

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawaii
January 18, 2015

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing together

Words of Welcome and Concerns of the Church	Barbara Iwami
Introduction of our Guest Preacher	
Pastoral Greeting and Sharing the Peace of Christ	
Prelude: “Processional” Rameau – arr. Brown	Kayleen Yuda

Call to Worship

Leader : The Sabbath Day brings the welcome reminder that as a people of faith we are encouraged to step aside from our daily walks of life to offer our worship to God and to share the blessings of faith and fellowship. Come; let us open our hearts and minds to the miracle and mystery of God’s presence in our midst. Let us lift our voices in praise and prayer.

Everyone: We give thanks for the many blessings of faith and fellowship that nurture and enrich our lives. In all we say and do here we seek to be people of devotion gathered in the name of the Christ. Come; let us worship together, let us welcome the Spirit of God into our hearts and into this sacred place. Amen.

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

***Hymn of Praise: # 1 “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”**

*** Invocation:**

Eternal God, come to us, we pray. Awaken within us the joy of your presence and the assurance of your loving care; surround us with miracle and mystery as we bow before you this morning. Praise be to you, O Lord! Amen.

***Call to Confession:**

The Lord of Life encourages us to find that quiet place within our hearts and thoughts where we can speak to God in the assurance of being heard. The quietness of prayer enables us to listen for the voice of God that says: *“seek me with all your heart and soul, and, you will find me; when you are in tribulation, come to me; I will not fail you or forget the covenant between us.”*

***Confession (in unison):**

Most Gracious God, we quiet ourselves before you in prayer. Hold us close, O Lord, bestow your Spirit upon us. We give thanks for the gift of this day and for your summons to live anew in each day. We pray that you will ease the burdens of our hearts and minds that weigh us down when daily life brings confusion and doubt. We ask the solace of your forgiveness, the renewal of your healing, the hope of your love. Guide and guard us, O Lord, as we strive to be and become your people. Place your hand upon us, draw near to us, hear our prayers.

***Assurance of Pardon:**

The Lord of Life assures us that He has been anointed to bring comfort and gladness to our afflictions, healing to the brokenness we experience in the depth of our lives, guidance and comfort as we meet the demands of daily life. It is the Lord who places a protective mantle upon our shoulders; it is He who declares that we are the Righteous of God; it is He who comes to us with a strength-giving hope

***Gloria Patri**

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Sharing with Children

Joyce Nakamoto

Lord's Prayer

Anthem: "Be Thou My Vision" *arr. Alice Parker*

Na Leo Ni'o Lani

Scripture From the Old Testament Psalm 145 (A Litany of Praise)

Leader: I will extol thee, my God and bless thy name forever and ever. Every day I will bless thee, and praise thy name forever and ever.

Everyone: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised, the Lord's greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall laud thy works to another, and shall declare thy mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of thy majesty, and on thy wondrous works, we will meditate.

Leader: The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. The Lord is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made.

Everyone: All thy works shall give thanks to thee, O Lord, and all thy saints shall bless thee! They shall speak of the glory of thy kingdom, and tell of thy power, to make known to all generations thy mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of thy kingdom.

Leader: The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

Everyone: The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down. The Lord is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings.

Leader: The Lord is near to all who call upon him, to all who call upon him in truth.

Everyone: He fulfills the desire of all who revere him, he also hears their cry, and saves them. The Lord preserves all who love him. Amen

From the New Testament Romans 12:3 – 21

Leader: For by the grace given to me I bid every one among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith which God has assigned him.

Everyone: For as in one body we have many members, and all the members do not have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another.

Leader: Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; those who teach, in their teaching; those who exhort, in their exhortation; those who contribute, in liberality; those who give aid, with zeal; those who do acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. Let love be genuine;

Everyone: Hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good;

Leader: Love one another with brotherly affection;

Everyone: Outdo one another in showing honor.

Leader: Never flag in zeal, be aglow with the Spirit, serve the Lord.

Everyone: Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints, practice hospitality.

Leader: Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.

Everyone: Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep.

Leader: Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; never be conceited.

Everyone: Repay no one evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

Leader: If possible, so far as it depends upon you, live peaceably with all.

Everyone: Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Sermon: "Are You Serious!"

Rev. Larry Walter

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Hymn: # 299 "For All The Saints"

(During the singing of this hymn, the pastor will pass through the congregation collecting Prayer Requests.)

Voicing prayers of need, of burdens, of hopes, and cares. We share our joy as God's people.

The Prayers:

Pastoral Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Leader: In the very depth of our faith we affirm that God provides us with every blessing in abundance. In our sharing of labor, love and faith we are able to do far more than we could ever imagine. Let us rejoice in the goodness of God with thanksgiving in our hearts

Offertory: "Aria da Chiesa" Martini – arr. Blake

Kayleen Yuda

***Doxology**

Blessing and Consecration in UNISON

Eternal God of all light and hope, we ask your consecration upon these gifts of the fruit of our labor and the love of our hearts. We bring our gifts in thanksgiving for all the cherished blessings of life which you bestow upon us in each of our days. We ask your continued blessing that we might always be worthy of the gift of the Christ. Amen

***Hymn: #25 "O God Our Help In Ages Past"**

***Benediction**

*** Choral Benediction Response: # 580 "O Kou Aloha No" (Queen's Prayer)**

***Extinguishing Altar Candles**

Postlude: "Allegro" Walther – arr. Norris

Kayleen Yuda

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

Flowers: Saeko Hayashi

Interim Minister: Mary Olney-Loyd

Moderator: Woody Kita

Minister Emeritus: Susumu Yamane

Office Manager: Jodi Enriquez

Choir Director: Katherine Wilson

Choir Accompanist: Mary Cockcroft

Organist: Kayleen Yuda

Childcare Coordinator: Evonne Shiohita

Dates to Remember:

Sunday, Jan. 18th
Board of Trustees Meeting
In Lounge or J's Café
After Worship

Thursday, Jan. 22th
Senior Ministry
Building of Faith
10:00 to Noon

Sunday, Jan. 25th
Carol Morioka & Moira Tanaka
Will be leading the Women In Leadership Sunday
Refreshments will be served.

This Week at the Church of the Holy Cross

- **Choir Practice**, 8:30 a.m. in Sanctuary
- **Rhythm & Life exercise class**, BF Tuesdays, 3:30 p.m.
- **Ballroom Dance** class will meet every Wednesday at 6:30 pm in BF.
- **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 United Church of Christ, Pohnpei** – worships in the BF at 9 a.m.
- **Samoan Church** worships at 12pm in the Sanctuary.
- **The Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga** worships in the Sanctuary at 1 p.m. and Wednesday at 7 p.m.
- **Chuukese Church** worships in BF meeting room at 3pm.
- **First Marshallese Assembly of God**, worships in the Sanctuary at 4pm.

BF=Building of Faith