

THE CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
United Church of Christ - Congregational
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i
September 29, 2013

Jason Chu's Last Sunday with us as Visiting Associate

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Pre-Service Music

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

Anne Sadayasu
Pastor Tom Olcott

Prelude

Kayleen Yuda

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: The directions of God are plain and simple to understand. God's reputation for mercy is twenty-four-seven, with a never ending guarantee. God's guidance is accurate, helping us discern how to speak in love. Let us all say, "God, You are my refuge, I trust in your ways!"

People: God, you are my refuge, I trust in your ways!
Your word is like crystal clear water for a thirsty soul. Your word directs us to hidden treasures with mercy and compassion.

ALL: With faith in Jesus, we discover our way as the people of God?
Forgiving grace cleans the soul of any wrong doing with God. We gather to celebrate every day, refreshed and alert in faith, awake and alive with joy! AMEN.

***Hymn of Praise: #491 "Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve"**

***Invocation (responsive):**

Leader: Look! The Lord our God comes with a Holy Spirit of truthfulness and the voice of courage is given to men and women:

People: O LORD, You search us and know us! You know when we sit down and when we rise up; You invite us to walk in your love and work with a spirit for justice.

Leader: You discern our thoughts from afar, and are acquainted with all our ways.

People: O LORD, You know our voice and speech. You come from behind and lay Your hand upon our shoulders so that we might not loose heart.

Leader: You empower us to trust in your teaching. Such knowledge is too wonderful for us;

ALL: Our vision is challenged beyond comprehension. Where could we go from Your Spirit? Or whither shall we flee from Your presence? We praise You, for You are awesome and marvelous! Come, show us all Your wonderful ways. Amen. (Psalm 139 edited)

*** Keiki Hymn #492 "I Would Be True"**

WE SHARE THE WORDS OF GOD

Sharing with Children

Jason Chu

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

Anthem: IYAA

Scripture: Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16

You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
will say to the LORD, 'My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust.'

For he will deliver you from the snare of the fowler
and from the deadly pestilence;

he will cover you with his pinions,
and under his wings you will find refuge;
his faithfulness is a shield and buckler.

You will not fear the terror of the night,
or the arrow that flies by day,

or the pestilence that stalks in darkness,
or the destruction that wastes at noonday.
Those who love me, I will deliver;
I will protect those who know my name.
When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honor them.
With long life I will satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.

Sermon: "You Will Not Fear" Jason Chu

*** Hymn: 612 "Strengthen All the Weary Hands" (vs 1 & 2)**

Call to Confession: Lord, keep us from senseless sins, from assuming we can slide past the hard work you have given us to do.

Confession (in unison): "Holy Lord, turn to me and be gracious unto me. Look upon my doubts and fears, check out my stress level, and take away all my sins. Guard my choices and my actions. Rescue me from my conflicts. Let me not be put to shame or bring disgrace before your glory. To you, Lord I declare the hidden truth of my private and public life. In you I take refuge. You are a laser beam of hope focused on my integrity. Shine your Holy Spirit of mercy through our every heart beat as we seek your desire to work within us each day. Let me walk with the courage with which you entrust me to act according to your compassionate mercy. Amen."

Assurance of Pardon: "If a shy and silent person turns away from any wickedness they have witnessed and does what is just and right, they will save their life. Such a person will surely live." (Ezekiel 18)

*** Gloria Patri**

Pastoral Prayer/ Prayers of the People Pastor Tom
Voicing prayers of need, of burdens, of hopes, and cares.
We share our joy as God's people.

Invitation to the Offering: Accept all of us and all we are. We place ourselves before the morning altar of your Holy Cross to seek your grace and serve with compassion. Amen.

Offertory

*** Doxology**

*** Prayer of dedication:** As we pray before your altar God, we invite you to touch the lives of each of your servants here. Take the labor of our days let it bring safety and encouragement to those around us. Add our voices to the cries for peace and justice. May our hours and all the days of our lives bring refreshment to the whole human family and all creatures of this earth? As this world spins through space, anchor us in the gravity of compassion. Make us instruments of your peace echoing the forgiveness of your Holy Cross to follow where Jesus reaches out and gives new life to our community and world. Amen.

*** Hymn: #454 "Lord, I want To Be a Christian"**

*** Benediction: Jason Chu**

*** Choral Benediction Response: 252 (Hawai'ian vs 1)**

*** Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**

Postlude Kayleen Yuda

Please join us for a farewell reception in the Building of Faith for Jason Chu.

Please remember that the General Membership Meeting will be held on October 13, 2013 following worship service.

Ushers: IYAA

Child Care: Merle Okabe

Chapel Decorations: Laura Ota

Refreshments: Moira Tanaka, Esther Kodani, Deacons

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 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 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)