

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
United Church of Christ - Congregational
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i
COMMUNION - September 1, 2013 – Labor Day Sunday
Sacred elements for our Lord's Supper include grape juice and wheat bread.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Pre-Service Music

Greeting & Concerns of the Church

Pastoral Welcome Sharing the Peace of Christ

Prelude

Reilly Narruhn

Pastor Tom

Kayleen Yuda

*** Call to Worship**

Leader: Those who trust in God are like Mauna Kea and Mauna Loa. Nothing can overcome the power of rock-solid mountains of energy. Even lava flowing tells us creation is always on the move; you can always depend on God renewing the whole of creation as well as the hearts of people.

People: When we live on the slopes of such mountains, we are encircled by God's grace. We are standing on majestic beauty. We always will have the Lord's guidance. We need not fear any wickedness. We will never violate the honor which is due the righteous, nor shall we provoke wrongful violence. Let us embrace the love of God in Jesus Christ.

Leader: Be good to your laboring people, God, to those whose hearts are right! May the work of our hands and hearts become a blessing for all your people.

ALL: Lord, protect Your people by holding them in your arms of peace. Let us ask the LORD to be kind to everyone who calls out from tears of anguish, or who celebrates with songs of laughter, or who dances with the grace of movement. May we encourage every one to seek to completely embrace the challenges of love by following the voice of Jesus. Amen.

*** Hymn of Praise 86 "When Morning Gilds the Skies"**

*** Invocation:** God of grace and glory, we call to you from the places where we work and rest. We call to you from farms, businesses, homes, and class rooms. We greet you from playing fields, and from libraries of learning, and hospitals of healing. Come and speak of truth with mercy and compassion. We praise the life and words of Jesus! We bless You across all eternity and in the gentleness of sleep. We bless You when our eyes are opening and when food touches our tongue. As water splashes our face, we wake up to Your call to be alert. We see Your skill as healer and friend when we share nourishment and work together. You speak to our souls. We come having faithfully chosen to worship joyously as Your people gathered in the community of this Church of the Holy Cross. Amen.

***Keiki Hymn "My Body, Strong and Good"**

(Sing twice - point to parts of the body and do as the song suggests)

I have two eyes that wink and blink,
I have a mind to make me think,
I have two hands that clap for fun,
I have two feet that jump and run,
I have two ears to hear a song,
Two lips to praise God all day long,
I have a body strong and good,
To use for Jesus as I should

WE SHARE THE WORDS OF GOD

Sharing with Children -

Jason Chu

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

Anthem: "Praise to God"

Na Leo Ni'o Lani Choir

Scripture – Jeremiah 2:4-13

Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob,
and all the families of the house of Israel.

Thus says the Lord:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me

that they went far from me,

and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves?

They did not say, 'Where is the Lord

who brought us up from the land of Egypt,

who led us in the wilderness,

in a land of deserts and pits,

in a land of drought and deep darkness,

in a land that no one passes through,

where no one lives?'

I brought you into a plentiful land

to eat its fruits and its good things.

But when you entered you defiled my land,

and made my heritage an abomination.

The priests did not say, 'Where is the Lord?'

Those who handle the law did not know me;

the rulers transgressed against me;

the prophets prophesied by Baal,

and went after things that do not profit.

Therefore once more I accuse you,

says the Lord,

and I accuse your children's children.

Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look,
send to Kedar and examine with care;
see if there has ever been such a thing.

Has a nation changed its gods,
even though they are no gods?

But my people have changed their glory
for something that does not profit.

Be appalled, O heavens, at this,
be shocked, be utterly desolate,

says the Lord,

for my people have committed two evils:

they have forsaken me,

the fountain of living water,

and dug out cisterns for themselves,

cracked cisterns

that can hold no water.

Sermon: "I Still Contend With You"

Jason Chu

* **Hymn 353 "Great Work Has God Begun in You"**

Call to Confession: "A good name and a faithful heart are to be chosen above riches or fame. The favor of forgiveness is better than silver or gold. We have this in common: the Lord is the maker of us all." (Proverbs 22:1-2)

Confession: (in unison) God, of our birth, our life, our sorrow and our joy. We trust you beyond any pain or disappointment so there can be healing within us. We trust you beyond the brokenness within our hearts, our families and our community, so there can be reconciliation to overcome grief. We trust you, God, beyond any anger, so there can be peace, and compassion. Challenge us to work with your Holy Spirit every day with faith and love as we embrace the welcome hospitality of Jesus Christ... Amen.

(Adapted from In God's Hands)

Assurance of Pardon: "I am with you all the way no matter what! I have in fact the greatest confidence in you. If only you knew how proud I am of you - through the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen."
(Adapted II Cor. 7:4)

* **Gloria Patri**

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

Musical Prayer Response Meditation

Invitation to the Offering: "Those who are generous are blessed, for they share their bread with the poor." (Proverbs 22:9)

Offertory: Pohnpeian Choir

* **Doxology**

* **Prayer of dedication:** Almighty God, here we pray as Your faithful workers. Enable us to be eager, alert, and ready for your service! Guide our commitments and relationships wherever we are. Receive our gifts in thanksgiving to do Your work with integrity. We pray that our life and worship as members of churches worshipping together will honor You with compassionate energy and hospitality. Let us bless all neighborhoods across our Big Island community and around the world. In Jesus' name. Amen

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

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S TABLE

Communion Hymn – 321 "Break Now the Bread of Life"

Invitation to Communion	Pastor Tom
Consecrating the Bread	
Consecrating the Cup	Rev. Henry Wilson
* Sharing the Bread and the Cup	

Please come forward as you are able to share in bread of and his cup of our salvation. While coming forward and sharing communion let us sing together:

Chorus:

***"Bind us together, Lord
Bind us together with cords that cannot be broken
Bind us together, Lord, Bind us together,
Bind us together, in love"***

***There is only one God, There is only one King;
There is only one body, That is why I sing."* (Repeat chorus)**

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

* **Prayer of Thanksgiving and Benediction: Pastor Tom**

* **Choral Benediction Response:
Hymn #393 "Bless Be the tie that binds"**

* **Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**

Postlude Kayleen Yuda

Ushers: IYAA

Child Care: Eric Tanouye

Chapel Decorations: Carol Morioka

Senior Minister: Thomas Olcott **Visiting Associate:** Jason Chu

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 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 3 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.
- **Samoan Church** worships at 1pm on Sundays.
- **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)