

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL  
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai`i  
January 03, 2016  
Second Sunday after Christmas  
Epiphany is on January 06, 2016

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

**Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing together**

**Words of Greeting**

**Woody Kita**

**Pastoral Welcome**

**Rev. Choo Lak Yeow**

**Prelude: “Festival Peace on Ripley” By: Smith-Mason**

**Kayleen Yuda**

**\*Call to Worship**

Leader: Prepare us, in 2016, O God, to welcome the events and people that mark turning points in our lives.

**People: Stir our imagination to honor the dreams that send us here and from here to new directions.**

**ALL: Grant us courage to follow the signs that lead to another road.**

Leader: O God who is still speaking, as we begin a new year, we pray for your blessing in our attempt to connect both with you and also with our fellow believers in our beloved Church of the Holy Cross.

**People: In your wisdom, you have placed us in picture postcard beautiful Hilo to build and lift up the labor of our forebears in our community.**

Leader: The best laid itinerary invites us to move from the known to the unknown as we follow the spiritual GPS you have given us and use the spiritual signposts pointing us to our destination.

**People: If we were to draw a new path for a new year, where might that take us? How can we learn from the Magi?**

**ALL: On this first Sunday of 2016, we consider the story of the Magi and their pilgrimage to see the Christ child. Instead of returning to Herod, they returned home by another road. Gracious God, what other roads are you encouraging us to travel this year? What signs to change course and/or habit is God sending to us? Lead us, O God, each one of us, on a pilgrimage of discovery. Then, O God, be**

pleased to use us as the discovery channel for other fellow travelers in their journey of faith. 'Lead on, O King, eternal, We follow, not with fear; for gladness breaks like morning Wher-e're your face appears!'

**\*Hymn: #573 'Lead On Eternal Sovereign,' verses 1 - 4**

**\*Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

**We are all pilgrims on a journey for truth. Our many journeys from several countries and States have brought us together here in our Church of the Holy Cross. As we prepare ourselves to call a pastor, God, you come to us in the midst of us feeling we need you to direct and inspire us. Help us to set aside our worries and cares for the time we are together. Enlighten us in our discernment. You nudge us to a new road, a pilgrimage of discovery. This morning, this year and ever-after, GPS us to where you want us to be. Amene.**

**\*Gloria Patri**

### **WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD**

**Time with Children: A new year is always special**

**Rev. Choo Lak Yeow**

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, Amen.**

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 in Music and the children leave for Sunday School.

**Anthem: "Now Let Every Tongue Adore Thee" By: Bach**

**Na Leo Ni'o Lani**

**Scripture: Jeremiah 31: 7 – 14**

**Scripture: Ephesians 1: 3 – 5**

**Sermon: God chooses us**

**Rev. Choo Lak Yeow**

## WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Pastoral Prayer/Prayers of People

Rev. Choo Lak Yeow

Hymn: #159 'As with Gladness Those of Old,' verses 1 & 2

Invitation to the Offering:

As rays of light announce the dawn, so shall your light shine forth. Arise, shine! Lift up your eyes and look: people everywhere seek illumination. Allow God's glory to shine and others will come, sharing precious gifts. [paraphrase of Isaiah 60: 1 – 4]

Offertory: "Supplication" *By: Blake*

Kayleen Yuda

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

Ho`onani i ka makua mau

*(Praise God from whom all blessings flow)*

Ke keiki me ka`uhane no

*(Praise Him, all creatures here below)*

Ke Akua mau ho`omaika`i pu

*(Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts)*

Ko keia ao, ko kela ao

*(Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost)*

'Amene

*(Amen)*

**\*Prayer of Dedication:** [Unison]

We are both pilgrims who journey, and innkeepers who give travelers a place of sanctuary. We keep our hearts open to the transformation of the journey, as well as the transformation of giving welcome.

As the magi brought gold, so we bring these our gifts of devotion.

As the magi brought frankincense, so we bring our ardent prayers.

As the magi brought myrrh, so we bring our lives to you, O God.

As long as we live, we are lent to the Lord. [1 Samuel 1: 28] Amene.

*A Special Offering of Praise from the Hilo Pohnpeian UCC*

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation

Rev. Choo Lak Yeow

Consecrating the Bread and Cup

Rev. Henry Wilson

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Rev. Henry Wilson

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 Holy Communion please form a fellowship circle around the sanctuary.

**\*Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Rev. Henry Wilson**

**\*Closing Hymn: #159 'As with Gladness Those of Old,' verse 3**

**\*Benediction**

**Rev Henry Wilson**

**\*Choral Benediction Response: #159 'As with Gladness Those of Old,' verse 4**

**\*Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**

**\*Postlude: "March of the King" *By: Stickle***

**Kayleen Yuda**

**Ushers:** Barbara Iwami, Lei Jack, Joyce Nakamoto,  
Michi Koizumi & Millie Daikawa

**Flowers:** Lillian Tanouye, Eric Tanouye &  
Kyle Nakayama Families

**Interim Minister:** Rev. Choo Lak Yeow

**Moderator:** Woody Kita

**Minister Emeritus:** Susumu Yamane Sensei

**Office Manager:** Jodi Enriquez

**Choir Director:** Rachel Edwards

**Choir Accompanist:** Kanako Okita

**Organist:** Kayleen Yuda

**Childcare Coordinator:** Evonne Shiohita

**Childcare:** Lei Jack

### **NOTICES**

**Rhythm & Life will resume on January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Today, January 03, 2016**

**Beginners' Bible Study for 6 weeks**

**A general Walkabout of the Bible**

**In Pastor's Office 8.30 am to 9.30 am**

**All are very warmly welcome!**

**Today, January 03, 2016**  
**Special General Membership Meeting**  
**To approve call of The Rev. Eric Anderson**

**Sunday, January 10, 2016**  
**Council Meeting**  
**After worship**

**Tuesday, January 12, 2016**  
**Rhythm & Life Resumes**  
**3 pm to 4 pm in the Building of Faith**

**This week at the Church of the Holy Cross**

- **Bible Study**, Monday at 6:30 pm, Wednesday at 9:30 am & Sunday at 8:30 am starting on January 3, 2016 in the Pastor's Study
- **Choir Practice**, 8:30 a.m. Sunday in the Sanctuary & 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm on Tuesday in the Lounge
- **IYAA Bible Study** Wednesday at 7:30 pm in the Lounge; Gospel of Mark.
- **Rhythm & Life exercise class**, 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the Building of Faith
- **Ballroom Dance** class meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. in the Building of Faith
- **Ron Fujiyoshi, Ohana Ho'opakele** meets every Thursday at 9:00 am in the Lounge
- **Qigong** meets every Friday at 9:00 am to 10:30 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 from 2 pm to 4 pm and Wednesday from 6 pm to 7 pm  
**Rev. Stiven Pousima; Assistant to Pastor: Tevita Talanoa**
- **The United Church of Christ, Pohnpei** – worships 10am to noon in the Building of Faith.  
**Rev. Ichiro Annes**
- **Samoan Church** worships at 12pm in Sanctuary.  
**Rev. Take Sunia**
- **First Marshallese Assembly of God**, worships 4 pm in the Sanctuary.  
**Rev. Brandy Karben**