

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

Combined Service with
Samoan and Pohnpeian Congregations
United Church of Christ - Congregational
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i
July 7, 2013

Independence Day Sunday
COMMUNION SUNDAY

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Pre-Service Music

Words of Greeting & Concerns of the Church Jane Kawazoe

Pastoral Welcome and Sharing Christ's Peace Pastor Cliff

Prelude Kayleen Yuda

Call to Worship (Psalm 30:1-2, 4-5a, 11-12)

Leader: I will extol you, O Lord, for you have picked me up and have not let my foes rejoice over me.

Response: O Lord, my God, I cried to you for help, and you aided me.

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord, and give thanks to the Lord's holy name.

Response: For God's anger is but for a moment, and the Lord's favor is for a life time.

Leader: You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have banished my sadness and filled me with gladness.

Response: My soul shall praise you and not be silent.

ALL: O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

***Hymn** #572 "When Israel Was in Egypt's Land (Let My People Go)"

*** Invocation:** Creator God, join us in our celebration of independence, integrity, and mercy. We come this day honoring the birth of nations who seek the open participation of all their people in the cause of compassion and justice. We remember our long history, and we acknowledge the challenges of our destiny as people who claim freedom. Yet, we sadly remember struggles through weakness when we failed to embrace the ideal that all people are created as equal and deserve to be treated with respect and dignity. We open our hearts and minds this day to your sacred presence among us, and we pledge to welcome all people and to embrace the whole of creation with your sustaining love. Guide us to restore the broken ways of the past and to declare our consecrated commitment to mercy, peace, forgiveness, and justice, in the name of Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

***Keiki Hymn** #55 "Rejoice, You Pure in Heart" (vs. 1, 2, 4)

WE SHARE THE WORDS OF GOD

Sharing with Children

Pastor Cliff

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

Scripture: Luke 4:16-21

"When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:
'The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,

to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.'
And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, 'Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.'"

Sermon: "Freedom for Captives" Pastor Cliff

Hymn: #576 "For the Healing of the Nations" (vs. 1, 2, 3)

WE RESPOND TO THE GOOD NEWS OF GOD'S LOVE

Call to Confession: Everlasting and ever-loving God, forgive our weakness in life. Forgive our failures and our pride. Renew each person here, that we may try harder and be better—for Jesus' sake and for our sake.

Confession (in unison):

Gracious Lord, loving God, compassionate Presence, grant us honesty with each other and especially with ourselves—let us not fall into the arrogance of pride or even the presumption that we can own the resources of this world. Instead, guide us to share our skills as servants who patiently care for every human condition. Forgive us in ways that teach us to forgive others, love us in ways that teach us to love one another, bless us in ways that teach us to bless others. For ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

God is fair and just; God is compassionate and forgiving. Therefore, your sins are forgiven and forgotten. Let what you do now be an expression of gratitude to God for God's steadfast love and willingness to forgive. Amen.

*** Gloria Patri:**

Anthem: The Pohnpeian Congregational Choir

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

Pastor Cliff

Invitation to the Offering: May your grace, Lord Jesus Christ, make possible that which seems impossible, so that no one here is afraid to embrace your generous invitation calling us to mission and service in your name.

Offertory:

*** Doxology**

*** Prayer of dedication: Gracious Lord, we bring to you the labors of our hands and the dedication of our hearts. We pray that you might find us acceptable, along with these gifts and offerings. Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S TABLE

*** Communion Hymn: #570 "We Shall Overcome" (vs. 1, 2, 5, 6)**

Invitation to Communion -

Consecrating the Bread

Consecrating the Cup

***Sharing the Bread and the Cup**

Please come forward as you are able to share in the bread and the cup. While coming forward and sharing communion, let us sing together:

*" Father, I adore you, Lay my life before you, How I love you.
Jesus, I adore you, Lay my life before you, How I love you.
Spirit, I adore you, lay my life before you, How I love you."*

* Following communion please form a fellowship circle around the sanctuary.

* Prayer of Thanksgiving and Benediction: Pastor Cliff

* Choral Benediction Response:
Hymn #573 "Lead On Eternal Sovereign"

* Extinguishing of the Altar Candles

Postlude

Kayleen Yuda

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

Child Care: Saeko Hayashi

Chapel Decorations: Tricia Kimura

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*

- **Choir Rehearsal** Sunday at 8:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary
- **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 Goong 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.**