

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawaii

Prayer Candles and Memories

All Saints' Celebration is observed today during our morning worship. We also observe Reformation and Reconciliation Sunday on this date. We honor sacred experiences and memories for you and your loved ones by lighting candles of remembrance during this service of mediation, scripture, music, and prayer.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Call to Worship (Psalm 24)

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
The world, and those who live in it.
For God has founded it on the seas,
And established it on the rivers.

**Who shall ascend to the hill of the Lord?
And who shall stand in the holy place?
Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
Who do not lift up their souls to what is false,
And who do not swear deceitfully.**

They will receive blessings from the Lord,
And vindication from the God of our salvation.

**Such are the company of all those who seek the Lord,
All who seek the face of the God of Jacob,
Who is the king of glory, the Lord of Hosts.
He is the King of our salvation.** (Romans 1:1-7 adapted)

Invocation:

God of joy and courageous compassion, we come to you awake with the fresh delight of dawn radiating within our minds. Through all the hours of each day, and with evening dusk we know the setting sun will shine across the heavens. Dawn and dusk, day light and life, birth and death, joy and struggle, saint and sinner; all are in your holy hands, and there is no where we would rather be - When we have fallen into error, lift us up in hope. We welcome the presence of your Spirit. We pray you will embrace our praise and thanksgiving in Jesus' name. Amen.

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Scripture: (John 11:32-44 NSRV): When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.'
{33}When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. {34}He said, 'Where have you laid him?' They said to him, 'Lord, come and see.' {35}Jesus began to weep. {36}So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' {37}But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?' {38} Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. {39}Jesus said, 'Take away the stone.' Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, 'Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead for four days.' {40}Jesus said to her, 'Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?' {41}So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upwards and said, 'Father, I thank you for having heard me. {42}I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me.' {43}When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, 'Lazarus, come out!'{44}The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, and let him go.'

Sermon: "Come Out! Be Unbound!"

The Necrology of sacred memory for members, family, and friends:

Angie Dickson	Shigeko Chang
Sueko Goya	Annette Hikichi
Tessie Kami	Toshiaki "Toshi" Kawasaki
Tomiko Koga	Ruth Maeda
Lillian Noda	Hannah Ogawa
Mitsuko Okazaki	Sadako Okimoto
Arthur Ota	Alexander Riveira

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Call to Confession: Because Jesus himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted. Therefore fix your thoughts on Jesus,.. whom we confess.
(Hebrews 2:18-3:1)

Confession: “Lord God we love Your great and diverse world. Sometimes it is so awesome that we make the wrong choices – guide us with mercy. We have left undone those things we ought to have done; and we have done those things we ought not to have done. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. Jesus Christ, son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner who makes mistakes, for I am one who seeks to share the blessings of love and the power of forgiveness. Amen”

Assurance of Pardon: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ. The one who makes men and women holy and those who are made holy are united by grace in the same family. Jesus is not ashamed to call us all faithful brothers and sisters. All our lives are received in completeness by our Creator. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering: Faith filled with hope is the path that leads to the feet of the Teacher. With commitment to courageous faith we will move forward, until mercy’s work is done. We join a long line of witnesses, who share by living their days in God’s grace. Come now, for Jesus has need of you.

Prayer of Dedication: Holy One, throughout the ages, your faithful daughters and sons walked this earth with the light of your love shining in their words and actions and thoughts. Through them, your saints in every generation, we have been pleased to see you at work in human compassion. Thank you for their witness and thank you for the spark of spirit you ignited in them. We offer ourselves to you today; all that we are and all that we do; and all that we love. May our offering be a penetrating blaze of light to point to your perfect radiance. Amen.