

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

We are pleased to be joined in our worship service today by Jason Chu, our new Visiting Associate. He will be with us until September 29. Be sure to personally welcome Jason.

August 25, 2013

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Pre-Service Music

Greetings & Concerns of the Church Newton Chu
Pastoral Welcome and Sharing the Peace Pastor Tom

Prelude Kayleen Yuda

*** Call to Worship -**

Leader: Look! Listen! Here among us is the Lord we love! Do you see him racing to greet you? Vaulting over mountains, leaping over hills? . The sun rises across the wideness of the earth. Our day with God has come. Let us awake to the Lord's glory. God's music rings with hope. Let your joy shine in the light of God's Son.

People: Our loving God is like a running deer, graceful; full of life. Look! God approaches us on eager tiptoe at the windowsill of our souls. Let all ears, all eyes, all limbs, all hearts and minds — be ready and ring with God's call to action!

Leader: God's loving Spirit speaks to us! Come share this sacred grace. Look around you as cold hearts are melting in joy and bitter tears find new hope and laughter!

God's own son desires to abound with compassion wherever you are.

ALL: We would sing with joy with all the world. Let our voices and deeds fill every forest and city dwelling with songs of life. Let us blossom exuberantly and be fruitful with the mercy of Jesus. Amen.

*** Hymn 16: "Let Us with a Joyful Mind" (vs. 1, 2, 3, and 4)**

*** Invocation: Remember my friends how your Lord chose you for inward beauty, weaving for us the blessings of service and thanksgiving. Our thoughts fill with the beauty of wisdom in God's glory. We use our every day activity as a writer uses pen and ink to tell the story of our Lord's kind compassion. God's truthfulness invites us to experience mercy and justice. Such marvelous love embraces us with powerful arms reminding us we are always welcome. Come, God, teach us to love kindness and turn from evil. In Jesus name, we welcome the Spirit of God's everlasting love. Amen.**

***Keiki Hymn #506 "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"**

WE SHARE THE WORDS OF GOD

Sharing with Children -

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

Anthem: IYAA Choir

Scripture: Luke 13:-10-17

Now Jesus was teaching in one of the synagogues on the Sabbath. And behold, there was a woman who had had a disabling spirit for eighteen years. She was bent over and could not fully straighten herself. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said to her, "Woman, you are freed from your disability." And he laid his hands on her, and immediately she was made straight, and she glorified God. But the ruler of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the people, "There are six days in which work ought to be

done. Come on those days and be healed, and not on the Sabbath day." Then the Teacher answered him, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the Sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger and lead it away to water it? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the Sabbath day?" As he said these things, all his adversaries were put to shame, and all the people rejoiced at all the glorious things that were done by him.

Sermon Title: "Let Our Healing Wholeness Begin" Pastor Tom

*** Hymn 23: "There's Wideness in God's Mercy"**

Call to Confession: As we approach God in holy prayer, we are acutely aware of who and what we are. We come in a spirit of truth to find wholeness. We confess our desire to love and be reconciled with the Spirit of God through everyone we meet. Amen.

Confession: (in unison) Lord, when I am in the dark of uncertainty or in the light of grace lead me to seek you in everything that I do, think, or say. I cannot find you Lord, except as you reveal yourself to me as you call me to love you in all you give me to do and in everyone I meet. Grant me the strength of grace to be your person not as I will, but as you will for me to be. Let me welcome everyone by the power of your Holy Spirit. I will strive to be your instrument of peace and forgiveness. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: "We witness ...(by making choices)... by sharing in a community of reconciliation ... a forgiving community of the forgiven. Amen."
(Desmond Tutu)

*** Gloria Patri:**

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

Pastor Tom

Invitation to the Offering: "Plant your roots in Christ and let him be the foundation of your life. He has chosen you to be his. Now, choose to share

God's love as God has loved you. Be strong in your faith, just as you were taught; and be grateful." Amen. (Colossians 2:7)

Offertory:

*** Doxology**

*** Prayer of dedication:** O God you are the source of our belonging to one another. We know none of us can offer anything to our sisters and brothers if we do not first belong to you. Bless the fullness of your spirit's kindness as you unite us in love and service. We dedicate ourselves and this your Church of the Holy Cross to mission and ministry in the name of Jesus, Amen

Sung Response: "All Things come from thee, O Lord, and of thine own have we given thee. Amen."

*** Hymn: #386 "The Church's One Foundation" (vs. 1, 2, and 4)**

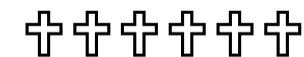
*** Benediction:** Jason Chu

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

*** Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**

Postlude

Kayleen Yuda



We invite the whole congregation to join with each other in our Building of Faith for a Welcome Reception for Jason Chu and a chance to talk with him and your friends.