

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawaii
January 4, 2014

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing together

Words of Greeting

Woody Kita

Pastoral Welcome

Rev. Mary Olney-Loyd

Prelude: “Morning Has Broken”

Kayleen Yuda

Gaelic Melody *Arr: Smith*

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

***Responsive Call to Worship:** *(Statement of Faith of the United Church of Christ - alternating Puna and Hamakua sides reading responsively)*

Puna: We believe in you, O God. Eternal Spirit. God or our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify: You call the worlds into being, create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death. You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

Hamakua: You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles. In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot, conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

Puna: You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit, creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

Hamakua: You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

All: You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end. Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

***Prayer of Praise (Unison)**

God, we sing with the voices of early morning birds whose songs proclaim your glory. We overflow with sunrise happiness. As morning gilds the sky, we resolve once more to embrace the way of Jesus' teaching. May Christ's wisdom fill us with courage and kindness. May we be aware of your compassion as we face difficult and demanding challenges. May we share your friendship wherever we are, day by day, throughout all of 2015. May we pass on the gifts you've given to us. We greet you with love, God of the whole world. Amen

*** Hymn of Praise: # 160 Jesus the Light of the World" verses 1 – 3**

***Prayer for Confession (Unison)**

God, your true light has come into the world, blessing all upon whom it shines. Hope, peace, joy and love are ours through the Incarnate Word. And yet we languish, O God. We do not dance your praises; we do not join in merry laughter or holy pleasures. Our mourning is like ash in our mouths, and sorrow chokes the words of delight we wish to profess. There is no peace in our hearts. We do not see the promises of the prophets fulfilled.

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

Open us to the blessings that surround us, that we may again be moved to praise you, God of blinding light and gentle power.

***Gloria Patri**

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Time with Children

Rev. Mary Olney-Loyd

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

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 glory, for ever. Amen.

Scripture: John 9:5, 35, 38

⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

³⁸ He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.

Special Music: “Panis Angelicus” by Cesar Franck

JP Toma

Scripture: Isaiah 60 1-6

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.
² For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the LORD will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.
³ Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses’ arms.
⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,^[a]
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.
They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Sermon: From Darkness to Light

Rev. Henry Wilson

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Pastoral Prayer/Prayers of People

Rev. Mary Olney-Loyd

Special Music: The United Church of Christ Pohnpei – Hilo

Invitation to the Offering

The seed of our faith grows in us every time we trust God. Like all plants rooted in good soil, we reach to the light for nourishment and life. May our souls blossom and then yield the fruit of compassion and understanding. May those around us “taste and see that the Lord is good.”

Offertory: “Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

Kayleen Yuda

By Lennel-Doran

***Doxology:** # 780 or # 781

***Prayer of Dedication (Unison)**

Dear God, we are gathered as people united with Christ in baptism and faith and by our common humanity. We want to use the skill and ability with which you have blessed us. We come to your Holy Cross to receive the gift of your Holy Spirit. Receive from us the work of our hands,... our minds,...our hearts. Let us become people who use what we have to bless all people in your Son's name. Amen.

***Communion Hymn:** # 584 I Am the Light of the World verses 1 - 4

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Rev. Mary Olney-Loyd

Consecrating the Bread and Cup

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

As you sing, : #330 "Let Us Break Bread Together" 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

***Prayer of Thanksgiving**

***Closing Hymn:** # 524 This Little Light of Mine verses 1 – 3

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine let it shine (oh let it shine)**

**Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine let it shine let it shine (oh let it shine)**

**All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine
All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine
All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine let it shine let it shine (oh let it shine)**

*** Benediction**

Rev. Mary Olney-Loyd

* **Choral Benediction Response: # 524 Bless Be the Tie verse 1**
Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
The sharing of a common life is like to that above.

* **Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**

Postlude: "Recessional" *By Asper* Kayleen Yuda

Ushers: Theone Albano, Christian Albano,
Joyce Nakamoto & Michi Koizumi

Flowers: Lillian Tanouye, Eric Tanouye
& Kyle Nakayama families

Interim Minister: Mary Olney-Loyd

Moderator: Sue Smith

Minister Emeritus: Susumu Yamane

Office Manager: Jodi Enriquez

Choir Director: Katherine Wilson

Organist: Kayleen Yuda

Childcare Coordinator: Evonne Shiohita

Childcare: Shirley Miyake

This Week at the Church of the Holy Cross

- **Choir Practice**, 8:30 a.m. in Sanctuary
- **Rhythm & Life exercise class**, FG Tuesdays, 3:30 p.m.
- **Ballroom Dance** class will meet on Sept. 24 at 6:30 p.m.
- **Ron Fujiyoshi, Ohana Ho'opakele** meets @ Lounge Thurs. at 9am.
- **Bell Choir** every Saturday at 1pm in J's Café

Other Congregations that Worship here Today

- **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** – worships in the BF.
- **Samoan Church** worships at 12pm on Sundays in Sanctuary.
- **Chuukese Church** worships in BF meeting room at 3pm today.
- **First Marshallese Assembly of God**, worships in the Sanctuary today 4pm.

BF=Building of Faith