

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai`i
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Sky Sunday
September 20, 2015

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing together

Words of Greeting

Latai Loa

Pastoral Welcome

Rev. Take Sunia

Prelude: “Parable” By Kreutz

Kayleen Yuda

*All who are able please stand. Unison reading in bold text.

***Call to Worship**

Leader: When learning to pray, Anne of Green Gables, a young orphan girl, asked this question: ‘Why must people kneel down to pray? If I really wanted to pray I’ll tell you what I’d do. I’d go out into a great field all alone or in the deep, deep woods and I’d look up into the sky – up, up, up, into that lovely blue sky that looks as if there was no end to its blueness. And then I’d just feel a prayer.’ [Lucy Maud Montgomery of *Anne of Green Gables*, p. 51]

People: Leonard Cohen once sang ‘*We are so small between the stars, yet so large against the sky.*’

Leader: Zhuangzi the founder of Daoism, once wondered *I dreamed I was a butterfly, flitting around in the sky; then I awoke. Now I wonder: Am I a man who dreamt of being a butterfly, or am I a butterfly dreaming that I am a man?*

People: Mao Zedong once said: *women hold up half the sky.*

Leader: Psalm 19: 1 declares: *Heaven is declaring God’s glory; the sky is proclaiming God’s handiwork.*

**All: For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.
Come, then, let us worship God.**

***Hymn: #28 ‘For the Beauty of the Earth,’ verses 1 – 4.**

***Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

Loving God, when we think of the vast expanse of sky we are in awe. We can seem so tiny by comparison, and so irrelevant. Yet you know us – each one of us – and you love us – each one of us! Guide us, Creator God, in the awesome task for your earth and for the sky above us all. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Time with Children

Rev. Take Sunia

Please rise if you are able and join hands in a circle

***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 the glory, forever and ever. A-men.

After the Lord's Prayer, please pass the peace of Christ to your neighbor on your left and right, after which, please be seated for the Ministry of Music.

Anthem: *Flowers Will Bloom – Iwai Shunji*

Na Leo Ni'o Lani

Scripture: Psalm 54

Latai Loa

Scripture: James 3: 13 – 18

Latai Loa

Sermon:

Rev. Take Sunia

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Pastoral Prayer/Prayers of People

Rev. Take Sunia

Hymn: #584 'I Am the Light of the World,' verses 1 - 4

Invitation to the Offering:

Latai Loa

Creator God, we have only one sky, yet we have hurt it. We have polluted it; we have burnt holes in the ozone layer through our carelessness and greed. Forgive us. Teach us to treat the sky more gently, that it may continue to be a source of wonder and of life. Be pleased to use our offering this morning to keep the sky for our descendants. Amen.

Offertory: "Berceuse" *By Iljinsky*

Kayleen Yuda

*Doxology:

*Prayer of Dedication: [in unison]

As endless as the sky is your love for us, O God. Endless, too, is our love for you. Receive these gifts, offered as tools to keep our one and only sky clean. In the vastness of the sky, God, you offer the universe numerous gifts: fresh air, sunshine, refreshing rains, intriguing patterns of clouds, stars to guide our travels, the moon to control the tides, and many things to make us wonder. Keep us ever mindful, O God, of the amazing gift of the sky. May we never take it for granted. Amen.

*Closing Hymn: #559 'Thank You, God,' verses 1, 3, & 4

*Benediction

*Choral Benediction Response:

*Extinguishing of the Altar Candles

*Postlude: "Postlude" *By McKay*

Kayleen Yuda

Ushers: IYAA

Flowers: Joyce Nakamoto

Interim Minister: Rev. Choo Lak Yeow

Moderator: Woody Kita

Minister Emeritus: Susumu Yamane Sensei

Office Manager: Jodi Enriquez

Choir Director: Katherine Wilson

Choir Accompanist: Kanako Okita

Organist: Kayleen Yuda

Childcare Coordinator: Evonne Shiohita

Childcare: Moira Tanaka

**** Refreshments will be served after worship ****

Anne Sadayasu, Carol Morioka & Jennie Kondo

**** Trustees Meeting After worship – today ****

DATES TO REMEMBER



September 1—30, 2015

You are encouraged to make a donation of up to \$249 using your Maika'i card (per person, per organization) at any Foodland Supermarket. Please submit a copy of your receipt to the office.

**Thursday, September 24th Senior Ministry
10:00 am to 12 noon Building of Faith**

**Saturday, September 26th Walk to End Alzheimer's
Liliuokalani Park & Garden
Meet in the church parking lot at 7:15 am**

**Rev. Choo Lak Yeow will be on leave from
Saturday, September 26th to Saturday, October 3rd**

Sunday, September 27th J's Mini Market Before worship

Sunday September 27th Deacons Meeting After worship

**Saturday, October 24th Imiola Church
Aha Mele Hoike in Remembrance of Napua Ayala
Begins at 9 am and Lunch is 12:00 pm**

This week at the Church of the Holy Cross

- **Bible Study**, Monday at 6:30 pm and Wednesday at 9:30 am in Pastors Study
- **Choir Practice**, 8:30 a.m. Sun. in the Sanctuary & 4:30 pm on Tues. in the Lounge
- **IYAA Bible Study** Wednesday at 7:30 pm in the Lounge. Mark Ch. 11
- **Rhythm & Life exercise class**, every Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m. in the BF
- **Ballroom Dance** class meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the BF
- **Ron Fujiyoshi, Ohana Ho'opakele** meets every Thurs. at 9am in the Lounge
- **Qigong** meets every Friday at 9:00 am in the Building of Faith.

- **Bell Choir** every Saturday at 1pm in J's Café
- **Muslim Community Group** meets every Friday at 1:00 p.m. in the Building of Faith Meeting Room

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.
 - **Rev. Stiven Pousima; Assistant to Pastor: Tevita Talanoa**
- **The United Church of Christ, Pohnpei** – worships 10am in the BF.
 - **Rev. Ichiro Annes**
- **Samoan Church** worships at 12pm in Sanctuary.
 - **Rev. Take Sunia**
- **Chuukese Church** worships 3pm in BF meeting room.
 - **Rev. Saburo Robert**
- **First Marshallese Assembly of God**, worships 4 pm in the Sanctuary.
 - **Rev. Brandy Karben**

BF: Building of Faith