

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai`i
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
January 31, 2016

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing together

Words of Greeting

Carol Morioka

Pastoral Welcome

Rev. Choo Lak Yeow

Prelude: “Andantino” *By: Haydn-Blake*

Kayleen Yuda

***Call to Worship**

Leader: God, sometimes you take our breath away – not so much out of wonder but shock. We find you with people we did not expect. You do what we would not have chosen. You move our lives to join you on the edge, where holy love stretches out with grace.

People: God, you lead and inspire us miraculously to do mission and ministry in the margins of society with the marginalized in society.

Leader: People of all ages and stages experience moments of rejection of words, thoughts, ideas. Rejection that suggests we are of little or no value. Even Jesus, according to this morning’s scripture reading, experienced the painful reality of those with whom he had grown up wanting to ride him out of town. The people were more willing to throw him to the curb rather than positively to respond to his words’ curb appeal.

People: The furor of the crowd increased when Jesus cited the words of their own great prophets, Elijah and Elisha, who brought healing to Gentiles when many Israelites were suffering. The ethics of Jesus’ time require people to take care of their family first, then their hometown, and, only then, to care for foreigners. Today some would express that type of ethics by saying *charity begins at home*.

ALL: But Jesus said, *when you refuse to help the least of these my sisters and brothers, you were refusing help to me*. Let us then worship God in spirit and in truth by singing *O make your church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold, to bear before all people your true light as of old!*

***Hymn:#315 ‘O Word of God Incarnate,’** verses 1 - 3

***Prayer of Invocation [Unison]**

O Holy One, being a Christian is risky business. You ask of us to follow you, and sometimes we find ourselves standing on the edge afraid that we are going to fall over into the gulch. But, you've been there before us. You have stood on the edge for what you believed and what you proclaimed. There is nothing that we are asked to bear or to endure that you do not understand. You cannot promise us that everything will turn out the way we want it, but you do promise that you will stand with us at all the precipices of our lives as well as those times when we think we are on stable ground and have all the answers. But, maybe we don't. Yes, being a Christian is risky business. Thank you for being on this journey with us and especially for leading us out of the gulch onto stable ground. Amene.

***Gloria Patri**

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Time with Children: 'What is Risking?'

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. 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 and the children leave for Sunday school.

Anthem

International Young Adult Association

Scripture: Psalm 71: 1 – 6

Scripture: Luke 4: 21 - 30

Sermon: 'Dare to Risk'

Rev. Choo Lak Yeow

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Pastoral Prayer/Prayers of People

Rev. Choo Lak Yeow

Hymn: #472 'Precious Lord, Take My Hand,' verses 1 - 3

Invitation to the Offering:

Gracious God, we come before you this morning knowing that what you call us to be and want for us is something at odds with what the world expects from us. Sometimes we feel on the edge between the world we live in and the world you call us to be a part of. Show us your way, O Holy One, that we may learn how to be about your ministry and mission even as we rub shoulders with the marginalized in our society. Open our hearts to receive your word and your guidance for our lives. Open our minds to feel the needs of the downtrodden. Open our wallets to feed the homeless and hungry in our neighborhood and in the world.

Offertory:

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:** [in unison]

Holy and Living God, doing your will, living out the ministry and mission you put before us, can be scary. It is not just our tithes and offerings that you ask of us – you ask of us everything. In knowing that in everything we are and everything we have comes from you, we realize that what you ask of us is really not about us at all but about you. Show us how to live out the ministry and mission you have called us to do at all the edges of our lives so that we can be truly faithful to you. Lead us together to go out and serve at all those edgy places where we are called to serve, ever mindful that we are not and that we are never alone. Gracious God, use our gifts and ourselves, to go to where our gifts and ourselves are most needed. Amene.

***Closing Hymn: #441 'Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me,'** verses 1 – 2.

***Benediction**

***Choral Benediction Response: #441 'Jesus, Savior, Pilot Me,'** verse 3

***Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**

***Postlude: "Fantasy in A minor"** By: Broughton

Kayleen Yuda

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

Flowers: Ethel Yoshimasu (Mem), Ichiko Hisanaga (Mem)
& Teddi Mukai (Mem)

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: Lois Jean Tanouye

DATES TO REMEMBER

Today, January 31, 2016

Board of Christian Education

After worship

Meetings will be on the 1st Sunday of every month

Beginning March 2016

Wednesday, February 3, 2016

Messenger

Please submit all articles before January 29th

Tuesday, February 9, 2016

Care Partners Support Group

10 am to 12 noon

Building of Faith

Wednesday, February 10, 2016

Ash Wednesday

First Day of Lent

Sunday, February 14, 2016

First Sunday in Lent

Council Meeting

After Worship

Monday, February 15, 2016
CHC Office Closed
President's Day

Wednesday, February 17, 2016
Messenger
Please submit articles before February 12th

Sunday, February 21, 2016
Second Sunday in Lent
Trustees Meeting
After worship

Sunday, February 21, 2016
Refreshments Provided
Suzuki Family/Amy Shiroma

Sunday, February 28, 2016
Third Sunday in Lent
J's Mini Mart
Before Worship
Sunday, February 28, 2016
Deacons Meeting
After worship

This week at the Church of the Holy Cross

- **Bible Study**, Sunday at 8:30 am, Monday at 6:30 pm & Wednesday at 9:30 am 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 Sanctuary
- **IYAA Bible Study** Wednesday at 7:30 pm in the Lounge. Mark Ch. 14
- **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
- **InterVarsity Christian Fellowship (IVCF)** meets every Thursday at 1:30 pm to 5:30 pm in the Library.
- **Qigong** meets every Friday at 9:00 am to 10:30 am in the Building of Faith.
- **Bell Choir** every Saturday at 1:00 pm 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 United Church of Christ, Pohnpei** – worships 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Building of Faith meeting room.
Rev. Ichiro Annes
- **Bedesta Church** worships 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm in the Building of Faith meeting room.
Pastor Edmes Edwin
- **Congregational Christian Church of American Samoa, Hilo [CCCAS]** worships 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
Rev. Take Sunia
- **The Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga** worships 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary on Sunday and Wednesday from 6 pm to 7 pm
Rev. Stiven Pousima; Assistant to Pastor: Tevita Talanoa
- **First Marshallese Assembly of God**, worships 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary.
Rev. Brandy Karben