

“OPEN HEARTS...OPEN MINDS...OPEN DOORS”



LAHAINA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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LAHAINA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Sunday, January 7th, 2024
Baptism of the Lord/Epiphany



***OPENING HYMN**

The First Noel

UMH 245

1. 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.

3. 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. [Refrain]

Refrain:
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
born is the King of Israel.

4. This star drew nigh to the
northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its
rest; and there it did both stop and
stay, right over the place where
Jesus lay. [Refrain]

2. They looked up and saw a star
shining in the east, beyond them
far; and to the earth it gave great
light, and so it continued both day
and night. [Refrain]

5 Then entered in those Wise Men
three, full reverently upon the knee,
and offered there, in his presence,
their gold and myrrh and
frankincense. [Refrain]



GREETINGS AND ALOHA

Liturgist: Kalolaini Pasikala

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Christ's light is shining.

PEOPLE: WE ARE CALLED OUT OF OUR DARKNESS INTO LIGHT.

Leader: Lift up your eyes and look around.

PEOPLE: WE REJOICE IN THE GIFT OF LIGHT.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God of light and joy and peace.

ALL: WE COME TO KNEEL AT THE CRADLE OF THE BABE.

1.

***Hymn of Praise**

1. We three kings of Orient are;
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and
mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain:
O star of wonder, star of light,
star with royal beauty bright,
westward leading, still proceeding,
guide us to thy perfect light.



PASTORAL GREETING

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

PRAYER TIME

Leader: Lord, in your mercy
ALL: HEAR OUR PRAYERS

UNISON PRAYER

Holy God and Parent of us all, as we move through the Christmas season,
we are reminded that beyond our earthly families, you have adopted us into
your redeemed family. Through the saving, redeeming work of your
Incarnation, you have made us heirs to your kingdom. We worship you
today in gratitude for the salvation you have graciously offered us and for
the purpose you give us. Lead us in your ways as we start this new year. In
Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

We Three Kings

2. Born a King on Bethlehem's plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never,
over us all to reign. [Refrain]

3. Frankincense to offer have I;
incense owns a Deity nigh;
prayer and praising, voices raising,
worshiping God on high. [Refrain]

4. Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume
breathes a life of gathering gloom;
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
sealed in the stone-cold tomb.
[Refrain]

5. Glorious now behold him arise;
King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia,
sounds through the earth and skies.
[Refrain]

UMH 254

Pastor John Crewe

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PRAYER RESPONSE "Queen Liliuokalani's Prayer"

O kou aloha no. Aia i ka lani. A'o Kou 'oia i'o. He hemolele ho'i. Amene
(Your loving mercy is in heaven, and your truth so perfect. Amen.)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

THE APOSTLE'S CREED, ECUMENICAL VERSION

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and 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, (**universal)**



880

***GLORIA PATRI**

UMH 70

SERMON SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise
men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, '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.' ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened,
and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and
scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be
born. ⁵They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by
the prophet:

⁶"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the
exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem,
saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found
him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' ⁹When they
had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star ³.

that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

MESSAGE	The Music of the Spheres	Pastor
HYMN OF PREPARATION	This Is My Father's World	UMH 144

1. This is my Father's world,
and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world:
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and
seas; his hand the wonders wrought.

2. This is my Father's world,
the birds their carols raise,
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world:
he shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass I hear him pass;
he speaks to me everywhere.

3. This is my Father's world.
O let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so
strong, God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world:
why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King; let the heavens
ring! God reigns; let the earth be
glad!



CHOIR OFFERING
DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER

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

**Ho'onani i ka Makua Mau,
Ke Keiki me ka 'Uhane nō,
Ke Akua Mau ho'omaika'i pū,
Kō kēia ao, kō kēlā ao. Āmene.**

4.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ, our Lord, invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sins before God and one another.

(Pause/Silence)

CONFESSION AND PARDON

**Merciful God,
We confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we
have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and
we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Hear the good news:
Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love for us.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

**In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

AND ALSO WITH YOU.

Lift up your hearts.

WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our
God

**IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS
AND PRAISE.**

It is right and a good and joyful thing, Always and everywhere to give
thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or you had formed the earth from
everlasting to everlasting, you alone are God.

You created light out of darkness and brought forth the earth. You formed
us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned
away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity, made a covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets.

5.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
We praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD, GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT, HEAVEN AND
EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY.
HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST.
BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD. HOSANNA IN
THE HIGHEST.**

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, in whom you have
revealed yourself, our light, and our salvation.

You sent a star to guide wise men to where Christ was born, and in your
signs and witnesses, in every age and through all the world, you have led
your people from far places to his light.

By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection, you gave birth to
your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us
a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

*On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave you
thanks, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this
is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."*

*When the supper was over, he took the cup, again he gave you thanks,
gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my
blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the
forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of
me."*



And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we
offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in
union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

CHRIST HAS DIED; CHRIST IS RISEN; CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here and on these gifts of bread
and juice.

Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the
world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in
ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his
heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all
honor and glory are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Jesus said, the body of Christ, given for you. **AMEN.**
The blood of Christ, given for you. **AMEN.**

SENDING FORTH / BENEDICTION

CIRCLE OF OHANA "HAWAII ALOHA" (Rev. Lorenzo Lyons)

E Hawai'i e ku'u one hanau e, Ku'u ho-me kulaiwi nei. Oli no au i na pono lani
ou,
E Hawai'i, aloha e. E hau'oli na `opio o Hawai'i nei. `Oli e! `Oli e! Mai na aheahe
makani e pa mai nei. Mau ke aloha, no Hawai'i.

(O Hawai'i, O sands of my birth, My native home. I rejoice in the blessings of
heaven, O Hawai'i, aloha. Happy youth of Hawai'i, Rejoice! Rejoice! Gentle
breezes blow. Love always for Hawai'i.)

