



December 28, 2025

JESUS, A REFUGEE IN EGYPT

[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).



DAILY LECTIONARY: DECEMBER 28–JANUARY 3

Sunday: John 1:19-34; *The Lamb of God*
Monday: 2 Kings 1:7-8; *Description of Elijah*
Tuesday: Malachi 4:5-6; *God Will Send Elijah*
Wednesday: Luke 3:1-18; *John the Baptist Preaches*
Thursday: Matthew 3:13-17; *Jesus Is Baptized*
Friday: Matthew 4:1-11; *Temptation in the Wilderness*
Saturday: Matthew 4:12-17; *Jesus Begins His Ministry*

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.



Rev. Marcella Auld Glass Rev. Joann H. Lee

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Rev. Victor H. Floyd

Michael Conley

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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.

🎵 **PRELUDE** "Prelude on GREENSLEEVES"

Richard Purvis (1913–1994; Calvary organist 1931–1934)

🎵 **INTROIT** "Conditor Alme Siderum"

9th century Latin hymn, setting by Guillaume Dufay (c.1397–1474)

*Creator of the stars of night,
Thy people's everlasting light,
O Christ, redeemer us all,
We pray thee, hear us when we call.*

*To thee the travail deep was known
That made the whole creation groan
Til thou, Redeemer, shouldst free
Thine own in glorious liberty.*

*When the old world drew on toward night,
Thou came, but not in splendor bright
As monarch, but the humble child
Of Mary, blameless mother mild.*

*At thy great name, O Jesu, now
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
All things on earth with one accord,
Like those in heaven, shall call you Lord. Amen.*

👂 **WELCOME**

🔊 **CALL TO WORSHIP**

We gather today to remember.

We gather today to worship.

We remember Herod's tyranny.

We worship Christ, our Prince of Peace.

We remember the slaughter of the innocents.

We worship a God who welcomes all children.

We gather today to remember.

We gather today to worship.

🎵 ***HYMN 123** "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear" (verses 1–3, 5)

CAROL

👂 ***CALL TO CONFESSION**

🙏 ***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy and loving God, you are steadfast and faithful.

But we struggle with faithfulness.

We wrestle with wholeheartedness.

And like Herod, our fears too often lead us.

We've fought to uphold our own kingdoms instead of building yours.

And, as with Herod, our unchecked love of power often hurts the innocents the most.

Forgive us and free us. In the name of Jesus we pray, Amen.

👂 ***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

🎵 ***GLORIA:** "Angels We Have Heard on High"



✋ ***THE PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

The congregation is invited to share a sign of peace.

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



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Christ child, you are the Word of God made Incarnate. Yet we confess that sometimes wrestle with scripture, the word of God written. Send your Holy Spirit to guide our hearts and minds as we read these ancient words for us this day. Bring clarity and peace and a way forward. Show us your truth and help us to be transformed. Amen.



SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:13–23 (page 784)

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 "Coventry Carol" from the *Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors* (1591)

arr. Martin Shaw

*Lully, lulla, thou little tiny child,
By by, lully, lullay.*

*O sisters too,
how may we do
for to preserve this day
this poor youngling,
for whom we do sing
by by, lully lullay?*

*Herod the king,
in his raging,
charged he hath this day
his men of might,
in his own sight,
all young children to slay.*

*That woe is me,
poor child for thee!
And ever morn and day,
for thy parting
neither say nor sing
by by, lully lullay!*



SERMON "Jesus, A Refugee in Egypt"



FAITH STORIES AND REFLECTIONS



*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH "The Immigrants' Creed", excerpted from *The Book of Common Worship: 2018 Edition*

**I believe in Almighty God,
who guided the people in exile and in exodus,
the God of Joseph in Egypt and Daniel in Babylon,
the God of foreigners and immigrants.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ,
a displaced Galilean,
who was born away from his people and his home,
who fled his country with his parents when his life was in danger,
and returning to his own country suffered the oppression
of the tyrant Pontius Pilate, the servant of a foreign power,
who then was persecuted, beaten, and finally tortured,
accused and condemned to death unjustly.
But on the third day, this scorned Jesus rose from the dead,
not as a foreigner but to offer us citizenship in heaven.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us,
who speaks all languages, lives in all countries,
and reunites all races.**

I believe that the church is the secure home
for the foreigner and for all believers who constitute it,
who speak the same language and have the same purpose.
I believe that the communion of the saints begins
when we accept the diversity of the saints.

I believe in the forgiveness of sin, which makes us all equal,
and in reconciliation, which identifies us more
than does race, language, or nationality.

I believe that in the resurrection
God will unite us as one people
in which all are distinct
and all are alike at the same time.

Beyond this world, I believe in life eternal
in which no one will be an immigrant
but all will be citizens of God's kingdom,
which will never end. Amen.

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



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 "O Holy Night"

*O holy night, the stars are brightly shining;
it is the night of the dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining,
till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices,
for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices!
O night divine! O night when Christ was born!*

Adolphe Adam (1803-1856), arr. Jay Rouse
*Truly He taught us to love one another;
His law is love and His gospel is peace.
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,
and in His name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,
let all within us praise His holy name.
Christ is the Lord! O praise His name forever!
His pow'r and glory evermore proclaim!*



*DOXOLOGY: HYMN 130 "Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light"

ERMUNTRE DICH



*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 132 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

IN DULCI JUBILO



*BENEDICTION



*CHORAL BLESSING "The Ashwell Carol"

trad. Russian tune, arr. Elizabeth Poston

*Gloria in excelsis Deo! Pax per aedes hominum!
Adoremus! Adoremus! Adoremus Dominum!
Glory to God in the highest! Peace to all people!
Let us adore the Lord!*



POSTLUDE "Noël: Joseph est bien marié (Joseph is Married Well), Op. 60" (1886) Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)

Leading Worship This Morning

Sam & Max Andre
Rev. Joann H. Lee
Rev. Marcella Auld Glass
Michael Conley
John Walko
Natalie Ter Agapova
Gabrielle Goozée-Nichols
Nancy Hall
Joachim Luis
Jefferson Packer
Ben Pattison
Michael Villarreal
Calvary Chancel Choir

Liturgists
Preaching
Assisting
Conductor
Organist/Pianist
Soloist
Soloist
Soloist
Soloist
Soloist
Soloist

Rev. Victor returns
January 4.

Next Week in Worship: January 4 at 10am

Epiphany Sunday

Rev. Marcella Auld Glass:

Nations Shall Come to Your Light

Isaiah 60:1-6 Join us as we celebrate Epiphany, when the magi journeyed to see Jesus, and receive our Star Words. The prophet Isaiah preaches to people in exile a word of hope. Even as they walk in thick darkness, he tells them that nations will come to their light. How did Isaiah's prophecy come true in the story of the magi? How does it come true in our world?

CHURCH OFFICES
CLOSED
THURSDAY, JANUARY 1

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 \$1,082,914 for **Giving Light to the World**, our 2026 pledge campaign. We are over 76% towards our goal! Thank you!

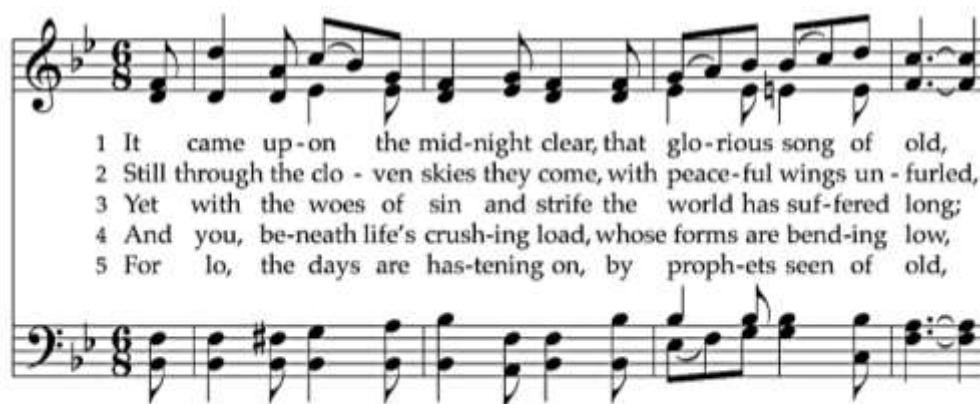
Your pledge supports Calvary worship services, music ministries, outreach to those in need, and so much more.

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

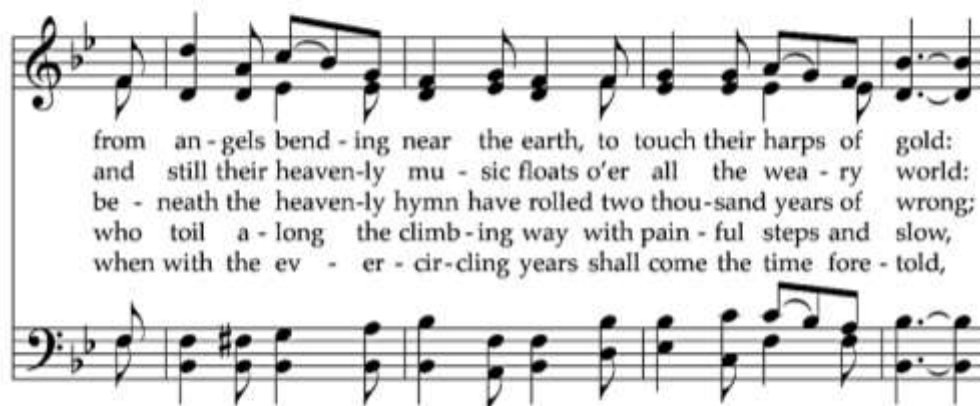


CALVARY WORSHIP, MUSIC, AND PROGRAM STAFF


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



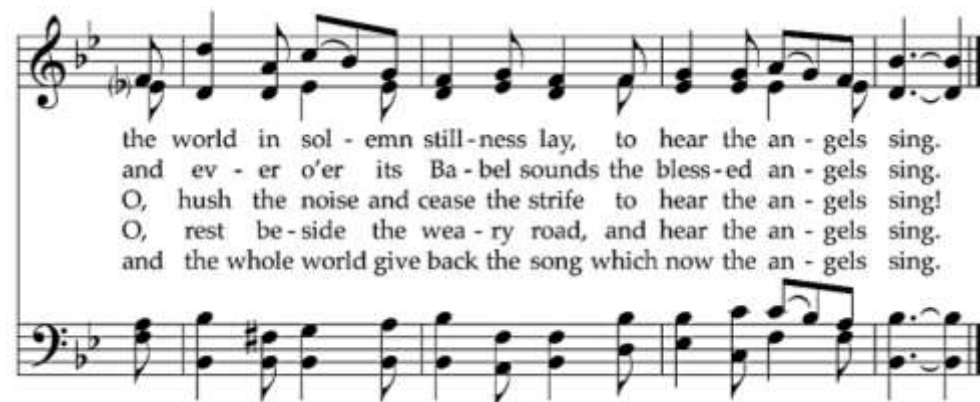
1 It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo-rious song of old,
 2 Still through the clo - ven skies they come, with peace-ful wings un - furled,
 3 Yet with the woes of sin and strife the world has suf-fered long;
 4 And you, be-neath life's crush-ing load, whose forms are bend-ing low,
 5 For lo, the days are has-tening on, by proph-ets seen of old,



from an - gels bend - ing near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heaven-ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world:
 be - neath the heaven-ly hymn have rolled two thou-sand years of wrong;
 who toil a - long the climb-ing way with pain - ful steps and slow,
 when with the ev - er - cir-cling years shall come the time fore - told,



"Peace on the earth, good will to all, from heaven's all-gra-cious King":
 a - bove its sad and low - ly plains they bend on hov-ering wing,
 and we at war on earth hear not the tid - ings that they bring;
 look now, for glad and gold-en hours come swift-ly on the wing:
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen-dors fling,



the world in sol - emn still-ness lay, to hear the an - gels sing.
 and ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds the bless-ed an - gels sing.
 O, hush the noise and cease the strife to hear the an - gels sing!
 O, rest be-side the wea - ry road, and hear the an - gels sing.
 and the whole world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

The "it" of the first line of this text by a Unitarian minister does not refer to the birth of Jesus, but to "that glorious song of old," the angelic tidings of peace on earth. The restored third stanza laments how often the noise of human strife has obscured that message.

Break forth, O beau-teous heav-en-ly light, and ush-er in the

morn - ing. You shep-herds, shud-der not with fright, but hear the

an - gel's warn - ing. This child, now weak in in - fan-cy, our

con - fi - dence and joy shall be, the power of Sa - tan

break - ing, our peace e - ter - nal mak - ing.

This exuberant text, based on Isaiah 9:2-7, was the ninth of twelve stanzas in its original German hymn. The chorale tune associated with this hymn went through many changes at the hands of later composers, reaching its present form in J. S. Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*.

1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss: Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man-ger now.
 He has o-pened heav-en's door, and we are blest for - ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain the ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Carols using two languages, like this one dating from at least the 14th century, belong to a special group called "macaronic," the original languages here being German and Latin. Though the present version is only in English, it is sung to the traditional German folk melody.