

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS**  
**United Church of Christ - Congregational**  
**440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i**  
**September 22, 2013**

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP**

**Pre-Service Music**

**Words of Greeting & Concerns of the Church**  
**Pastoral Welcome Sharing Christ's Peace**

**Latai Loa**  
**Pastor Tom Olcott**

**Prelude**

**Kayleen Yuda**

**Responsive Call to Worship**

**Leader:** We pray to you, LORD! Please listen. Do not let us conceal ourselves from Your encounter when trouble is near. Probe the depths of our prayers and quickly come to us in our need.

**People:** We sing to God with praise. Each of us declares the wonderful deeds of our Creator. God loves us! The Holy Spirit embraces us! We glory in the Holy presence, let every heart beat seek the Lord and rejoice in the gift of life.

**Leader:** You are God's people. Let us open our eyes to see the needs of the world. Let every fiber of our being become a life line of abundant compassion and harmony, a chain of devotion and hospitality - let us reach beyond ourselves and share with the whole people of God.

**ALL:** God you both transcend and transform the space around us. You are in the air we breathe. You know the expanse of our souls. Inspire us to embrace Your fullness with grace. May our daily choices honor your glory? Now, we come to worship rejuvenated by bonds of love in Christ, Jesus. **AMEN.**

**\*Hymn of Praise: 35 "O Mighty God, When I Survey in Wonder" (vs. 1,2, and 3)**

**\*Invocation:** O God of all that is and is to be, our Maker, whose eye is even on the sparrow, you care with tenderness for this world you have shaped. We come to travel by you side through the adventures of each day. Your loving Spirit redeems your lost and grieving children from the loneliness of any despair. You provide nourishment for body and soul. You sent Christ as a servant to bind up our wounded brokenness and heal our pain of suffering. We are in the arms of your joyous compassion. Grant that in this hour of sacred worship we will respond to your call for discipleship. Help us to confess our need for love; and let us find the courage and freedom to discover your amazing grace. In Jesus' name, Amen

**\* Keiki Hymn # 323 "Little Children Welcome"**

**WE SHARE THE WORDS OF GOD**

**Sharing with Children**

**Pastor Tom**

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

**Anthem:** Solo by Chris Tomich and Jean-Pierre Thoma

**Scripture: I Timothy 2:1-7**

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead a peaceful and quiet life, godly and dignified in every way. This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time. For this I was appointed a preacher and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.....Amen

**Sermon: "Our Prayerful Living"**

**Pastor Tom Olcott**

**\* Hymn: # 492 "I Would Be True"**

**Call to Confession:** Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked or give up on God's love by taking the path that leads to idle conversations and cynical sarcasm. Come now, speak with a pure heart and delight in the mercy of God's love. (Based on Ps. 1:1-2)

**Confession (in unison):** God of grace, sometimes grudges cloud our vision. Sometimes we want to have everything smoothly go our way. We may grumble as we trip over kindness when someone offers us hope. We may object and argue just to get our desires. We may forget the needs of others. Help us find mercy when we experience anxious disappointment. Guide us so we do not adopt bad habits. Energize us to shine as searchlights of companionship in every corner of daily life. Inspire us to love family, friends, neighbors, and strangers... as You love... with the forgiveness of Jesus. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon:** Our Lord watches over our spirit with forgiveness. Mercy sprouts with new life and does not wither, but grows in your soul as the strength of the Lord's blessing. Amen.

**\* Gloria Patri**

**Pastoral Prayer/ Prayers of the People**

**Jason Chu**

We share our joy as God's people as we offer prayers of need, of burdens, of joy, of hope, and cares.

**Invitation to the Offering:** "A generous person will be blessed, knowing how to share food and shelter with the poor. A wise person will teach every child as their own. They will share the wisdom of their heart and speak up for those unable to speak for themselves; they will lend their voice to those who are destitute. Speak up and act fairly; defend the rights of the poor and needy. Come, offer blessings from within your heart and soul.

**Offertory**

**\* Doxology**

**\* Prayer of dedication:** Gracious Lord, Thank You for the people who pray beside us this morning. Thank You for knowing the gifts we each bring to all our relationships. Thank You for reminding us to stop and see how we can each influence the lives of the children of this wide, wide world. You have transformed our abilities by inviting us to examine our choices as well as the values that we now offer in Your sacred presence. Thank You for letting us walk and serve with humble compassion. May Your name be glorified. Receive our commitment to build our lives in mutual service as the whole people of God. In Christ's name - Amen.

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

**\* Benediction:**

**Pastor Tom**

**\* Choral Benediction Response: Hymn # 283 "Spirit of the Living God"**

**\* Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**

**Postlude**

**Kayleen Yuda**

***Ushers:*** IYAA

***Child Care:*** Anne Sadayasu

***Chapel Decorations:*** Joyce Nakamoto

***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)
- **Board of Stewardship and Missions Meeting today 9/22/13**