

**THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS  
United Church of Christ – Congregational  
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i**

**August 18, 2013**

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP**

**Pre-Service Music**

**Words of Greeting & Concerns of the Church** Stefan Tanouye  
**Pastoral Welcome & Sharing the Peace** Pastor Tom Olcott

**Prelude** Kayleen Yuda

**\*Call to Worship**

**Leader:** On this new day we greet you God of being. Let Your Holy Spirit guide us to walk with wisdom and be strengthened in your compassionate mercy.

**People: Your Son, Jesus Christ, reveals the joy and challenges of living. He reaches out in hospitality so that we welcome Your presence in all people. May we discover Your promise in all of creation.**

**Leader:** God can remove all fear of the unknown. God startles us changing events. God's Son whispers to our hearts. God's Holy Spirit brings us grace, so we can embrace every moment with abundant courage.

**People: Come God, walk with us. Speak with us – Dream visions of grace within us. Energize our celebration of Your**

**goodness deep within the center of our souls. Let us confront and declare God's marvelous presence wherever we are. Amen**

**\*Hymn of Praise:** # 12 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

**\* Invocation:**

Before we breathed our first breath of life, before our eyes could see, the Holy Presence of the Lord our God was in our lives. We were born to embody the gift of the Holy Spirit. God nurtured us trials and tribulations,.. in mystery,.. in knowledge,.. and in discovery. God lets us find ourselves, in our actions, in our conscience, in our experiences, in our abilities, and in our relationships. God says in the eternal voice of Jesus that we are called to be one with the Holy Spirit which welcomes and greets all people in every generation. Let God come now and embrace the soul of our being. Amen.

**\*Keiki Hymn:** #557 "Pray for the Wilderness"  
(Learning a new Hymn – vs 1, 2, and 3)

**WE SHARE THE WORDS OF GOD**

**CELEBRATING REV. YAMANE'S 60<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF  
ORDINATION AS RECOGNIZED BY THE HAWAI'I CONFERENCE  
OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

**Sharing with Children:** Pastor Tom

**\*The Lord's Prayer** (in unison)

**Anthem:** Na Leo Ni'o Lani Chancel Choir

**Scripture:** Luke 12:49-59 ("Not Peace, but Confrontation as we interpret our times" – a blended translation)

Jesus said, I came to ignite the earth, and would that it were already kindled and blazing! I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! Do you think that I have come to give peace and complacency on earth? I want to turn every thing right-side-up! And I want it finished. Do you think I came to smooth things over and make every thing nice? No, I came to disrupt and confront! For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. They will be divided, father against son and son against father – mother against daughter and daughter against mother – mother-in-law against daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.

Jesus also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say, 'A storm is coming.' And when the wind comes out of the south, you say, 'This'll be a hot one!' - and your right. Frauds and pretenders! You know how to interpret the appearances of earth and sky in the weather, so don't tell me you can't interpret the events of the present day?"

"You don't have to be a genius to understand these things. Just use your common sense, the kind you would use if an accuser were taking you to court, you would decide to settle up with your adversary on the way to trial, knowing that when you go before the judge you'd probably go to jail and pay a heavy fine. That's the kind of decision I'm asking you to make."

**Sermon Title:** *"Tough Love from Jesus"*

Pastor Tom

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD**

\* **Hymn:** #562 "Take My Gifts"

**Call to Confession:** Some things I do, I did not learn from the example or teaching of Jesus. I picked up bad habits by foolishly going along a slippery path and unthinkingly listened to others. Let us no

longer toss away our soul's freedom. Let us come back to the God of grace and seek forgiveness from the inside out and even from each other as a gift of God's blessing in Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Confession (in unison): We confess there is an incredible desire within us to be right, even when we have done the wrong thing! We often want to be absolutely correct even when we cut corners and make mistakes. But, we see this can make our own troubles multiply. So we now confess, Lord, with Your Holy Spirit's grace, we come to embrace a new life inspired with Your friendship so that we can walk with Your trust to resist any evil that comes our way. Grant us patient discernment and the integrity of courage. Let Jesus' Spirit open us to forgiving love, now and always. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon:** God is working in you to make you willing and able to obey his call to love with grace. Thanks be to God. Amen.

\* **Gloria Patri**

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

*Bring all your burdens, anxieties, and joys to God,  
father of our Lord Jesus Christ. God cares about you.*

**Invitation to the Offering:** God makes my life complete when I place every corner and turn of my experiences in life before the Lord. Know God is at work in us for the good. God rewrites the script of our lives when we open our hearts to see the Lord's way for us. Come and share the bounty you have received.

**Offertory**

\* **Doxology**

\* **Prayer of Dedication:** Almighty God, creator of everything that is, we thank you for the blessings you have placed in our care so that we might honor and respect family, community, love of learning, and the results of using our abilities. Here, we place in your trust the ministry of our Church of the Holy Cross, so that as partners with you we can offer ourselves in service through compassionate love for others. Amen.

\* **Sung Response:** *"All things come from thee, O Lord,  
And of thine own have we given unto thee. Amen."*

\* **Hymn: # 531 "God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak"**

\* **Benediction**

\* **Choral Benediction Response: # 496 "Ekolu Mea Nui"**

\* **Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**

**Postlude**

Kayleen Yuda

**Ushers:** Newton Chu, Jane Kawazoe, Kay Kawachika, Cindy Debus

**Child Care:** Reiko Masutomi

**Chapel Decorations:** Barbara Iwami, Dr./Mrs. Bill Chen

**Senior Minister:** Thomas Olcott

**Minister Emeritus:** Susumu Yamane

**Office Manager:** Dennis Lin

**Choir Director:** Pedro Ka'awaloa

**Organist:** Kayleen Yuda

**Choir Accompanist:** Katherine Wilson

**Childcare Coordinator:** Evonne Shioshita

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

- **Choir Practice** is at 8:30am in the Sanctuary on Sundays.
- **Sunday School** at 8:45am.
- **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)