

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



**LAHAINA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

142 Baker Street, Lahaina, Maui, Hawaii 96761

(808) 264-9722 – Pastor

E-mail: [lumcmaui@gmail.com](mailto:lumcmaui@gmail.com)

Website: [lumcmaui.org](http://lumcmaui.org)

**MINISTERS:** Members and Friends of our Congregation

**PASTOR:** Pastor John Crewe

**LAHAINA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31, 2023

Happy New Year!



*Happy  
New Year*

**OPENING HYMN**

**Hark the Herald Angel's Sing**

**UMH 240**

1. Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King; peace  
on earth, and mercy mild, God and  
sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye  
nations, rise, join the triumph of the  
skies; with th'angelic host proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark!  
the herald angels sing, "Glory to the  
new born King!"

2. Christ, by highest heaven adored;  
Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
late in time behold him come,  
offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;  
hail th' incarnate Deity,  
pleased with us in flesh to dwell,  
Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new-born King!"

3. Hail the heaven-born Prince of  
Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, risen with  
healing in his wings. Mild he lays his  
glory by, born that we no more may die,  
born to raise us from the earth,  
born to give us second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new born King!"



**GREETINGS AND ALOHA**

**Liturgist: Vaosa Tagaloa**

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

(\* You may stand.)

**Leader:** Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise the Lord in the heights!

**People:** PRAISE THE LORD, ALL HIS ANGELS, PRAISE THE LORD, ALL HIS HOSTS!

**Leader:** Praise the Lord, the Lord, sun and moon, praise the Lord, all shining stars!

**PEOPLE:** PRAISE THE LORD, HIGHEST HEAVENS, AND ALL WATERS ABOVE THE HEAVENS!



**ALL: LET ALL THINGS THEIR CREATOR BLESS: ALLELUJAH! ALLELUJAH!  
ALLELUJAH!**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE**

**Good Christian Friends, Rejoice**

**UMH 224**

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice  
with heart and soul and voice;  
give ye heed to what we say:  
News, news!  
Jesus Christ is born today!  
Ox and ass before him bow,  
and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today,  
Christ is born today!

3. Good Christian friends, rejoice,  
with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye need not fear the grave:  
News, news!  
Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all  
to gain his everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save,  
Christ was born to save!

2. Good Christian friends, rejoice,  
with heart and soul and voice;  
now ye hear of endless bliss:  
News, news!  
Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He hath opened heaven's door,  
and ye are blest forevermore.  
Christ was born for this,  
Christ was born for this!



**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**PRAYER TIME**

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



**UNISON PRAYER**

**John Wesley's Covenant Prayer**

I am no longer my own, but thine. Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt. Put me to doing, put me to suffering. Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee, exalted for thee or brought low for thee. Let me be full, let me be empty. Let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and heartily yield all things to thy pleasure and disposal. And now, O glorious and blessed God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it. And the covenant which I have made on earth, let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.

**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.)

2.

**First Reading**

**Isaiah 61:10-62:3**

**Liturgist**

<sup>10</sup> I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

<sup>11</sup> For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

<sup>62</sup> For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. <sup>2</sup> The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. <sup>3</sup> You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

**SECOND READING**

**Galatians 4:4-7**

**Liturgist**

<sup>4</sup> But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, <sup>5</sup> in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. <sup>6</sup> And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' <sup>7</sup> So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

**# 880**

**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)



3.



\*GLORIA PATRI

\*THE LORD'S PRAYER

OFFERING

\*DOXOLOGY

*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.*

\*OFFERTORY PRAYER

HYMN OF PREPARATION

1. Once in royal David's city  
stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby  
in a manger for his bed;  
Mary, loving mother mild,  
Jesus Christ, her little child.

2. He came down to earth from  
heaven  
who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable,  
and his cradle was a stall.  
With the poor, the scorned, the  
lowly  
lived on earth our Savior holy.

3. Jesus is our childhood's pattern;  
day by day, like us he grew;  
he was little, weak, and helpless,  
tears and smiles like us he knew;  
and he feeleth for our sadness,  
and he shareth in our gladness.

*Ho'onani i ka Makua Mau,  
Ke Keiki me ka 'Uhane no,  
Ke Akua Mau ho'omaika'i pu,  
Kō kēia ao, kō kēlā ao.  
Āmene.*

Once in Royal David's City

4. And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love;  
for that child so dear and gentle  
is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on  
to the place where he is gone.



4.

UMH 70

Pastor

LUMC Choir

Pastor

UMH 250

SERMON SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:22-40

<sup>22</sup>When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord <sup>23</sup>(as it is written in the law of the Lord, 'Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord'), <sup>24</sup>and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.'

<sup>25</sup>Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him.

<sup>26</sup>It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. <sup>27</sup>Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, <sup>28</sup>Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

Father, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,  
according to your word;

<sup>30</sup>for my eyes have seen your salvation,

<sup>31</sup>which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

<sup>32</sup>a light for revelation to the Gentiles

and for glory to your people Israel.'

<sup>33</sup>And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. <sup>34</sup>Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed <sup>35</sup>so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

<sup>36</sup>There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, <sup>37</sup>then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. <sup>38</sup>At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

<sup>39</sup>When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. <sup>40</sup>The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

MESSAGE

Come Now Unexpected Jesus

Pastor



Pastor

5.



**\*CLOSING HYMN**

**Angels From the Realm of Glory**

**UMH 220**

1. Angels from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
ye who sang creation's story  
now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain:

Come and worship, come and  
worship,  
worship Christ, the newborn king.

2. Shepherds, in the field abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing;  
yonder shines the infant light:  
[Refrain]

3. Sages, leave your contemplations,  
brighter visions beam afar;  
seek the great Desire of nations;  
ye have seen his natal star: [Refrain]

4. Saints, before the altar bending,  
watching long in hope and fear;  
suddenly the Lord, descending,  
in his temple shall appear:  
(Refrain)



**\*SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION**

**Pastor**

**\*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.



**WE REMEMBER OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN PRAYERS:**

Norman Scott  
Rhonda Wilkes  
Lotima Filiai  
Doreen Taylor  
Linda & Les Takahashi  
Ariana and Austin  
Patrick Muratta  
Noah Min  
Kelly Hess  
Lotu Carlsen and family  
Monique Peterson  
Viola Cleo Bradshaw  
Rhoda  
Sandy Wong  
Riley Hope Jacobs  
Julie Reed  
Denny White  
Ellen Damaskas  
Grace and Rosie Nava  
Cathy Bradshaw  
Kathy Bowen  
Cordelia Vogel  
Roz Baker  
Laura Fowle  
John and Cindy Yaos  
Sherri Atkinson  
Gavin Kang  
Julie Freeman

Janice Haynes and family  
Fred Kitonga, his sister, and nephew, Lawrence,  
for the loss of Lawrence's wife, Mary.  
The family of Ellen DiGiampaulo in the passing of  
Ellen's dear mother, Beverly  
Warren Carthan & family  
Kevin Oliveti's sister Uheina in Tonga  
Dan and the family of Jodeen Bryen  
The family of Barb Dering  
The family of Janice Markwith  
The family of Frank Emanuel  
The family of Mabel Shimomura  
The family of Lori Ramsey  
The family of Doug Gloege\*  
The Family of Carolyn Ono\*  
Lotu Carlsen and family  
Sione Vaikeli, for the loss of his wife Linda\*  
Chris & Velvet Welland  
Lyn and Judy Ebbesen's family  
Heather Coffey  
Tonga Tuameiapi and family for the loss of his  
sister.  
The Pasikala family  
Terry Mitchell and daughter Lindsay  
Edie and John Machonis  
Sandy (Currently incarcerated)  
Clara  
(\*people lost in the fire)

**Prayers for our Community/Country:**

\*For the family, friends, and loved ones of those who lost their lives in the Lahaina  
fires.

\*We pray for continued support for all churches and non-profit organizations working  
to meet our community's physical, psychological, and spiritual needs after a  
devastating tragedy.

\*We offer prayers of gratitude for our firefighters, EMTs, police officers, other first  
responders, and civilians who walked into danger for our safety.

\*We pray for our medical staff who face growing workloads as they deal with multiple  
health crises. Inspire us to demand more staff and better work environments.

\* We pray that our leaders will work diligently to address our community's needs and  
not forget to address the problems of those most in need but frequently ignored.