

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawaii
December 28, 2014

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing together

Words of Greeting

Sue Smith

Announcements

***Passing of Peace**

*When you see this symbol, *, please stand if you are able.*

*Words in **bold** are spoken by everyone.*

*Prelude: “**Away in a Manger**” Pastoral/Symphony
by **Whitworth***

Kayleen Yuda

***Opening Hymn: The First Noel**

**The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay, keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel!**

**They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far;
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel!**

**This star drew near to the northwest,
O’er Bethlehem it took its rest;
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel!**

***Call to Worship**

L: Unto us a Child is born!

P: Unto us a Son is given!

L: And the government shall be upon his shoulders.

**P: And his name shall be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father,
Prince of Peace,**
L: Son of David, Son of God,
P: Prophet, Priest and King;
L: Root of Jesse, Key of David,
P: Rock of Ages, Cornerstone,
L: Dayspring dawning from on high,
P: Light of the world,
L: Alpha and Omega,
P: the Beginning and the End;
L: the Good Shepherd who lays down his life for the sheep,
P: the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world,
L: Bread of Life,
P: the world's Redeemer,
L: Emmanuel, God with us,
P: a Savior, who is Christ the Lord!

*Carol "**Hark, the Herald Angels Sing**"

**Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord—
Late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see! Hail, incarnate deity!
Pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel!
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Opening Prayer (Responsive)*

L: Lord Jesus Christ, true God,
P: Son of the Father from eternity,
L: Lord Jesus Christ, true man,
P: born of the virgin Mary:
L: at great cost you saved and redeemed us lost and condemned creatures;
P: you freed us from sin, death and the power of the devil,
L: not with silver or gold,
P: but with your holy and precious blood and your innocent suffering and death.
L: Claim us as your own to live under you in your kingdom,
P: to serve you in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness,
L: just as you are risen from the dead and live and rule today. Amen.

Carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem"

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
Oh, come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!
(Please be seated.)

First Lesson

Carol "Joy to the World" (Lyrics from Psalm 98)

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing ...
Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy ...
No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found ...
He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love ...

Second Lesson

Special Music:

International Young Adult Association

Christmas Gospel Celebration: John 1:1-5

Carol: "What Child is This?"

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet
while shepherds watch are keeping
This, this is Christ the king,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!

John 1:6-13

Carol vs 2

Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear shall pierce him through,

the cross be borne for me, for you;
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary!

John 1:14-18

Carol vs 3

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings;
let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high,
the virgin sings her lullaby;
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

Special Music

“Meditation Massenet”

JP Thoma (flute)

Christmas Story

Gary Loyd

*Hymn: “O Come, All Ye Faithful”

Oh, come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
Oh, come ye, oh, come ye to Bethlehem; come and behold him
Born the King of angels: Oh, come, let us adore him ... Christ the Lord!
The highest, most holy, Light of light eternal,
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes; Word of the Father
Now in flesh appearing! Oh, come, let us adore him ... Christ the Lord!
Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above! “Glory to God
In the highest!” Oh, come let us adore him ... Christ the Lord!

RESPONDING WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Call to Giving

Sue Smith

Offertory: “He Shall Feed His Flock ” Handel Arr: Whitworth

Kayleen Yuda

*Doxology

Hymnal #780 or 781

Prayers of the People (Hymnal #878)

L: Gracious God, who loves all and forgets none, we bring to you our prayers for all your children. For all whom we love, watch over and care for;

P: Hear us, O God.

L: For all prisoners and captives, and all who suffer from oppression, that you will manifest your mercy toward them, and make all hearts as merciful as your own.

P: Hear us, O God.

L: For all who bear the cross of suffering, the sick in body or mind;

P: Hear us, O God.

L: For all those who are troubled by the sin or suffering of those they love:

P: Hear us, O God.

L: For all who are absorbed in their own grief, that they may be raised to share the sorrows of others, and know the saving grace of the cross.

P: Hear us, O God.

L: For all perplexed by the deeper questions of life and overshadowed with doubt, that your light may guide them:

P: Hear us, O God.

L: For all who are tired by temptations or weakness, that your mercy maybe their strength;

P: Hear us, O God.

L: For all who are lonely and sad in the midst of others' joy, that they may know you as their friend and comforter'

P: Hear us, O God.

L: For the infirm and aged and for all who are dying, that they may find their strength in you and light at evening time;

P: Hear us, O God.

L: For all forgotten by us, but dear to you;

P: Hear us, O God.

L: O compassionate God, hear our prayers, answer them according to your will, and make us channels of your infinite grace: through Jesus Christ we pray.

ALL: Amen.

The Lord's 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, forever. Amen.

DEPARTING TO SERVE

**Hymn*: Good Christian Friends Rejoice

Hymnal #129

* (Unison) **We have heard the story of Christ's birth, the Word, God come in human form, to live among us. We have sung God's message for us too – Christ is born. Let us rejoice! May we live this Good News in our daily lives today and all our days! Alleluia! Amen.**

**Congregational Response “Nu Oli” 146 refrain only*

**Postlude: “The Snow Lay on the Ground”*

Kayleen Yuda

English Carol arr: Jordan

Ushers: Moira Tanaka, Newton Chu,
Ester Kodani & Karl Kawahara

Flowers: Laura Ota

Interim Minister: Mary Olney-Loyd

Moderator: Woody Kita

Minister Emeritus: Susumu Yamane

Office Manager: Jodi Enriquez

Choir Director: Katherine Wilson

Choir Accompanist: LaRae K. Mortensen

Organist: Kayleen Yuda

Childcare Coordinator: Evonne Shiohita

This Week at Church of the Holy Cross

- **Rhythm & Life exercise class**, BF Tuesdays, 3:30pm
- **Bible Study** Monday at 6:30 p.m. at the Building of Faith and Wednesday at the Parsonage at 9:30 am
- **International Young Adults Association Bible Study** is held each Wednesday evening 7:30 p.m.
- **Qi Goong exercise class** meets Friday morning 9-10:30 a.m.
(BF, open to church members)
- **Ballroom Dance class** will meet on Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. in the Building of Faith
- **Ron Fujiyoshi, Ohana Ho’opakele** meets in the Lounge Thursday at 9am.
- **Prostate Support Group** meets in the Lounge each second Thursday of the month.
- **Bell Choir every Saturday at 1 pm in J’s Cafe**