

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawaii
September 7, 2014

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing together

Words of Greeting
Pastoral Welcome
Prelude

Ruth Niino-DuPonte
Pastor Mary Olney-Loyd

**All who are able, please rise. Please speak in unison where text is bold.*

***Call to Worship** Adapted from the poem “Where God lives” by Taka Harada

People: Where God lives, there are praises!

We serve the Lord God!

Rejoice, rejoice.

One: Where God lives, there are praises.

I'll sing a song of gladness,

Because God is Love.

People: God will keep us forever.

God will be our strength.

We who lift our voices,

Praise God's name where we are!

One: Where God lives, there are praises!

We who serve the Lord God,

Rejoice, rejoice!

***Prayer of Praise (Unison)**

Eternal God, companion of all who seek you, and seeker of all who turn away from you, draw near to us, that we may draw near to you, and grant us the grace to love and serve you. As we listen for your guidance may we find true freedom in your will for our lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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

***Prayer for Confession (Unison)**

Most merciful God, we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us so we may follow in your ways to the glory of your name.

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

This is a day of New Beginnings sung by the choir

***Gloria Patri**

(Please be seated)

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Sharing with Children

Lord's Prayer

Please rise and join hands while we pray and use the language you are most comfortable in to speak the prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

(Please be seated)

Scripture: Exodus 12:1-14

Meditation

Pastor Mary Olney-Loyd

Anthem Go Down, Moses Spiritual

Scripture: John 9:1-12

Meditation

Pastor Mary Olney-Loyd

Pastoral Prayer/Prayers of People

(Please rise)

***Hymn: 574 In Egypt under Pharaoh (tune 245)**

(Please be seated)

Invitation to the Offering

**The psalmist said: Behold, God is my helper;
God is the upholder of my life, with a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you; I will give thanks to your name, O God, for it is good. For you have delivered me from every trouble.**

Offertory

***Doxology: # 780 or # 781 (Please rise)**

***Prayer of Dedication (Unison):**

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.

(Please be seated)

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Consecrating the Bread and Cup

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

As you sing, please come forward, as you are able, to share in the bread of life and the cup of salvation. If you wish we will serve you in your seat. Following communion please form a fellowship circle around the sanctuary.

Communion Hymn: 330 Let Us Break Bread Together

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

We give you thanks almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***Closing Hymn: 570 We Shall Overcome**

*** Benediction**

*** Choral Benediction Response: 252 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us**

*** Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**

Postlude

**September 14, Martha Mensendiek,
UCC missionary to Japan,
Church Picnic follows Worship
(Postponed due to Iselle)**

Martha Mensendiek works at Doshisha University, a Christian university, with a history of being in solidarity with the poor and discriminated class in Japanese society, as well as in the wider world. Following worship we'll enjoy our church picnic with Bento lunch, games, and fun for children & all ages!

Today we receive a calabash, a free will donation, at the back of sanctuary, which goes to `Ohana o Kalaupapa.

- **September 28, October 5, 12, 19 Looking Ahead at CHC!**
Save these dates for fun, food and fellowship following worship. These times together will further the congregation's process in the interim time. We need your help in this process! Please plan to attend! We'll provide food and ask you sign up in worship or by calling the church, 935-1283.
- **Mon Sept 15 11:30 am brown bag lunch with Martha Mensendiek.** Stewardship & Mission Board invites you to join us for lunch with Martha. We'll look at possible mission projects.
- **Mon Sept 15 6:30 pm Bible study with Martha Mensendiek.** We'll meet in the lounge. You're invited for this one time Bible study with Martha. Bring your Bibles please.
- **Rhythm & Life exercise class, BF Tuesdays, 3:30pm**
- **Choir Practice, 8:30am in Sanctuary**
- **Bible Study Wednesday August 27 9:30am in Lounge**
- **International Young Adults Association Bible Study** is held each Wednesday evening 7:00 p.m.
- **Qi Goong exercise class** meets Friday morning 9-10:30 a.m. (BF, open to church members)
- **Ron Fujiyoshi, Ohana Ho`opakele** meets in the Lounge Thursday at 9am.
- **Bell Choir** every Saturday at 1pm in J's Café