

SOON
AND VERY
SOON
ADVENT 2025

November 30, 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

GOD'S EMINENT IMMINENCE: KEEP AWAKE!

JOIN US ON THE CORNER OF FILLMORE & JACKSON

[Click here to watch on our website](#)

[Click here to watch on YouTube](#)

WELCOME

Our mission is to nurture and inspire
our faith community to transform lives for Christ.

COMMUNITY GROWS HERE

Thank you for joining us in worship. Your presence matters here. Author Rachel Held Evans wrote, "Christianity isn't meant to simply be believed; it's meant to be lived, shared, eaten, spoken, and enacted in the presence of other people... Try as I may, I can't be a Christian on my own. I need a community. I need the church. Imagine if every church became a place where everyone is safe, but no one is comfortable. Imagine if every church became a place where we told one another the truth. We might just create sanctuary."

We need you. As we work to create transformational community on the corner of Fillmore and Jackson, your community needs your presence and your voice. It's been five years since our world was upended by Covid. And while much has changed since then, our need for each other and our need for community has not. Worship, at its root, is participatory. Your voice, in prayer and song, joins with the voices of others, as an offering to God. "Liturgy"—the words we say together in worship—means "the work of the people." Thankful for the privilege of doing the work together.



For **early and non-readers**, icons are included in the left margin throughout the bulletin.



*The asterisk indicates rising in body or spirit.

Assisted listening devices are available at the Front Desk, and **large print hymnals** are located in the Narthex (Sanctuary entry).



Rev. Marcella Auld Glass Rev. Joann H. Lee

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Rev. Victor H. Floyd

Michael Conley

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Michael Conley

Prayer Requests

Prayer boxes are located in the Narthex (Sanctuary entry) and at the Front Desk. The Deacons and Pastors honor confidentiality and pray for each request.

Calvary Deacons: Prayer, Essential Errands, Spiritual Support

Helen Huckleberry, Deacon Co-Moderator

Terry Milby, Deacon Co-Moderator

Rev. Victor Floyd, Minister of Spiritual Care



Notice of Filming: Most of Calvary's worship services are livestreamed on our Facebook page and YouTube channel. While most of the footage will feature worship leaders, video of the congregation may also appear. If you have concerns, please contact the church office.

DAILY LECTIONARY: NOVEMBER 30–DECEMBER 6

Sunday: Daniel 3:1, (2-7) 8-30 (from Y4A); *The Fiery Furnace*

Monday: Daniel 5:1-12; *Daniel Called to Interpret*

Tuesday: Daniel 5:13-30; *Daniel Helps the King*

Wednesday: Daniel 6:1-18; *Daniel Thrown in the Lions' Den*

Thursday: Daniel 6:19-28; *The King Commands Loyalty to God*

Friday: Ezekiel 1:1-3; 2:1-10; *Ezekiel's Call*

Saturday: Ezekiel 3:1-11; *Called to Be a Prophet*

If you could use a new study Bible, we have some for sale. This is the updated version of the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) that we have in the pews. Available for \$25 after worship.



November 30, 2025: First Sunday of Advent

🎵 **PRELUDE** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (tune: VENI EMMANUEL)"

Raymond H. Haan (b. 1938)

🎵 **INTROIT** "Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme" from *Cantata 140 "Wachet Auf"*

J. S. Bach (1685–1750)

*Awake, calls the voice to us
of the watchmen high up in the tower;
awake, you city of Jerusalem.
Midnight the hour is named;
they call to us with bright voices;
where are you, wise virgins?
Indeed, the Bridegroom comes;
rise up and take your lamps, Alleluia!
Make yourselves ready for the wedding,
you must go to meet him.*

👂 **WELCOME**

🔊 **LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES**

Now is the time; now is the moment
to wake from sleep.

Today we throw off the bedcovers of despair.

We rise from the nightmare of cynicism.

The hour is already here, even as we are waiting.

**Soon—yes, very soon—our hope will shine as bright as the sun,
and we will live in the light of God who is already with us.**

Our hope burns and cannot be extinguished.

(The first Advent candle is lit.)

🎵 ***HYMN 88** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" (*verses 1, 2, & 3*)

VENI EMMANUEL

👂 ***CALL TO CONFESSION**

🔊 ***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

When we scoff at those who await your return,
and live as though you were never here:

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

When we long for your coming to change the world,
and yet are unwilling to change even our own hearts:

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

When we do not make straight paths for justice,
nor offer welcome when you come as a migrant:

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

When we dismiss prophets and angels
and refuse to nourish your presence within us:

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

When we reduce our preparation for your coming
to reckless expense and trivialities:

**In your mercy, Lord,
forgive us and heal us.**

(Silence.)

We turn to you,
O God of infinite mercy;

**We renounce evil;
We claim your love;
We choose to be made whole. Amen.**

👂 ***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

🎵 ***GLORIA: HYMN 384** "Soon & Very Soon" (*verse 1, sung twice*)

Andraé Crouch



*THE HOPE

The Hope of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

The congregation is invited to share a sign of hope.

Following The Hope, children are invited to come up front for scripture reading and Children's Meditation.



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Spirit of salvation, guide us by your Word, that we will hear your truth, heed your call, and prepare for Christ's coming. Amen.



SCRIPTURE Isaiah 2:1-5 (page 550); Matthew 24:36-44 (page 806)

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



CHILDREN'S MEDITATION

Following the Children's Meditation, children ages infant to 5th grade are invited to walk with their parents down to the Lower Level Sunday Studio and Childcare space. Children may also sit with their families during worship.



ANTHEM "Zion hört die Wächter singen" from *Cantata 140 "Wachet Auf"*

J. S. Bach

*Zion hears the watchmen sing,
her heart leaps for joy within her,
she awakens and hastily arises.
Her glorious beloved comes from heaven,
strong in mercy, powerful in truth,
her light becomes bright, her star rises.
Now come, precious crown,
Lord Jesus, the Son of God!
Hosannah! We all follow to the hall of joy
and hold the evening meal together.*



SERMON "God's Eminent Imminence: Keep Awake!"

Following the Sermon, Youth (grades 6th-12th) may meet in the 2nd floor lounge area, called The S.P.O.T. (Spiritual, Passionate, Open-minded, Transformative).



***HYMN 83** "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

STUTTGART



OFFERING

The ushers will be walking down the aisles with offering plates if you'd like to pass your contribution toward either aisle as they walk by. You may also place your offering in the boxes at the back of the sanctuary.



OFFERTORY ANTHEM "E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come"

Paul Manz (1919-2009)

*Peace be to you and grace from him
Who freed us from our sins,
Who loved us all and shed his blood
That we might saved be.*

*Sing holy, holy to our Lord,
The Lord, Almighty God,
Who was and is and is to come;
Sing holy, holy, Lord!*

*Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
For Christ is coming, is coming soon,
For Christ is coming soon!*

*E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
And night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
For Christ will be their All!*



*DOXOLOGY

VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God for gifts of hope — and peace, Praise God for gifts of joy — and love,

Praise God for send - ing Christ to dwell On earth for us, Em - man - u - el.

Re-joice! Re-joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

 ***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

 ***HYMN** "Lift Up Your Heads" (*Please see insert.*)

CH THREE, John L. Bell

 ***BENEDICTION**

 ***CHORAL BLESSING** "Prepare the Way, O Zion"

Swedish hymn, BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN, 1697

*Prepare the way, O Zion,
your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley
a level way appear.
Greet One who comes in glory,
foretold in sacred story.
Refrain:
O blest is Christ who came
in God's most holy name.*

 POSTLUDE "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus (tune: STUTTGART)" (1977)

Raymond H. Haan (b. 1938)

Acknowledgements:

Liturgy adapted from Teri Peterson for Bible Worm.

Leading Worship This Morning

The King Family	<i>Liturgists</i>
Rev. Joann H. Lee	<i>Preaching</i>
Rev. Marcella Auld Glass	<i>Assisting</i>
Rev. Victor H. Floyd	<i>Assisting</i>
Jeff Smith	<i>Children's Meditation</i>
Michael Conley	<i>Conductor</i>
John Walko	<i>Organist/Pianist</i>
Natalie Ter Agapova	<i>Soloist</i>
Gabrielle Goozée-Nichols	<i>Soloist</i>
Nancy Hall	<i>Soloist</i>
Joachim Luis	<i>Soloist</i>
Jefferson Packer	<i>Soloist</i>
Ben Pattison	<i>Soloist</i>
Michael Villarreal	<i>Soloist</i>
Calvary Chancel Choir	

Next Week in Worship: December 7 at 10am

Second Sunday of Advent

Rev. Joann H. Lee

Tis the Season for Repentance...fa-la-la-la-la-la-la-la!

Matthew 3:1-12 Repentance is part of the work of preparation – and both activities have individual and collective elements. As crowds come to John for baptism, their repentance becomes a community event. Preparing the path of God also requires communities to engage in peace, love, and justice.

CHRISTMAS AT CALVARY ✨

Longest Night Worship Service

Waxing Moon

Sunday, December 21 at 5pm

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Wednesday, December 24 at 5 & 8pm

Sunday, December 28 at 10am

Epiphany Worship Service

Sunday, January 4 at 10am

SOON
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THIS ADVENT, WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR NEED FOR RADICAL HOPE. THE SCRIPTURES FROM THIS SEASON ENCOURAGE US TO PREPARE FOR GOD'S BEST, YET IT SOMETIMES FEELS LIKE WE ARE LIVING IN THE "WORST OF TIMES." CAN WE HOLD FAST TO THE PROMISE THAT "SOON AND VERY SOON" WE ARE GOING TO SEE THE HOPE, PEACE, JOY, AND LOVE OF GOD MANIFEST IN OUR LIVES AND INTO THE WORLD? SOON AND VERY SOON, FRIENDS, SOON AND VERY SOON.

GIVE LIGHT TO THE WORLD

2026 ANNUAL GIVING CAMPAIGN

JOIN CALVARY IN MINISTRY • MAKE A PLEDGE FOR 2026

Stewardship is more than meeting a budget—it's about shining Christ's love and light in the world.

Pledging is easy:

- ✦ Use the QR code to pledge online
- ✦ Visit calpres.org/give/annual-giving-2026
- ✦ Complete the pledge card mailed to you or Use one located in the pew rack



**Questions about pledging?
Contact a pastor or Robin Morjikian.**

The congregation has pledged over \$905,000 for **Giving Light to the World**, our 2026 pledge campaign. We are over 62% towards our goal! Thank you!

Your pledge supports Calvary worship services, music ministries, outreach to those in need, and so much more.

To help our church meet its \$1.45 million goal, please make your pledge today!



THE OUTDOOR GIVING TREE DECEMBER 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 28

We invite everyone to *Take What You Need / Give What You Can.*

Share God's love this Christmas season by helping others stay warm!

The Outdoor Giving Tree is back this Advent and Christmas Season! Share the joy of the holidays with everyone in our city. This tree will be decorated with brand new hats, mittens, and socks for our neighbors who need some extra warmth this winter season.

Please bring your donations of new hats, mittens, and socks enclosed in a plastic, zip-lock bag and clip it to our Giving Tree. We will provide the clothespins, but please put your items in a zip-lock bag to protect them from the elements, and LABEL your bag indicating what item is included and whether it is for an adult or for a child.



Raphael House: Adopt-a-Family



THROUGH DECEMBER 21

Together, we can make the Christmas season merry and bright for a Raphael House family. Calvary has been matched with a family of seven—two teen boys, two younger girls, and an infant.

To help make their holiday bright, you are invited to donate cash or checks (made out to Calvary, note: *Raphael House Giving Tree* on the memo line). Donations are being collected at the Raphael House Giving Tree during Coffee Hour.

For more information, stop by the table in Calvin Hall.



1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
 4 O come, thou Root of Jes - se, free thine own from
 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 all things might - i - ly: to us the path of knowl - edge
 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
 Sa - tan's tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple
 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
 show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re-joice! Re-joice!
 law in cloud and maj - es - ty and awe.
 save and give them vic - tory o'er the grave.
 Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

- 5 O come, thou Key of David, come,
 and open wide our heavenly home;
 make safe the way that leads on high,
 and close the path to misery.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer
 our spirits by thine advent here;
 disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
 and death's dark shadows put to flight.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
 all peoples in one heart and mind;
 bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
 fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
 shall come to thee, O Israel.

One stanza of this paraphrase of the great O Antiphons may be sung on each of the last days of Advent as follows:

Dec. 17: O Wisdom (2)

Dec. 20: O Key of David (5)

Dec. 23: O Emmanuel (1)

Dec. 18: O Lord of might (3)

Dec. 21: O Dayspring (6)

Dec. 19: O Root of Jesse (4)

Dec. 22: O Desire of Nations (7)

These titles of the coming Christ appeared in daily Vesper antiphons sung during the week before Christmas; their roots date at least to the reign of Charlemagne. Both text and tune are the fruit of 19th-century efforts to reclaim Christian treasures from pre-Reformation sources.



1 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
 2 No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 3 No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 4 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.



Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
 No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.



Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.
 No more cry - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 No more dy - ing there: we are going to see the King.
 Soon and ver - y soon we are going to see the King.



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're going to see the King!

This spirited African American gospel hymn draws on John's vision of the new heaven and the new earth in Revelation 21:3-4, with its wonderful promise that God will wipe away the tears from all eyes, that death will be no longer, and that there will be no more mourning or pain.



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
 2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art;
 3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child and yet a king,
 4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a - lone;



from our fears and sins re - lease us; let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for - ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

With its opening "Come," this hymn sounds the note of entreaty and invitation that characterizes the Advent season (from the Latin *adventus* = "coming"). Its blending of memory and hope helps us to give voice to our present faith as we stand between the past and the future.

TEXT: Charles Wesley, 1744
 MUSIC: Witt's *Psalmodia Sacra*, 1715, alt.

STUTTGART
 8.7.8.7
 (alternate tune: HYFRYDOL, 82)

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS

George Weissel (1590-1635)
Trans. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878)
Adapt. by JLB

CH THREE
John L. Bell



1. Lift up your heads, e - ter - nal gates,
2. But not in arms or bat - tle dress,
3. God brings a new face to the brave,
4. God's match - less and ma - jes - tic strength,



Al - le - lu - ia! See how the King of
Al - le - lu - ia! God comes, a child a -
Al - le - lu - ia! God re - de - fines who
Al - le - lu - ia! in all its height, depth,



glo - ry waits, Al - le - lu - ia!
midst dis - tress, Al - le - lu - ia!
best can save: Al - le - lu - ia!
breadth, and length, Al - le - lu - ia!



The Lord of Hosts is draw - ing near,
No might - y ar - mies shield the way,
not those whose pow'r re - lies on threat,
now is re - vealed, its pow'r to prove,



the Sav - ior of the world is here.
on - ly coarse lin - en, wool, and hay.
ter - ror or tor - ture, de - struc - tion or debt.
by Christ pro - test - ing "God is love!"



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Waxing Moon The Longest Night

Sunday, December 21 at 5pm

Led by Rev. Victor H. Floyd

On this turning of the year, we gather at the edge of darkness—the earth tilts, the light pauses, and the long night holds its breath. Together we will pray and keep stillness, kindle every candle against the shadows, and listen as hope stirs in the quiet. Guest artist **Emil Miland**, cellist of the San Francisco Opera Orchestra, will offer Dvořák's "Song to the Moon"—a hymn for the soul seeking light. Bring your hopes, your fears, your tender heart—but come just as you are, and behold the waxing moon.

CALVARY WORSHIP, MUSIC, AND PROGRAM STAFF



The Rev. Marcella Auld Glass, Pastor & Head of Staff

The Rev. Joann H. Lee, Associate Pastor for Community Formation

The Rev. Victor H. Floyd, Minister of Spiritual Care

Michael Conley, Director of Music Ministries

John Walko, Organist

Alison Faison, Director of Children & Family Ministries

Robin Morjikian, Director of Development & Volunteer Ministries

Jeff Smith, Director of Youth Ministries

