

The top half of the image features four lit purple candles of varying heights. The background is a dark, bokeh-filled space with warm, golden light spots, suggesting a festive or spiritual atmosphere. The word "Advent" is written in a large, elegant, white cursive font across the top right.

Advent

CHRISTMAS MEANS THAT GOD
CAME TO BE WITH US.
HE DIDN'T LEAVE
US ALL ALONE.

December 24, 2023

Order of Worship

Welcome! We hope you find this time meaningful and life giving.
Please silence your devices for the duration of the service.
Join us in the responsive readings written in **bold text**.
May the LORD bless you!

kaleo
C H U R C H

Sunday Gathering 11:45 a.m.
1301 W. 100th Ave, Anchorage, AK 99515
www.kaleoalaska.org

Call to Worship

We gather today because God desires a relationship with us. It has been the practice of the church for thousands of years to have portions of the Bible read corporately during worship services.

Confession & Assurance

Confession both acknowledges our need for mercy and celebrates its abundance in Christ. We are assured in the scriptures that our penalty was paid completely by Christ.

Faith & Repentance

None is righteous, no, not one... for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God... For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus ...

CALL TO WORSHIP

Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. And all went to be registered, each to his own town. And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child.

And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

SONGS

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:8-14

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, ***“Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!”***

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT CANDLE

Jesus is our JOY.

SENDING OF KIDS

SONGS

SERMON

That You May Believe and Have Life in Jesus
John 16:16-33, “Unshakeable Joy”
Pastor Chris Cha, Kaleo Church

COMMUNION

Also called the Lord’s Supper is the family meal of Christians. We invite all followers of Jesus Christ who have examined their lives and confessed their sins to partake of this meal. This is a time of reflection, application, and prayer.

Prayer for Receiving Communion

Lord Jesus, your perfect life, death, and resurrection are the source of all blessing in this life and the life to come. As I eat this bread and drink this cup, renew me in the joy and glory of knowing and serving you. I come to this table on the basis of your merit only and not my own. As you have completely and fully offered yourself for me, I now completely and fully offer myself to you as a living sacrifice. Amen.

CHRIST CANDLE & SONGS

SENDING

John 1:1-5, 14
In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it... And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth... **Amen.**

Faith & Repentance Continued

...if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved... For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved... For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life... And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.

(Romans 3:10, 23; 6:23; 10:9-10, 13. John 3:16. Acts 4:12.)

WELCOME

We are glad you're here! Visitors text "Hello" to (907) 312-2000 and pick up a complimentary coffee card at the Welcome Table.

Text "KGroup" to (907) 312-2000 for community groups info.

If you call Kaleo home, an offering box is on the wall in the back of the auditorium. You can also give online by texting any dollar amount to 84321.

kaleoalaska.org

REFLECT

"What a wonderful experience it is when God grants us a moment in which we don't take anything for granted, but see the world as though it was invented yesterday. How we would marvel at the wisdom of God. We should pray for the eyes of children again, when they saw everything for the first time. William Quayle reminded me of this recently in his lively book, *The Pastor- Preacher*. He said, "A cow has pretty eyes, as quiet as a pool of quiet water, but uneventful eyes. There is no touch of wonder in their dreamless depths. The eyes are therefore soulless. A child's eyes are fairly lightning. They are to see things: they are the windows of the brain, and bewilder like a play of swords of fire." 7 These are the eyes we need to see the unending wisdom of God running through all the world. There will be no exhausting the understanding of God. We will be making new discoveries for all eternity."

— John Piper, *The Pleasures of God: Meditations on God's Delight in Being God*

CONNECT

Advent Resources available at kaleoalaska.org.

KSM Schedule

- Thursdays, 7:00-8:30 p.m.
- Sunday Mornings 9:15 a.m.

Prayer of Belief

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am more sinful than I ever before believed, but through the cross, I am more loved and accepted than I ever hoped. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

Baptism

If you are a Christian and haven't been baptized, please talk with an elder. We would be honored to baptize you.

Seeking

We hope this time has been helpful to you and your relationship with Jesus Christ.