

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
United Church of Christ-Congregational
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i
July 21, 2013

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Pre-Service Music

Words of Greeting & Concerns of the Church

Anne Sadayasu

Pastoral Welcome and Sharing Christ's Peace

Pastor Cliff

Prelude

Kayleen Yuda

Call to Worship

Leader: Come greet our creating God who takes a compassionate stand in the assembly of nations; our Lord judges rulers of this world, examining the practices and policies of nations.

Response: **God of all, how long will leaders judge unjustly and show partiality to the wicked? Let leaders rise to vindicate the weak and bring relief and justice to the afflicted or destitute.**

Leader: The Holy One rescues the weak and needy, delivering them out of the hand of the wicked.

Response: **Give the light of wisdom to leaders who walk in darkness.**

Leader: We have encountered the foundations of the earth shaken with disasters and environmental pollution.

ALL: We humbly welcome you, O God. Let justice flow in us to heal the earth and all our people! May common-sense compassion enable nations to grasp the wisdom of caring for neighbors while tearing down barriers of fear and divisions. Your Holy Spirit can heal the souls of nations. Lord Jesus, come and challenge and inspire us to serve as disciples of blessing in your world! Amen.

***Hymn of Praise: #28 For the Beauty of the Earth**

*** Invocation:** Come Holy Spirit and enlarge within us a fellowship with all living creatures, who as neighbors on this planet share their habitat with us. We praise you for the sea, the mighty hills, and vegetation which renew our air. We listen to the birds of morning sing at sunrise in joy. We hear the creatures of the night serenade us with the passing moments of each day. Grant us a heart wide enough to celebrate family and friendship. Grant us wisdom to save our souls from fear and doubt. Transform us with humble faith, thankful for your sacred gift of life. Let Christ's commitment to honor you enter into our choices and our actions in the days to come. In Jesus' name we embrace your love. Amen.

***Keiki Hymn: #425 For the Fruit of All Creation**

WE SHARE THE WORDS OF GOD

Sharing with Children

Pastor Cliff

*** Lord's Prayer** (Unison using "debts")

Anthem:

Scripture: Psalm 24:1-10

Of David. A Psalm.

The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it;
for he has founded it on the seas,
and established it on the rivers.

Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?

And who shall stand in his holy place?

Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,
who do not lift up their souls to what is false,
and do not swear deceitfully.

They will receive blessing from the LORD,
and vindication from the God of their salvation.

Such is the company of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Selah

Lift up your heads, O gates!

and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is the King of glory?

The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O gates!

and be lifted up, O ancient doors!
that the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of glory.

Selah

Sermon: "Whose House Is It, Anyway?"

Pastor

Cliff

Hymn: #557 Pray for the Wilderness

WE RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S LOVE

Call to Confession: Longing for hope and healing, yearning for peace and harmony in this world where change comes faster than answers, we gather to confess our need for forgiveness and the courage to trust the path of Jesus in all that we do.

Confession (in unison):

We confess before our neighbors and all people that we have been unresponsive stewards of creation. We have taken resources and abused the natural environment. We ask you now to guide us to heal the earth and to change from our hearts, the patterns of our lives. Let us find the will with God's help to engage in decisive action to end destruction of our habitat, the scourge of poverty, racism, war and violence. Let Christ come to dwell within us, so that we embrace his courage to love the world. Bless us with forgiveness, and teach us to forgive ourselves and one another. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

"God's promise works when we trust God's way of mercy that calls for us to embrace forgiveness and Christ's love for all people. God's promise arrives among us as a pure gift." Amen.

*** Gloria Patri**

Pastoral Prayer/ Prayers of the People (Please be seated)

Pastor Cliff

Invitation to the Offering: Christ did not wait for us to be ready; he came when his willingness to sacrifice would change our lives by putting his love on the line for us. Now, we can

respond by sharing what we have received – the blessing of compassion. Amen.

Offertory:

*** Doxology**

*** Prayer of Dedication (unison): Lord of life, accept our silent thoughts and and cares. Receive the energy of our work and our renewed commitment to relationship and service with one another in this your Church of the Holy Cross and in partnership with churches around the world. Work through our offerings of time, effort, skill, wisdom, generosity, and care for people in our community, our State, our nation, and across the face of the earth. Bless these gifts to serve where needs cry out for help. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Hymn: #485 (Pilgrim's Hymnal) This is My Father's World

Benediction:

Pastor Cliff

*** Choral Benediction Response: #580 Queen's Prayer**

*** Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**

Postlude

Kayleen Yuda

Ushers: James and Connie Yoshiyama, Carol Morioka, Carolyn Lum-Bellem

Child Care: Ruth Niino-Duponte

Chapel Decorations: Reiko Masutomi

Senior Minister: Thomas Olcott **Visiting Associate:** Cliff Cain

Minister Emeritus: Susumu Yamane

Office Manager: Dennis Lin

Choir Director: Pedro Ka'awaloa

Organist: Kayleen Yuda

Choir Accompanist: Katherine Wilson

Childcare Coordinator: Evonne Shiohita

**Weekly activities at
your Church of the Holy Cross**

- **Sunday School** on summer break until August.
- **The Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga** meets in the sanctuary on Sunday at 1 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.
 - **Chuukese Church** worships in BF meeting room at 1pm today.
 - **Bible Study** Monday 6:30-8:00 PM
 - **Gentle Yoga** Monday 9:30-10:30am (BF Meeting Room)
 - **Rhythm & Life exercise class** meets Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. (BF)
 - **Bible Study** Wednesday mornings from 9:30 a.m.
 - **IYAA Bible Study** is held each Wednesday evening from 7:30 p.m.
 - **Qi Gong exercise class** meets Friday morning 9-10:30 a.m. (BF)
 - **July Service Day** on Saturday, July 27, 2013
 - **Church Picnic** on August 11, 2013 after service (BF)

While Pastor Tom is away on vacation in July, Pastor Cliff will provide pastoral ministry for our members, lead Bible Study, will preach, conduct worship on Sundays, and be on call as needed. **The Parsonage phone number remains as (808)-315-7181.**