

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

United Church of Christ - Congregational

440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i

November 3, 2013

Sacred elements for our Lord's Supper include grape juice and wheat bread.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

Pre-Service Music

Words of Greeting, Celebrations & Concerns of the Church

Woody Kita

Why I Love God's Church

Sue Smith and Millie Daikawa

Pastoral greeting and sharing Christ's peace

Pastor Tom

Prelude

Kayleen Yuda

Responsive Call to Worship:

Leader: Praise the Lord, O My Soul

I will praise the Lord as Long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

People: Grace and peace be unto all the earth from God Our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, by the power of the Holy Spirit at work among us.

Leader: Come God, strengthen us for the tasks of life,

Touch the fiber of our existence; Help us bless all people;

Heal, preserve, and guide us with compassionate integrity and

uprightness. Let Your Son's words energize our hearts and minds.

All: We pray for our brothers and sisters throughout the earth. May each of us fulfill every good purpose as participants in your creation by answering every call for faithful action. Through us may Jesus be glorified by the grace of Your Holy Spirit. Amen

***Hymn of Praise: #43 "Love Diving, All Loves Excelling"**

***Invocation:** God of Holiness, pour over-flowing love into us. Help us to see within us the spiritual strength to exercise joyful faithfulness with mercy in all we do. Guide our best efforts with wisdom,.. skill,.. talent,.. ability,.. and aloha. Inspire us as instruments of Your blessing in all our relationships. Let us welcome each opportunity to trust Your Holy Spirit of forgiveness, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*** Keiki Hymn "Guide My Feet"(Insert)**

WE SHARE THE WORDS OF GOD

Service of Sacred Baptism:

Percyna Lei Lovina Pitoli born January 7, 2011, to LoveMe Pitoli.

Children's Words

Sunday School Students/Teachers

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

Anthem: In Christ there is No East or West

Na Leo Ni'o Lani

Scripture: Luke 19:1-10

Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through. And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way. 5 And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and

come down, for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. And when they saw it, they all grumbled, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. 10 For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

Sermon: "Reshaped and Transformed by Love"

Pastor Tom

Hymn: # 495 "Called as Partners In Christ's Service" (vs. 1 & 2)

Call to Confession: Lord God, when I am desperate don't let me be too busy to welcome your presence on the road of life and in my every day decisions.

Confession: (in unison) Forgiving God, sometimes we make excuses for passing up opportunities to share in the acts of mercy that meet us in the middle of the here and now! Sometimes we imagine we know all your rules for my life – and then we remember you love people more than rules. Come and guide the character of our everyday choices. Enter into the events of our human relationships. If any of us has done anything wrong, help us make restitution and change our behavior. Open our hearts with justice and reconciliation. With Jesus, we commit to love others as You love us. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: When the burden of life is heavy, cast all your anxieties upon God who cares about you, now and always. Amen.

*** Gloria Patri:**

Pastoral Prayer / Prayers of the People Pastor Tom

Invitation to the Offering: Join hands in service with God and your neighbors. Have courage to make an offering to God of every thing you touch. By mutual support with each other, let us do more than just listen to God's word. Let us transform our faith with energy devoted to service helpful to all, as we both give and receive grace from God's Son.

Offertory:

*** Doxology**

Prayer of dedication: God, we open the treasured blessings of our lives in the Spirit of Your holy presence. Receive each of us and all that we do, and all that is within us into Your all embracing mercy. Guide our fellowship in Hilo to serve faithfully as your Church of the Holy Cross. With thankful hearts, we are yours for ministry and mission. Let us grow in our faith, by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

**Sung Response: "All things come from thee, O Lord
And of thine own have we given thee. Amen"**

COVENANT OF TRANSITION:

**This is a time of Passage with the conclusion of Pastor Tom's
Authorized Ministry as our Senior Pastor.**

Sue Smith, Moderator, The Church of the Holy Cross: *Our Church of the Holy Cross ohana is constantly changing. People come and go. Babies are born. Children grow up. People commit themselves to one another. Loved ones and friends among us come to the end of their lives. Individuals move into our community and church life. Others leave us, moving away to new places.*

It is important and right that we recognize these times of passage, of this ending of Pastor Tom's ministry with us which leads to a new beginning. Today we share in this time of farewell with Pastor Tom.

Pastor Tom: In September, 2004, you with your fellow members and friends welcomed me to serve as your Senior Minister.

I thank you, as The Church of the Holy Cross, with your members and friends for the love, kindness, and support you have shown to me and my family these last nine years. I ask for forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. I am grateful for the ways my pastoral leadership has been accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned and experienced here.

Congregation: We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you now leave for retirement. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and witness will not leave at your departure.

Pastor Tom: I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting following Communion and our singing the Benediction response this day are pleasing to God.

Keola Downing, Moderator, The Hawai'i Island Association, United Church of Christ: *Do you, the members and friends of The Church of the Holy Cross, UCC, Hilo, Hawai'i, release Pastor Tom Olcott from his duties as your Senior Minister?*

Congregation: Following our shared Communion this day, we do with the help of God, the grace of the Holy Spirit, and in the love of Jesus Christ.

Keola Downing, Moderator, HIA-UCC: *Pastor Tom, do you release the members and friends of the Church of the Holy Cross, UCC, Hilo, Hawai'i from turning to you and depending upon you for Pastoral leadership, guidance, and service?*

Pastor Tom: Following our shared Communion this day, I do with the help of God, the grace of the Holy Spirit, in and in the love of Jesus Christ.

Keola Downing, Moderator, HIA-UCC: *Do you offer your encouragement for the continued ministry of The Church of the Holy Cross to be strengthened to grow in relationship with those pastors who will come to serve the people of God in this congregation?*

Pastor Tom: I will faithfully encourage this congregation to welcome, support, and grow in bonds of mutual ministry and faithful commitment with those who minister here from this day forward. May my successors in pastoral ministry be enriched by the blessings of God's grace. Amen.

Congregation: We witness on behalf of the Hawai'i Island Association of the United Church of Christ, and our Church of the Holy Cross – these words of thankfulness, forgiveness, and release – and we will hold each other in prayer as we pledge our support to the transition of pastoral ministry ending with Pastor Tom and be open for guidance by God's grace so we will be prepared to enter a new time in our mutual ministry. Amen.

Pastor Tom: Gracious God pour your blessings on each and every member of The Church of the Holy Cross and their friends so that all might grow in the knowledge, love, and exercise of their faith in Jesus' call to mutual ministry. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE LORD'S TABLE

*** Communion Hymn: # 451 "Be Now My Vision"**

Invitation

Pastor Tom

Consecrating the Bread

Consecrating the Cup

*** Sharing the Bread and the Cup**

Please come forward as you are able to share in bread of life and Jesus' cup for our salvation. While coming forward and sharing Communion please 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: Anne Sadayasu, Eric Tanouye, Margaret Torigoe,
Ethel Yoshimasu, Jennie Kondo

Child Care: Tricia Kimura

Chapel Decorations: Irene Okada

Senior Minister: Thomas Olcott

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.
- **The United Church of Christ, Pohnpei – Hilo** worships in the BF meeting room this morning.
- **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 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