

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawaii
January 19, 2014

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing together

Words of Greeting, Celebrations & Concerns of the Church

Reader: Barbara Iwami

Pastoral Welcome Sharing the Peace of Christ Rev. Mary Olney-Loyd

Prelude: "Fugue" by Pachelbel Kayleen Yuda

**All who are able, please rise.*

***Call to Worship: Genesis 1:1-5**

The voice of God spoke over the waters,

And the voice of God said, "Let there be...and there was."

The voice of God said, "Let there be love poured out, and there was."

And it was good.

The voice of God came from heaven,

Women: And the voice of God said, "You are my daughter, the beloved..."

Men: "You are my son, the beloved..."

All: "With you I am well pleased."

In the washing of the baptismal waters, we became light---light to the world.

And God saw that the light was good!

*** Hymn of Praise: #8 "Praise to the Living God"**

***Invocation: God, who spoke words of love for Jesus at his baptism, and who yet speaks words of love for us, be present. Speak to us anew this day that we may speak boldly of You in a world that desperately longs to be re-created in your love. Amen.**

***Song of Welcome:** "You are Welcome Here" chorus and verse 1

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Receiving New Members Anna and Biff Kennedy

Pastor: With great joy I welcome both of you. Today we celebrate your decision to join us as fellow servants of Christ as you affirm your baptism in joining Church of the Holy Cross.

Congregation: It is in our relationships with one another, as well as in our worship, study and service, that the life of this church is built. As the Body of Christ in this place, we come together to share, support, strengthen, celebrate and rejoice in our life together. We gather to deepen our love for Jesus Christ, serving him in the world.

Eric Tanouye: Will you members of this congregation provide these persons with opportunities for spiritual, personal, and social growth? Will you share with them our congregational resources—material, human, and spiritual—supporting them in times of stress and celebrating them in times of joy?

Congregation: We will, with the help of God and our fellow members.

Pastor: Will you grow in your love of Jesus Christ? Will you join us with the task of this ministry, accepting our invitation to membership and all its joys and responsibilities? Will you share your time, talent, and resources, but most of all yourself, as fellow servants of Christ in the mission of Church of

the Holy Cross United Church of Christ?

Anna and Biff Kennedy: We will, with the help of God and the members and friends of this congregation.

Eric Tanouye: Do you, the members of Church of the Holy Cross United Church of Christ, receive these persons as your fellow members?

Congregation: We do with joy! You are now part of this congregation, and we look forward to your ministry among us.

**The Aloha Welcome
Presentation of Certificates of Membership**

Hymn: #597 "Shall We Gather at the River" verses 1-2

Sharing with Children Rev. Mary Olney-Loyd

Lord's Prayer (using "debts" and "debtors") [*in unison*]

Hymn: #597 "Shall we Gather at the River" verse 3

Scripture: Isaiah 42:1-9 Barbara Iwami

Anthem: "City Called Heaven" by Josephine Poelilitz Na Leo Ni'o Lani

Scripture: Matthew 3:13-17

Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.' Then he consented. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of

God descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'

Sermon: "At the Threshold" Reverend Mary Olney-Loyd

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

***Hymn:** #417 "This is a Day of New Beginnings" verses 1-4

The Prayers

***Confession: (in unison) The voice of God is powerful; the Spirit alights on us proclaiming: you are beloved. Before this God, we humbly bow and confess that we have not lived in the freedom of our baptism. We have not loved God as God loves us; we have not loved our neighbors as we are bidden. As you ordered the chaos of creation, so order the chaos of our lives. Speak to us tender words of love and forgiveness. Amen.**

***Assurance of God's Love and Forgiveness**

***Gloria Patri** "Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen."

Pastoral Prayer/Prayers of People (be seated) Rev. Mary Olney-Loyd

Call for Offering: At Jesus' baptism God said, "You are my beloved." God calls us beloved sons and daughters too. We are gifted with God's love and in turn offer our gifts to God.

Offertory: "Supplication" by Blake Kayleen Yuda

Doxology: # 780 or # 781

***Prayer of Dedication: God of glory, in baptism we dedicate our lives to you and pledge to become your voice of love in the world. Hold us close in our baptismal vows as we bring ourselves, our time, and our possessions to you. May our gifts share your love in a world in which your powerful voice of love is often drowned out by voices of violence, hatred and oppression. Use us and all we have to your glory. Amen.**

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

***Closing Hymn:** #286 "Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness" verses 1, 3, 4

*** Benediction:** Rev. Mary Olney Loyd

*** Choral Benediction Response** #146 Nu Oli – chorus only

*** Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**

Postlude: "A Song for the Trumpet" by Paxton Kayleen Yuda

*Please join us for refreshments in J's Café after worship.

Ushers: Eileen Shiraishi, Joyce Nakamoto,
Anita Matthews, Michi Koizumi

Flowers: Saeko Hayashi

Childcare: Esther Kodani

Interim Minister: Mary Olney-Loyd

Minister Emeritus: Susumu Yamane

Office Manager: Dennis Lin

Organist: Kayleen Yuda

Choir Director: Pedro Kaawaloa

Choir Accompanist: Katherine Wilson

Childcare Coordinator: Evonne Shiohita

"E Komo Mai" - All people are welcome here at Church of the Holy Cross, UCC.

We greet all visitors, guests, and friends and invite you to participate in the life of our Holy Cross Church family. If you would like to inquire about church membership please speak to one of our Deacons.

If you would like to learn more about how our national United Church of Christ ministers around the world go to UCC.org - there, you will find information on disaster relief, church life, worship, and ecumenical cooperation.

Other activities at 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 1 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.
- **The United Church of Christ, Pohnpei – Hilo** worships in the BF mtg. room
- **Samoan Church** worships at 12pm on Sundays.
- **Chuukese Church** worships in BF meeting room at 1pm today.
- **Bible Study** Monday on break
- **Gentle Yoga** Monday (BF Meeting Room) on break
- **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.
- **Prostate Cancer Support Group** 1st Thursday of the month, 9am in the Lounge
- **Bell Choir** every Saturday at 3pm in J's Café