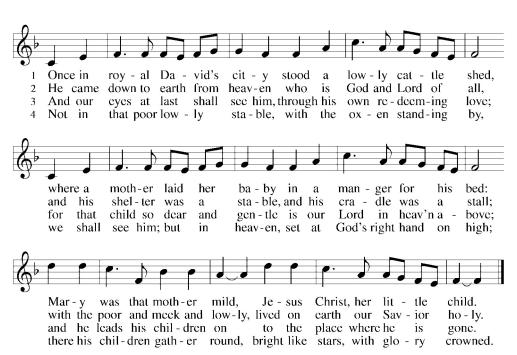


The Lighting of the Advent Wreathe

- A We light a fourth candle,
- C And we pray for salvation.
- A We light a fourth candle,
- C and we seek to be saved from the bondage of our sin.
- A We look to the one Joseph will name Jesus..
- C Come to us, O Savior of the world.
- A We dream of the day when the words of the prophets will be fulfilled.
- C Come to us, O God with us, our Lord, Immanuel.
- A We see the dawn of a new day in the tiny town of Bethlehem..
- C Help us live in the light of your grace. Amen.

*Gathering Hymn

Once in Royal David's City



*Apostolic Greeting

- P The Spirit and the Church cry out:
- C Come, Lord Jesus.
- P All those who await his appearance pray:
- C Come, Lord Jesus.
- P The whole creation pleads:
- C Come, Lord Jesus.
- P The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with your all.
- C And also with you.

*Kyrie



P In peace, let us pray to the Lord:



- P For peace between nations, compassion among peoples, and harmony in the Church, let us pray. *(Refrain)*
- P For the hungry to be filled, the lowly lifted up, and the captives to be freed, let us pray. (*Refrain*)
- P For patience in our suffering, hope in our waiting, and all joy in believing, let us pray. *(Refrain)*
- P Help, save, comfort and defend us, O God.



*Prayer of the Day

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you
- P Let us pray.
- C Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

First Reading

Isaiah 7:10-16

An Israelite and Aramean military coalition presented a serious threat to King Ahaz of Judah. In response, Ahaz decided to secure his throne and kingdom by seeking refuge in Assyrian help. Isaiah reminds Ahaz that human attempts to establish security will fail. The prophet gives the sign of Immanuel that is the only source of true safety: God is with us!

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. ¹³Then Isai-ah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign. Look,

the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 80:1-7 and 17-19

¹ Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.

² In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us.

³ Restore us, O God; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

⁴O LORD God of hosts, how long will your anger fume when your people pray?

⁵You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

⁶ You have made us the derision of our neighbors, and our enemies laugh us to scorn.

Second Reading

Romans 1:1 −7

Most of the Christians in Rome do not know Paul. In this letter's opening he introduces himself as an apostle divinely appointed to spread God's gospel. The gospel's content is the promised coming of Christ, and Paul's mission is to bring about the obedience of faith among all nations, including his Roman audience.

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through

whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

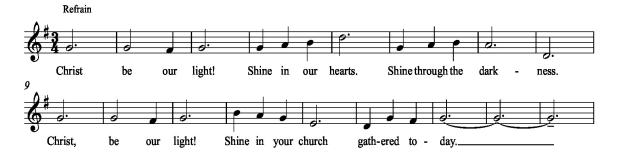
⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

A The Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

*Verse Response

Christ Be Our Light



⁷Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

¹⁷ Let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one you have made so strong for yourself.

¹⁸ And so will we never turn away from you; give us life, that we may call upon your name.

¹⁹ Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine upon us, and we shall be saved.

Vs.1 Longing for light we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, Light for the world to see. (refrain)

*Holy Gospel

Matthew 1:18-25

Matthew's story of Jesus' birth focuses on the role of Joseph, who adopts the divinely-begotten child into the family of David and obediently gives him the name Jesus, which means "God saves."

P The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew the first chapter.



Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and

you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

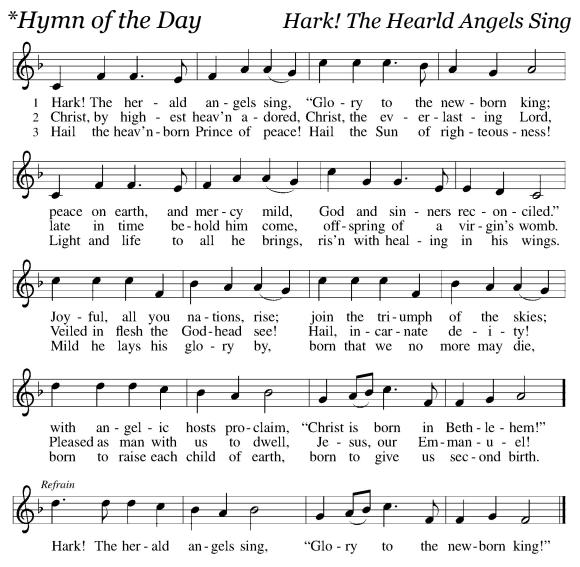
"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son

and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

P The Gospel of the Lord.



Keiki's Sermon Sermon



*Apostles' Creed

P God has made us God's people through our baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

P With messengers of hope from heaven and earth, and standing in the presence of God, let us offer our prayers.

A Stir up in your church, O God, signs of your presence among us, that through your people your saving power may be revealed. Send forth your light,

C and let your mercy shine upon us.

A Stir up in creation, O God, signs of your nurture. Watch over parents and guardians and those awaiting the birth of children, that they may live by faith in expectant times. Send forth your light,

C and let your mercy shine upon us.

A Stir up in the nations, O God, signs of peace. Let your face shine on all leaders, advisers, and teachers, that they might direct others into paths of righteousness for your name's sake. Send forth your light,

C and let your mercy shine upon us.

A Stir up in the suffering, O God, signs of your healing. May those who are bowed down by sorrow or illness know the power of your life-giving Spirit . . . Send forth your light,

C and let your mercy shine upon us.

P Receive our prayers, merciful God, and speak to us through the presence of your Son, Jesus Christ, your love made flesh.

C Amen





English Translation

- O Lord thy Loving Mercy, Is high as the Heavens. It tells us of thy truth. And 'tis filled with holiness
- For thy grace I beseech thee. Bring us 'neath thy protection. And peace will be thy portion Now and forever more. Amen

Sharing of the Peace

- P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C And also with you.
- P Let us share the peace of the Lord.



Offering



In response to the many requests we've had, we now have a contactless option for both members and visitors to share their offerings. It is still done over our Vanco church giving platform so it can connect to your stewardship account for record keeping. Mahalo!

Offertory Response

Lord of Aloha



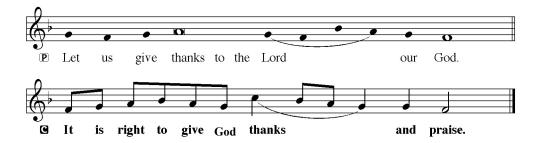


*Offertory Prayer

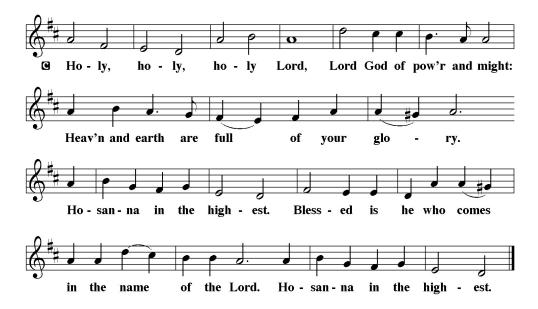
- P Let us pray, Nourishing God,
- C you are water in the wilderness and streams in the desert. Through this meal, satisfy our parched places, that we may rejoice and be for the world signs of your kingdom come. Amen.

*The Great Thanksgiving





It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . And join their unending hymn:



*Words of Institution

*The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Invitation to Communion

Here is life. God is with us. Come, receive what God has promised.

Distribution at the Altar

All are welcome to share in this meal with us. The wine will be distributed from a chalice with a pouring lip. After receiving the bread, the tray will be presented with empty glasses. Please pick up a glass and wait for the assistant to fill it with wine from the Common Cup. The center circle of cups is pre-filled with grape juice for those who would rather not receive wine.

Communion Songs

The Magnificat

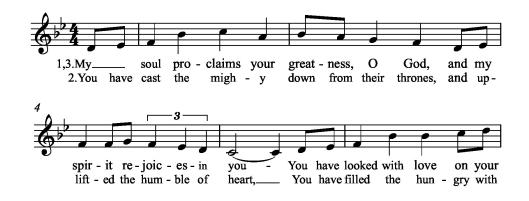
(The First Christmas Carol sung was the The Song of Mary, or the Magnificat. This passage from the Gospel of Luke has been sung at Evening Prayers in the western church since sixth century AD. Many tune settings have been composed for these words throughout the centuries. The tune we will be using this morning is a recent addition to the hymnody of the church composed by the contemporary Lutheran musician, Marty Haugen.)

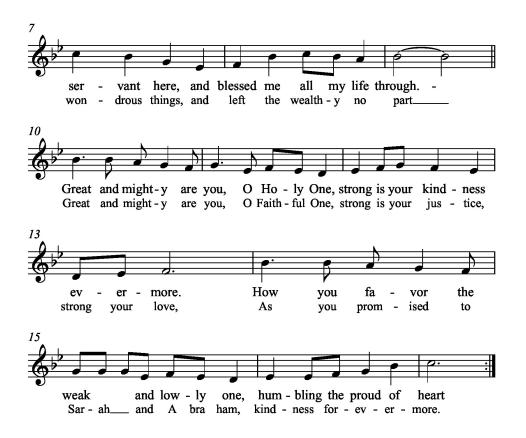
Cantor:

An angel went from God to a town called Nazareth to a woman whose name was Mary.

The angel said to her, "Rejoice, O highly favored, for God is with you. You shall bear a child, and his name shall be Jesus, the Chosen One of God Most High."

And Mary said, "I am the servant of my God, I live to do your will."





Jesus, the Very Thought of You





but sweet-er far your face to view and rest with - in your light. a sweet-er sound than your blest name, O Sav - ior us all! how kind you are to those who fall! How good to those who seek! to hear you say: "Come, share my home grant us at last

Here Is Bread



Distribution from the Pew

In this mo-ment,

We invite you to join us in receiving a socially-distanced communion from your pews. The sacraments have been prepared and are ready to be received! Come! Eat and drink!

by the Spir-it,

Christ is with us here

*Blessing

- P May God who comes among us, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, grant you patience in waiting, peace in the darkness, and good news to share today and always.
- C Amen.

*Post Communion Prayer

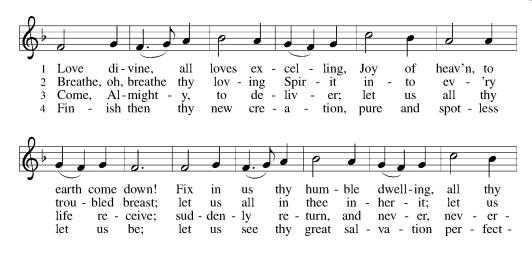
- P Let us pray. God our host,
- C at this table you have fed us with joy and gladness. Send us forth, eager to share the feast, welcome the stranger, and bear good fruit in the name of Jesus. Amen.

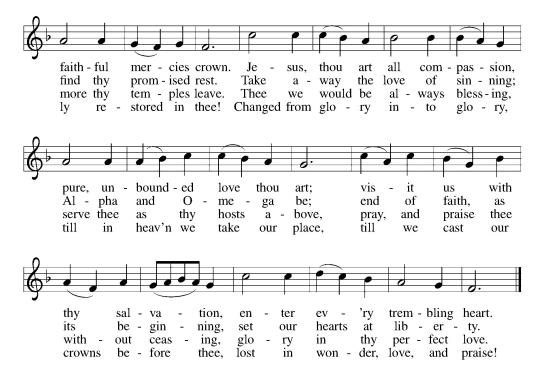
*Benediction

- P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace in the name of Makua, **+** Keiki Kane, and Uhane Hemolele.
- C Amene.

*Sending Hymn

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling





And He said, "Go in peace, and love one another, as I first loved you. Proclaim to all who'll hear the good news of my coming.

Keep faith in all you do: Keep faith in all you do."

A Go in peace. Keep Awake.

C Thanks be to God!





Lihue Lutheran Church Christmas Eve Worship Schedule 2025

3:00pm - Service of Scriptures, Carols and Communion

7:30pm - Service of Carols, Scriptures and Candlelight

11:00pm - Luther's Christmas Service of Carols, Communion and Candlelight

Truly Christmas is a season to worship!
Please feel free to invite family, friends and neighbors to join you in worship at Lihue Lutheran.

4602 Ho'omana Road (German Hill) Lihue, HI 96766 (808) 245-2145

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