And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will bring great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord
 Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests.” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let’s go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.” So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Manaʻo / Thoughts

Ke Haʻi Aku Nā ʻĀnela i Ka NūʻOli, Uhaele Wikiwiki Nā Kahu Hipa!
(When Angels Bear Joyful News, Shepherds Go Hastily!)

Nā kahu hipa, or shepherds sat on a quiet hilltop watching over their hipa (sheep) that night. They were common people like you and me. The angels announce the good news of Jesus’ birth to them in the midst of their work. They respond with wonder, curiosity and faith as they seek the savior whom the angels proclaimed. The angels are the proclaimers of this great news. The shepherds were the receivers of that good news. Both were acting on their faith. The angels spoke the message of life and love. Nā kahu hipa are the faithful people of God who seek their savior in the baby Iesū.

How the shepherds responded that night was the best! They left immediately to search and find the baby Iesū and His promise.

In this season of anticipation, everyone is important and everyone is involved in bringing and sharing good news. “Good news of Great Joy”. Every person on earth is potentially looking for more than what they currently have. What the angels brought forth that night was a message of an ultimate gift, “I bring you JOY” – ka ʻoliʻoli nui.

I believe there is that possibility for all people to find true JOY – ka hauʻoli or ʻoliʻoli nui. At Kamehameha Schools we are encouraged by Charles Reed Bishop, as a priority in our everyday living to seek enlightenment, the adoption of regular habits and Christian ways of living. This call will bring JOY. I would say this is “A Call for Priority Living”. If our priority is correct, it should look something like this,

J-Jesus – Love the Lord your God with all your heart, mind and soul.
O-Others – Love your neighbor
Y-You – as you Love yourself Mark 12:30-31

Let’s adjust our priority in order to be pono. Our waiting for Advent will come sooner than you expect!
Questions to Ponder

Can you write down your priorities in life? Do they match our JOY call for priority living? If I were to practice this priority living, what could I do to practice J, O, and Y?

Pule

Dear Savior, e Ka Haku ʻO Iesū Kristo, You are the epitome of ka hauʻoli, JOY in life. There are so many ways that I can improve my priority living. I need your daily help to accomplish this growth. There are also some ways that I am on track with this JOYful living. Please come into my day and show me people that I can love on and show your love. This world needs JOY right now, and so do I. Watch over our honua, our Lahui, my ʻohana, and myself throughout this Christmas season. You are love and I so desire to be the same. Ma Ka Inoa O Iesū. ʻĀmene.

For Keiki

You are an amazing and fantastic individual who is so loved by God that He created you to be incredible. Sometimes you can be the best encouragement to the people around you. How, you ask? It’s simple. One way is to smile at more people. You are a great smiler! Another is to give a hug. Maybe you can stop whining. Another is to do your chores before being asked. There are tons of ways you can make a difference and bring Joy to another persons’ day. Jesus wants you to be filled with happiness. So love Him first, then show others you care for them, then make sure you take good care of yourself. Remember, you are loved and you can love. Be blessed.

Keiki Pule

E Kuʻu Haku Iesū, You are a good God. Mahalo for loving me. Mahalo for loving my friends and my ʻohana. Please show me ways that I can bring Ka Hauʻoli - Joy to others around me and bring Joy to you. Keep us safe today. I love you Lord…always.

Ma ka Inoa o Ka Makua, a me Ke Keiki, a me Ka ʻUhane Hemolele. ʻĀmene.

Keiki Activity

Smile at three people today. Hug on your parents and grandparents and any other adult you trust. Say “you make me happy” as you hug them. Write a note of love to your teacher or your brother or sister. Then have a great week.
Joy to the World, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven and nature sing,
And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.

Joy to the World, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders, of His love

Joy to the World / Pōmaikaʻi Wale Ko Ke Ao
Hymns for the Family p. 171 / Nā Hīmeni p. 43