

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawaii
February 23, 2014
WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing together

Words of Greeting, Celebrations & Concerns of the Church
Margaret Torigoe

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

Prelude **Kayleen Yuda**

****All who are able, please rise.***

***Call to Worship:**

Leader: Welcome to our worship.

People: Greetings to our brothers and sisters in the faith.

Leader: We come to celebrate God's presence.

People: And God's love expressed through Jesus Christ.

Leader: We come remembering Christ's life and ministry.

People: And the life we are called to live.

Leader: We come as a pilgrim people searching for ways to live out our faith.

People: We come seeking the strength to carry on our journey.

All: Let us rejoice in God's gift to us!

***Hymn of Praise: #400 "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"**

***Invocation:**

You are a gracious God, offering love unconditional, so we might learn to love. We stand in awe and wonder of Your generosity. You can bring hope to those who need it most. Move into our hearts in order to restore our lives. Stay with us as we grow in faith. Guide us this day and all our days, in Jesus name we pray. Amen.

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn: #454 "Lord I Want to Be a Christian"

Sharing with Children

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

Anthem: IYAA

Scripture: Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18

Scripture: Matthew 5:38-48

Sermon: "Blooming in Hostile Places" **Rev. Mary Olney-Loyd**

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

***Hymn: #449 "Softly and Tenderly"**

The Prayers

***Confession, Call to Reconciliation:**

Because we belong to God, we can turn our gaze away from all that tempts us, and see the One who loves us always. Let us turn our hearts towards God, as we speak of our foolishness and failures. Please join me as we pray together, saying,

Unison Prayer for Forgiveness:

No matter how often we hurt one another or You, God of grace, You show us Your merciful nature. You seek to teach us your ways; may we pay close attention. You love us despite our foolish choices, may we be more compassionate toward others. We seek to follow Jesus, may we be willing to go as far as He will take us, even into that place of hope and peace, which is the realm of your heart.

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

This is the good news: we belong to Christ. He is the One who comes bringing life and hope to all. Because we belong to Christ, we belong to God. The Holy One is also the Merciful One, who fills our hearts with love. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.

***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)

Call for Offering: God calls upon us to love one another as God loves us. Even as God has abundantly blessed us with good things, Let us bless others through gifts that show we care.

Offertory

Kayleen Yuda

Doxology: # 780 or # 781

***Prayer of Dedication:**

God, we present these offerings that they may be used to extend your liberating reign. With them, we offer our varied ministries in the days ahead, that each of us may be part of your answer to the cries of the world. Amen.

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

***Closing Hymn: "Let There Be Peace on Earth" see insert**

*** Benediction**

*** Choral Benediction Response #580 "O Kou Aloha No"**

*** Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**

Postlude

Kayleen Yuda

Ushers: Barbara Iwami, Millie Daikawa, Miyeko Yamane

Flowers: Hatsue Kamimura

Childcare: Irene Okada

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

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AFTER WORSHIP 11:30 AM

"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 or Pastor Mary.

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.

This Week 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.
- **First Marshallese Assembly of God**, worships in the Sanctuary today at 4pm.

- **Gentle Yoga** Monday (BF Meeting Room) on break
- **Rhythm & Life exercise class** meets Tuesday at 3:30 p.m. (BF)
- **Bible Study** Monday Feb. 24 at 7 pm
- **Bible Study** Tues Feb. 25 at 1 pm
- **Bible study** Wed Feb. 26 at 9:30 am
- **IYAA Bible Study** is held each Wednesday evening from 7:00 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, 12pm in the Lounge
- **Ron Fujiyoshi, Ohana Ho'opakele** meets in the Lounge every Thursday at 9am.
- **Bell Choir** every Saturday at 1pm in J's Café