

Calvary Lutheran Church • 20th Annual

ADVENT VESPERS

Prepare for the season with Word • Music • Song • Ballet by Pr. Kristen Klade

Saturday • Dec. 2, 2023 • 6 pm
Reception following the service



Calvary Lutheran Church
7620 Baker Blvd
Richland Hills, Texas
817.284.8724
Godshearhumanhands.org

A Note of Welcome

The Incarnation is a mysterious sacred
paradigm shift transforming human history.

The Wholly Other
beyond space,
beyond time,
becomes tangible.

The Divine intersects our world.

Bread be Body.
Wine be Blood.
Spiritized matter.

Emmanuel - God with us

Salvation Miracle

Joshua/Jesus

One who saves.

Perplexed by this astonishing news,
Let us with the Virgin ponder the Archangel's message
"Nothing is impossible with God"

Feel
Awesome grace flowing
In through us
Hearts uplifted

Gladly echo Mary's mantra,
"Let it be. I am the Lord's servant."

Advent Time
Reflection
Reformation
Liberation
Justice
Peace

My earnest prayer is that this evening will kindle in each of
us the fire of God's love, stirring us to reach out and share
with all in love, embodying the pattern of community we
learn at the altar.

✠ Viktor Andersson

Lost in the Night

Instrumental Intro

Vs. 1 Soloist Vs. 2 Choir

Congregation joins singing Vss. 3 & 4

1. Lost in the night- do the peo- ple yet lan- guish,
2. Must we be vain- ly a- wait- ing the mor- row?
3. Sor- row - ing wan- d'rers, in dark- ness yet dwell - ing,
4. Light o'er the land of the need- y is beam- ing;

3

long- ing for morn- ing the dark- ness to van- quish,
Shall those who have light no a- light let us bor- row,
dawned has the day of a ra- dian- ce ex- cel - ling,
riv- ers of life through its des- erts are stream - ing,

5

plain- tive- ly sigh- ing with hearts full of an- guish.
giv - ing no heed to our bur- den of sor- row?
death's deep - est shad- ows for- ev- er dis- pel - ling.
bring- ing all peo- ples a Sav- ior re- deem- ing,

7

Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?
Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?
Christ is com - ing soon! Christ is com - ing soon!
Come and save us soon! Come and save us soon!

Text: Nordic hymn; tr. Olav Lee, 1859-1943, alt.
Music: LOST IN THE NIGHT, Finnish folk tune
Text © 1932 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

Meditation

“If in the beginning of a life of inner stillness, we do not experience the power of divine visions because of our mind’s distraction, and cannot seem to raise ourselves up to the power of the wonders of God, we must not become despondent and abandon the serenity of solitude.

For when we work in the garden and sow seeds, we don’t immediately see the ear of corn;

in fact, despondency, hardship, painful limbs, cutting off friendships, and separation from acquaintances accompany the work of sowing.

But after we have endured these things, behold: another season comes when we are filled with gladness, we leap, exult, and rejoice.

And when is this? When we share and eat the bread furnished by our own sweat -- and when we reflect on this bread and hold fast to the revelation from our reflection.

For stillness and patient meditation kindle great and endless sweetness in the heart and swiftly draw the intellect to unspeakable wonder. Perseverance in stillness opens access to the divinely flowing spring.”

“Homily 37,” *The Ascetical Homilies*
St. Issac of Syria (c. 613 – c. 700)
Bishop of Nineveh, Hermit, Desert Father

Entrance of Light

Maranatha [Aramaic]

“מרן אתא” “מרנא תא”

“Come, Lord” “The Lord has come”

Viktor Andersson

The musical score consists of three systems, each with an instrumental part and a vocal part. The instrumental part is in 4/4 time and begins with a whole rest. The vocal part is in a lower register and begins with a half note. The lyrics are: Ma Ra Na Tha MA RA NA THA. The first system is for the Cantor/Choir, and the second and third systems are for ALL. The instrumental part is marked with a 4 and the vocal part is marked with Cantor/Choir and ALL.

A Let us pray

O Lord, the day draws near when the bright glory of your Son will make radiant the night of this waiting world.

Give us strength in our conflicts. Shed light on our path.

Banish the blinding darkness.

Fill our minds and hearts with visions of justice and dreams of unity.

Help us say with your servant Mary:

“Yes, Lord, Let it be to me according to your word.”

C Amen

Reading

God saw the world falling to ruin because of fear and immediately acted to call it back with love.

God invited it by grace, preserved it by love, and embraced it with compassion.

St. Peter Chrysologos (c. 430)

***The Moon of Wintertime* arr. Karissa Dennis (2018)**

Reading

**The people that in darkness walk, yet hope for light anew,
cry aloud: "What must we do as we await the coming of
the Holy One?**

**To Welcome Him for whom we long,
To welcome in God's kingdom come?"**

John the Baptizer tells us

Renew your hearts; let those with plenty learn to give.

**Hoard not your clothes, your food, your goods, but kindly
share and simply live. Let those who serve the common
good take justice as you're their guiding thought. Do not
extort; do not defraud; to each their proper share allot.**

Rev. Michael Joncas (b. 1951)

When the Darkness Claims the Moon

Lisa M. Clark Mark Knickelbein



All 1 When the dark - ness claims the moon, Watch and
Choir 2 Peace, take heart; I will come back, Though the
All 3 Tell the world the time is near. I will
All 4 Sure - ly, I will come a - gain; Heav - en's



wait for My re - turn - ing. Stay a - wake! I'm com - ing
hours seem long and drea - ry. When en - dur - ing each at -
come in awe - some glo - ry. Wait in hope and do not
pow - ers will be shak - en. Hear the saints all cry, "A -



soon. Keep your lamps a - live and burn - ing. Train your
tack, Turn - ing vi - sion dim and blear - y, Know that
fear; Nev - er cease to tell My sto - ry. To all
men!" Earth - en trea - sures now for - sak - en. I will



gaze up - on the skies; I will strength - en wea - ry eyes.
I en - dured the grave— Con - qu'ring hell, your soul to save.
cor - ners, share the Word Till all ears have clear - ly heard.
bring you to My side; There in peace, we will a - bide.

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Meditation

**Late have I loved you, O Beauty so ancient and so new;
late have I loved you.**

**For behold you were within me, and I outside; and I
sought you outside and in my unloveliness fell upon those
lovely things that you have made.**

You were with me, and I was not with you.

**I was kept from you by those things, yet had they not been
in you, they would not have been at all.**

**You called and cried to me to break open my deafness and
you sent forth your beams and you shone upon me and
chased away my blindness.**

**You breathed fragrance upon me, and I drew in my breath
and do now pant for you. I tasted you, and now hunger
and thirst for you.**

You touched me, and I have burned for your peace.

St. Augustine (354-430)

Long the Days of Waiting
Dean Nadasdy Mark Sheppard
(2016)

**Long the days of waiting, longer still the nights;
Dark, the dead of winter, yearning for the light.
Watching for the sunrise, reaching for the dawn,
Let us pray with eyes wide open this our Advent song
Come, O come, Lord Jesus, like the morning sun!
Cast your light across our darkness,
Make our hearts your home.**

**Lost the word of wisdom, missing what is true,
Seeking after knowledge without knowing you.
Listening for a prophet, hearing only noise,
Loud the thoughts so deep within us, silencing your
voice.**

**Harsh the guilt we carry, evils we have done,
Pleading for your presence, wounded and alone.
So we come believing, in the dark of night,
That your saving presence with us
Will bring life and light.**

**Come, O come, Lord Jesus.....
Cast your light across our darkness, make our hearts
Your home. Make our hearts your home.**

Meditation

Spirituality means waking up. Most people, even though they don't know it, are asleep. They're born asleep, they live asleep, they marry asleep, they breed children in their sleep, they die in their sleep without waking up. They never understand the loveliness and the beauty of this thing we call human existence. You know, all mystics—no matter what their theology—are unanimous on one thing: that all is well, that all is well. Strange paradox to be sure, but tragically, most people never get to see that all is well because they are asleep.

Awareness Anthony DeMello (1931-1987)

O Savior Rend the Heavens Wide

Michael Helman (2004)

Köln (1623) tr. Martin L. Seltz (1909-1967)

**O Savior, rend the heavens wide;
come down, come down, with mighty stride;
unlock the gates, the doors break down;
unbar the way to heaven's crown.**

**O Morning Star, O radiant Sun,
when will our hearts behold your dawn?**

**O Sun, arise; without your light
we grope in gloom and dark of night.**

**Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies;
grim death looms fierce before our eyes.**

**Oh, come, lead us with mighty hand
from exile to our promised land.**

There shall we all our praises ever bring

To you, our Savior King;

There shall we laud you and adore

Forever and forevermore.

Meditation

**A meeting in a hillside home.
Two women face-to-face:
The ages turning on the hinge
Disclosed in their embrace.
Elizabeth, now great with child
In barrenness begun,
Receives her younger relative
Who bears her own dear Son.
The great Forerunner leaps for joy,
As though to start his race;
Elizabeth cries out with love:
"Hail, Mary, full of grace!"
Give us, O God of Advent joy,
The same delights as they:
The faith to see, the grace to dance,
The strength to walk your way**

Rev. Michael Joncas (b. 1951)

Mary's Song The Magnificat All Sing
Millie Rieth (1940-2003)

1. My soul does mag - ni - fy your love, O Lord My soul does
 2. Great are you, God, and ho - ly is your name. Your mer - cy
 3. Ah, how you fill the hun - gry with your love. With emp - ty
 4. My soul does mag - ni - fy your love, O Lord. My souldoes

mag - ni - fy your love, O Lord. For you gazed on your
 reac - es to the end of time. Ah, the low - ly you
 hands the rich are sent a - way. You will al - ways be
 mag - ni fy your love, O Lord, For you smiled on your

ser - vant with com pas - sion And you reached out and
 raise up to the heav - ens And the proud heart - ed
 mind - ful of your mer - cy As you prom - ised your
 ser - vant with com pas - sion And you reached out and

1. - 3. 4.
 took me by the hand.
 have no part with you.
 peo - ple long a - go.
 took me by the hand.

Reading

This song of Mary is the oldest Advent hymn.

It is at once

the most passionate,

the wildest, and one might even say,

the most revolutionary Advent hymn every sung.

This is not the gentle, tender dreamy Mary

whom we sometimes see in paintings;

this is the passionate, surrendered, proud, enthusiastic

Mary who speaks out here.

This song has none of the sweet, nostalgic, or even playful tones of some of our Christmas carols.

It is, instead, a hard, strong, inexorable song

about collapsing thrones and

humbled lords of this world,

about the power of God and

the powerlessness of humankind.

These are the tones of the women prophets

of the Old Testament that now come to life in

Mary's mouth.

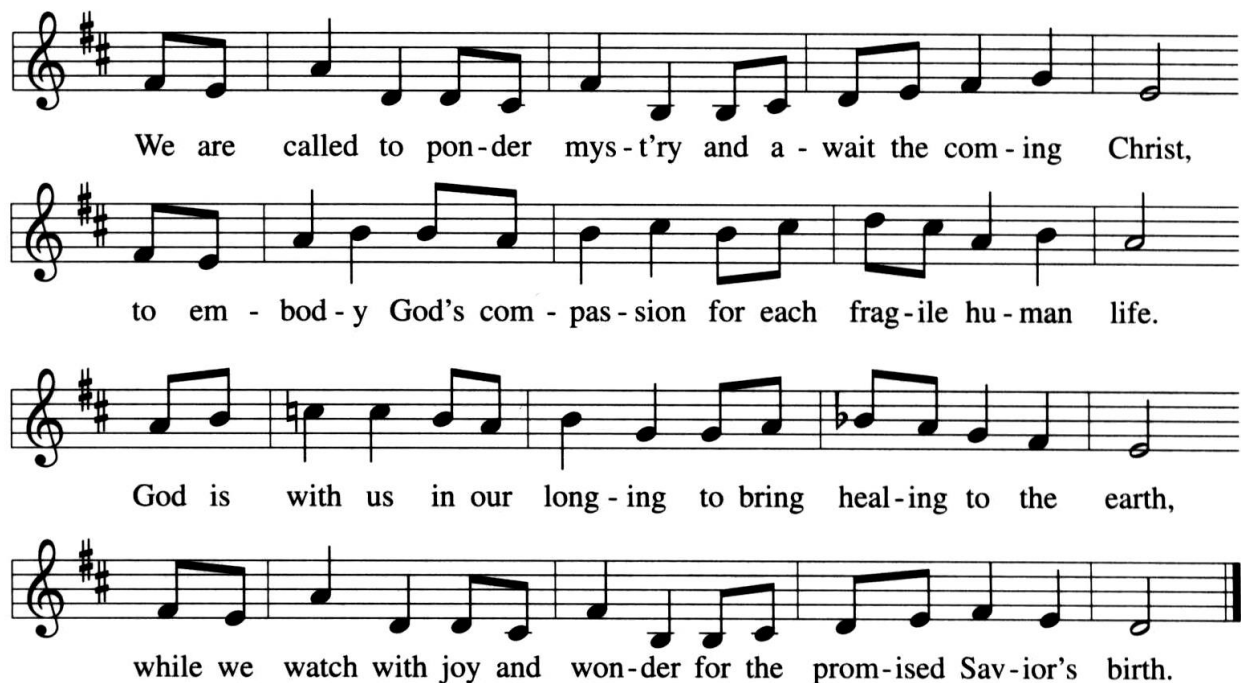
Advent Homily, 1933 Dietrich Bonhöffer (1906-1945)

Sacred Ballet
The Rev. Kristin Klade

Unexpected & Mysterious
Jeanette M. Lindholm Robert Buckley Farlee

Unexpected and mysterious is the gentle Word of grace.
Everloving and sustaining is the peace of God's embrace.
If we falter in our courage and we doubt what we have known,
God is faithful to console us as a mother tends her own.

In a momentary meeting of eternity and time,
Mary learned that she would carry both the mortal and divine.
Then she learned of God's compassion, of Elizabeth's great joy,
and she ran to greet the woman who could recognize her boy.



The musical score consists of four staves of music in treble clef, with a key signature of two sharps (D major). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of two sharps, and a common time signature. The melody is written in a simple, accessible style. The lyrics are: "We are called to pon-der mys-t'ry and a - wait the com - ing Christ,". The second staff continues the melody and lyrics: "to em - bod - y God's com - pas - sion for each frag - ile hu - man life." The third staff continues: "God is with us in our long - ing to bring heal - ing to the earth,". The fourth staff concludes the phrase: "while we watch with joy and won - der for the prom - ised Sav - ior's birth." The music ends with a double bar line.

We are called to pon-der mys-t'ry and a - wait the com - ing Christ,
to em - bod - y God's com - pas - sion for each frag - ile hu - man life.
God is with us in our long - ing to bring heal - ing to the earth,
while we watch with joy and won - der for the prom - ised Sav - ior's birth.

Text: Jeannette M. Lindholm © 2003 Jeannette M. Lindholm, admin. Augsburg Fortress.
Music: Robert Buckley Farlee © 2004 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

Offertory *The Offering is received*

And Christ Shall Be Our Peace **K. Lee Scott** (b.1950)

**“And Christ shall be our peace,” the prophet said of old.
His coming is from ancient days, the Shepherd to his fold.
From Judah’s tribe in Bethlehem shall come this King so
Long foretold.**

**And Christ shall be our strength; His own shall dwell
secure; His kingdom spread through all the earth forever
to endure. For His dear block He conquered death, o’er sin
and grave to be the cure.**

**And Christ shall be our hope through all our weary days.
His rod and staff our feet direct to guide us in His ways.
Though slow our steps and dark our paths, He shall our
troubled hearts upraise.**

**And Christ shall be our joy; help us this joy to share with
this, our lost and dying world. Help us Your grace declare,
that all may know Your mighty power and tender love
beyond compare.**

Savior of the Nations Come

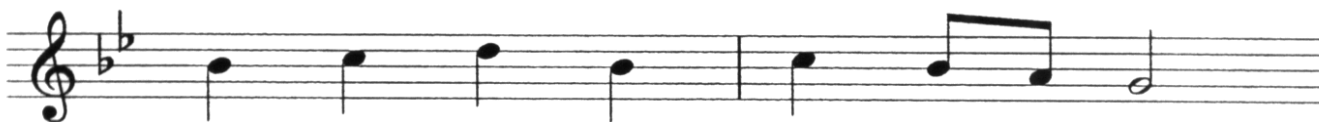
Arr. Michael Burkhardt



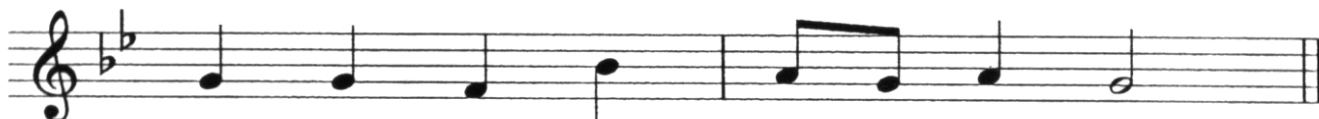
Choir: 1. Sav - ior of the na - tions, come;
All: 2. Not by hu - man flesh and blood;
Trebles: 3. Won - drous birth! O won - drous Child
Men: 4. From the Fa - ther's throne he came
All: 5. Praise to God the Fa - ther sing,



Vir - gin's Son, make here your home.
By the Spir - it of our God
Of the vir - gin un - de - filed!
And as - cend - ed to the same,
Praise to God the Son, our King,



Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
Was the Word of God made flesh -
Though by all the world dis - owned,
Cap - tive lead - ing death and hell -
Praise to God the Spir - it be



That the Lord chose such a birth.
Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
Yet to be in heav'n en - throned.
High the song of tri - umph swell!
Ev - er and e - ter - nal - ly.

Latin Hymn attr. St. Ambrose, 340-397 *NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND*
Martin Luther, 1483-1546 *Erfurt Enchiridia*, 1524
Tr. William Reynolds, 1812-76, *alt* Based on a 12th/13th C. chant

A Let us pray

Lord Jesus,

Your light is the commencement and culmination of creation.

Your light overcomes the darkness.

Your Light dispels anxiety and fear, illuminating serenity, peace and joy.

Transform us that we might shine with Your light on our life's journey in this world.

C Amen

Meditation

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose.

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:18...

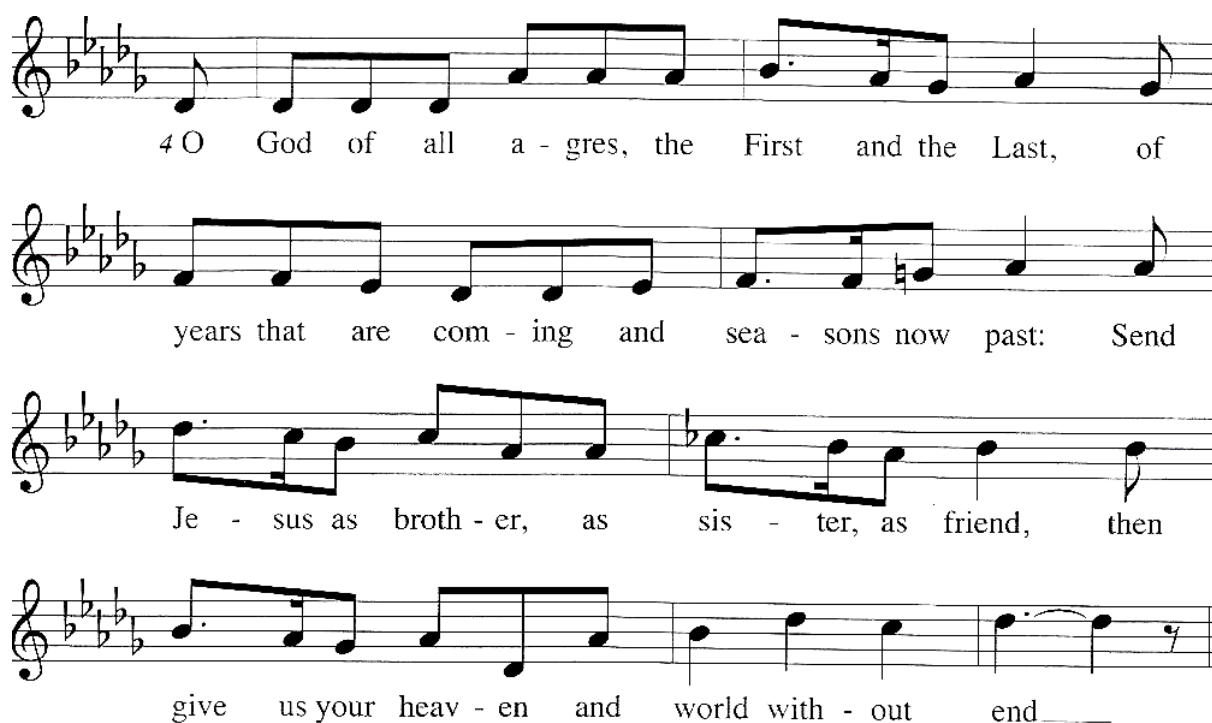
O God of All People

Herbert Brokering Michael Burkhardt

Choir

- 1 O God of all people, all nations the sea,
of kingdoms and powers, of mercy in me:
Grant peace to your children, and grace through your font.
Give joy to our journey and lighten our want.
- 2 O God of salvation, all decades each night,
of Sundays and weekdays, of candles and light:
Grant hope to your people. Pour wine in our cup.
Say grace at our table and raise our lives up.
- 3 O God of the spirit, of body and soul,
of poems and prayers, of drumbeats that roll:
We give you our music. We praise you, dear Lord.
Bring peace to our sleeping and promise your word.

Congregation joins:



4 O God of all a - ges, the First and the Last, of
years that are com - ing and sea - sons now past: Send
Je - sus as broth - er, as sis - ter, as friend, then
give us your heav - en and world with - out end _____

ext: Herbert F. Brokering, 1926–2009; copyright © 2003 Augsburg Fortress.
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Reading

**Awake, sleeper, to the beauty around you.
Rise up from your dreams to catch the scent of a new day.
The Earth opens its arms to you, inviting you into a bright
morning of sacred love.
Step out into the world with confidence. Walk in certainty.
Be fully alert to the messages in every flower,
the whisper of every cloud passing overhead.
This creation was made for all of us, a gift of discovery
beyond description.
Walk in beauty, each step a prayer, until the evening
comes, the peace of eternity wrapping you in its blanket of
stars, dreaming visions of the holy, until the last light
lingers, alone in the stillness of the night.**

Rt. Rev. Steven Charleston (b.1949)

***Arise! Shine!* Earlene Rintz (b. 1956)**

**Ring out merry bells, loud and clear;
Ring, for the promised Messiah is near.
Ring out, merry bells, strong and bold
Ring with the message that prophets foretold.
Messiah is coming; Ring out, merry bells, ring for joy!
Arise and shine!
The Son of God, the promised Messiah, is near;
so arise and shine,
Ring out merry bells, bright and clear;
Ring, for the hope of the world is near.
Ring out, merry bells, with good cheer;
Ring for the glory of God will appear.
Messiah is coming; Ring out, merry bells, ring for joy!
Arise and shine!
The prophets proclaimed in the fullness of time
Messiah is coming, our Savior divine
So ring, and arise and shine!
Arise and shine!**

Your applause is happily received

Dramatis Personae

<i>Assisting</i>	Intern Pr. Thomas Johnston
<i>Lector</i>	Neil Krey
<i>Choreographer, Dancer</i>	The Rev. Kristin Klade
<i>Ushers</i>	Eddie & Val Wilkerson
Director-Worship/Music	Viktor Andersson
Organ/Piano	Debbie Villavicencio
Violin	Karen Moxley, Cheril Rios
Flute	Christy Gibson
Reeds	Jerry Ringe
Trumpet	Jacob Groening
Horn in F	Debra Machos
Trombone	Robert Morris
Bass Trombone	Paul Slezak
Tuba	Mickey Nowell
Percussion	Blake Kitch

Sanctuary Choir

<i>Soprano</i>	Sandy Kammerdiener, Amanda Rothe, Lynzy Slezak, Michaelann Wood
<i>Alto</i>	Pam Eddis-Klein, Maureen Lester, Karen Moxley, Pam Raabe, Toni Tharp
<i>Tenor</i>	Brent Anderson, Don Holmes, Jim Raabe, Jason Rasmussen, Zachary Williams
<i>Bari/Bass</i>	Paul Bartells, Paul Keller, Pete Moxley, Mickey Nowell, Paul Slezak

Handbell Choir

Mary Keller, Director
**Catherine Gollhofer, Mary Lakota, Debra Machos,
Cindi Mraz, Pam Wright, Laura Anderson,
Mary Reichenbach, Karen Schultz, Theresa Jorgenson,
Christy Gibson**

Calvary Lutheran Church

7620 Baker Boulevard Richland Hills, Texas 76118
www.godshearhumanhands.org
email: calvary@calvaryftw.org
(817) 284-8724 (817) 284-0860 (Fax)

The Rev. Philip Heinze The Rev. Kyle Rouze
Intern Pastor Thomas Johnston

Holy Communion
Sundays 8:00, 9:30, 10:30, 11:00 am

Caroling at the Flying Saucer
Wednesday, Dec. 20 @6:30 pm

Blue Christmas
Winter Solstice Thursday, Dec. 21 @7 pm

Advent IV
Dec. 24 One service only @10 am

Christmas Eve
Lessons, Carols & Eucharist @4, 6, 8 pm
Midnight Mass @11 pm

**“The necessary thing is after all but this:
solitude, great inner solitude.
Going into oneself and for hours meeting no one....
To be solitary, the way one was solitary as a child. ”**

Letters to a Young Poet Rainer Maria Rilke (1929)



Annunciation Fra Angelico c. 1450