

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
United Church of Christ – Congregational
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawaii
November 17, 2013

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music –Congregational singing together

**Words of Greeting,
Celebrations & Concerns of the Church** **Bob Smith**

Why I Love this Church **Saeko Hayashi**

Pastoral Greeting and Sharing Peace and Wellbeing of our Fellowship
Rev. Larry Walter

(Gathering of Prayer Concerns will take place at this time)

Prelude **Kayleen Yuda**

Call to Worship

Leader : The Sabbath Day brings the welcome reminder that as we gather in faith and fellowship our lives are renewed by the Spirit of God and by each other's faith-journey. Come; let us share this time together in praise and prayer; let us affirm our faith as followers of the Christ.

ALL: We have come to open our hearts and minds to all that is the wonder and miracle of God's Spirit in our midst. We have come to share the blessings of fellowship that strengthen and sustain us in daily living. Come; let us affirm our faith in all we say and do here. Amen.

***Hymn of Praise:** Praise To The Lord, The Almighty (Insert)

***Invocation:**

Leader: Eternal God, we come before you in humble praise and thanksgiving. Fill our hearts and this scared place with the power and joy of your presence. Awaken us to new life, fill us with hope, lead and summon us to ever be your people. Enable us to be good and faithful servants of your Son, the Living Lord of life. Amen.

*** Keiki Hymn:** #84 This is the Day

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Sharing with Children - Gloria Kobayashi

Anthem: Be a Candle of Hope -- Becki Slagle Mayo Na Leo Ni'o Lani

Scripture: A Litany of Affirmation (from Psalm 105 and Psalm 27)

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, call on the name of the Lord, make known the Lord's deeds among the peoples! Sing to the Lord, sing praises to the Lord, tell of all the Lord's wonderful works!

All: The Lord is our light and our salvation; The Lord is the stronghold of our lives;

Leader: Seek the Lord and the Lord's strength, seek the Lord presence continually! Remember the wonderful works that the Lord has done.

ALL: One thing have we asked of the Lord, that will we seek after; that we may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of our lives ,to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in the Lord's temple. For the Lord will hide and shelter us, the Lord will conceal us under the cover of his tent, the Lord will set us high upon a rock.

Our Silent Prayers

Leader: The Lord will spread a cloud as a covering over you, the Lord will give you fire to be your light by night. The Lord will give you food when you are hungry, the Lord He will give you bread from heaven in abundance. The Lord will open rocks in the desert, water will gush forth;

ALL: We believe that we shall see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living! You, who are faithful, Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage; yes, wait for the Lord! Amen.

Sermon: Who Am I? 2 Cor. 5:16-21 ~ Lk. 12:22-31

Reverend Larry Walter

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

***Hymn:** #290 Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart
(please remain seated as we enter our time of prayer)

The Prayers

Call to Prayer:

Leader: Prayer is a profound and noble affirmation of our faith. It is our deeply personal way of opening our lives to the miracle and mystery of God in our midst. Without words and in our thoughts alone we can voice the struggles of our souls, the anguish of the brokenness of life that is so real to us, the pain of the wounds we carry deep within. In prayer we can express our needs, longings and desires; we can seek the grace of God that brings peace and well-being. In these quiet moments we hear the Lord as He says, "*Come to me and I will give you rest.*"

Unison Sabbath Prayer

All: Most Gracious God, we open our hearts in prayer. Grant to us, O Lord, the miracle of renewal, we pray. In these quiet moments we share the burden of our hesitations, doubts and fears. We give voice to our desires and longings; we offer our thanks for your blessings; we pray for your healing grace and forgiving love.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (you are invited to offer this prayer in the words most familiar to you)

Prayer Response (hymn #488, first verse)

Assurance of Pardon:

Leader: Know that whatever is taking place in your life, whatever you are dealing with, worried about, struggling with; there is a power at work in the world and in your life that is on your side; and will hold you up. It is the Holy Spirit. Know that whatever you are afraid of there is nothing that can ultimately separate you from the love of God that surrounds you.

*Gloria Patri

Invitation to the Offering:

Leader: In the very depth of our faith we affirm that God provides us with every blessing in abundance. In our sharing of labor, love and faith we are able to do far more than we could ever imagine. Let us rejoice in the goodness of God with thanksgiving in our hearts

Offertory

***Doxology:** # 780 or # 781

*Prayer of Dedication:

Most Gracious God, we offer our gifts in thanksgiving for the bounty you bestow upon us. May our gifts be worthy of your blessing. We pray that your Spirit will ever inspire and challenge us to transform these gifts of our faith and labor into a bold witness to the love of Christ we experience within us. May your Spirit now bless and consecrate our gifts and our lives to Christian service. Amen.

***Hymn** #451 Be Now My Vision

***Benediction**

* **Choral Benediction Response:** # 580 "O Kou Aloha No"
(Queen's Prayer)

***Extinguishing Altar Candles**

Postlude

Kayleen Yuda

Ushers: Anne Sadayasu, Eric Tanouye, Margaret Torigoe,
Ethel Yoshimasu, Jennie Kondo

Child Care: Gloria Kobayashi

Chapel Decorations: Sachie Fukuda, Moira Tanaka

Minister Emeritus: Susumu Yamane

Office Manager: Dennis Lin

Choir Director: Pedro Ka'awaloa

Organist: Kayleen Yuda

Choir Accompanist: Katherine Wilson

Childcare Coordinator: Evonne Shiohita

The Hanging of the Greens will be on Saturday, November 30, 2013.

Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Service
Tuesday, Nov 26 at 7pm
Hilo United Methodist Church

Margaret Ushijima's Funeral Service
Saturday, November 23, 2013.
Visitation 3pm, Service at 4pm.
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.
- **The United Church of Christ, Pohnpei – Hilo** worships in the BF meeting room this morning.
- **Samoa 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 on break
- **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)
- **Toastmasters** meet in the Lounge Tuesdays at 12pm and the 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month in the Lounge, 5:30-7pm.

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS OFFICE HOURS

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
9am-4:30pm

OUT OF OFFICE: 11am-12pm

Tuesday, Thursday

9am-12pm