

WORSHIP SERVICE

December 21, 2025 – 10:30 AM, 4th Sun. in Advent

PRELUDE

Praise Team

CALL TO WORSHIP

Nicole Zhai

Psalm 150:1–2

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Nicole Zhai

SHARING ALOHA

Congregation

SONGS OF PRAISE

Praise Team

*Hark the Herald Angels Sing
O Little Town of Bethlehem*

PRAYER OF PETITION

Rev. Jonathan Lilley

HYMN

Congregation

Silent Night (#147 Red Hymnal)

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Nicole Zhai

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Praise Team

O Holy Night

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Nicole Zhai

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

The Sun Family

SERMON

Rev. Jonathan Lilley

"The Birth of the King"
Luke 2:1-20

RESPONSE HYMN

Congregation

O Come, All Ye Faithful (#145 Red Hymnal)

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.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Jonathan Lilley

POSTLUDE

Praise Team

E Komo Mai

If you are a first-time visitor, we invite you to fill out a "Welcome Card" found in the foyer and place it in the Koa Bowl at the front of the church. We would love to connect with you and share more about our church and the various ministries and opportunities available to you.

We look forward to getting to know you and helping you feel at home!

SERMON NOTES

"The Birth of the King"

Luke 2:1-20

Rev. Jonathan Lilley

Senior Pastor

Big Idea: *Jesus traded a throne for a feeding trough to prove that the door to God is open to everyone.*

I. The Unexpected Arrival (Luke 2:1-7)

II. The Unexpected Audience (Luke 2:8-11)

III. The Unexpected Sign (Luke 2:12)

Reflection Questions:

- Do you approach God more like a "Caesar" (trying to impress) or a "Shepherd" (hiding in shame)?
- What specific pride do you need to surrender today to draw closer to Jesus?
- The shepherds didn't just hear the news; they said, "Let us go and see." What is one practical step you can take this week to move from hearing about Jesus to meeting with Him?

DISCIPLESHIP HELPSHEET

Heidelberg Catechism

Question 52: *What comfort is it to you that Christ will come to judge the living and the dead?*

Answer: In all my sorrow and persecution I lift up my head and eagerly await as judge from heaven the very same person who before has submitted Himself to the judgment of God for my sake, and has removed all the curse from me.^[1] He will cast all His and my enemies into everlasting condemnation, but He will take me and all His chosen ones to Himself into heavenly joy and glory.^[2]

[1] Luke 21:28; Rom. 8:22-25; Phil. 3:20,21; Tit. 2:13, 14. [2] Matt. 25:31-46; I Thess. 4:16, 17; II Thess. 1:6-10.

Question 53: What do you believe concerning the Holy Spirit?

Answer: First, He is, together with the Father and the Son, true and eternal God.^[1] Second, He is also given to me,^[2] to make me by true faith share in Christ and all His benefits,^[3] to comfort me,^[4] and to remain with me forever.^[5]

[1] Gen. 1:1, 2; Matt. 28:19; Acts 5:3, 4; I Cor. 3:16. [2] I Cor. 6:19; II Cor. 1:21, 22; Gal. 4:6; Eph. 1:13. [3] Gal. 3:14; I Pet. 1:2. [4] John 15:26; Acts 9:31. [5] John 14:16, 17; I Pet. 4:14.

Memory Verse:

"For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich." — 2 Corinthians 8:9

Upcoming Sermon:

12/28/2025	The Christmas Story	The Hope Has Come	Luke 2:21-38
1/4/2026	Firm Foundation	Our Authority: The Doctrine of Scripture	2 Timothy 3:14-4:4

Missionary of the Month: This month, we are lifting up the River of Life Mission in Honolulu, Hawaii in prayer. River of Life serves the homeless and underserved through daily meals, spiritual support, and life-restoring programs rooted in the love of Christ. If you feel led to support mission partners like River of Life Mission, please mark "Missions" on your tithing envelope.

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS - 12/21/25

- ❖ **Mahalo for the Altar Flowers** from Julian and Ken McKenna and from James and Xiuling Zhao.
- ❖ **Board Meeting:** There will be a Board Meeting today at 12PM in the MPR.
- ❖ **Poinsettias:** Christmas poinsettias (8" pots) are available for \$20 each. Please place your order at the church office. There are still plenty left! Poinsettias may be taken home after the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on December 24.
- ❖ **Christmas Eve Baptism:** We will hold an English baptism service at Magic Island (meet at the back of the parking lot) on Wednesday, December 24 at 4:30 p.m. Join us as we baptize Zac Brownell and his son David Yin and celebrate this important step in their faith.
- ❖ **Christmas Eve:** Please join us in celebrating the birth of Jesus at our Joint English and Mandarin Christmas Eve Candlelight Service on Wednesday, December 24th at 7pm. All are welcome.
- ❖ **Christmas Day Holiday:** The office will be closed on Thursday, Dec. 25th in observance of the Christmas Holiday.
- ❖ **Scholarships:** David and May Liu scholarship applications will be available on the church website beginning February 17, 2026. The due date will be March 17, 2026. We will keep you posted.
- ❖ **In Memoriam:** All are invited to celebrate the life of Mary Chung at FCCC on Saturday, Jan 3rd. Visitation: 10am. Service: 11am. Refreshments: 12pm.
- ❖ **Men's Breakfast:** Join us for Men's Breakfast on Saturday, January 17th at 9am in the Conference Room. Hope you can make it!
- ❖ **2026 Offering Envelopes:** You may pick up your 2026 offering envelope box from the back pew or Ewa lanai. You may also use the generic envelopes in the pews. Please write your name in English to receive tax credit. If you would like to receive your own offering # with a box of weekly envelopes, please contact the church office. Notify the office if you have an updated address; tax statements will be mailed in January.
- ❖ **English Bible Study Holiday Recess:** English Bible Studies will be on break for the Christmas and New Year holidays. There will be no meetings on Tuesday, Dec. 23, Friday, Dec. 26, Tuesday, Dec. 30, or Friday, Jan. 2. We look forward to seeing everyone when classes resume in the new year.

STUDYING THE BIBLE TOGETHER

Tuesday

9:00–10:00 AM.....Midweek Morning Bible Study (Master's Hall, MPR Rm)

Friday (except the last Friday of the month)

6:45 PM.....Dinner (w/Mandarin congregation)

7:30–8:30 PM.....Midweek Evening Bible Study (Founder's Hall, Rm 303)

Sunday

9:00–10:00 AM.....Children & Youth Sunday School (Founder's Hall)

9:00–10:00 AM.....Adult Sunday School (Master's Hall, MPR Rm)

ONLINE GIVING

If you would like to give online, scan the QR code or you may visit
<https://www.firstchinese.org/go/>.



PASTORAL STAFF

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There is more mercy in Christ than sin in us.
— Richard Sibbs



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