

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL  
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai`i  
First Sunday in Lent  
February 14, 2016

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

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

**Words of Greeting**

**Carolyn Lum-Bellem**

**Pastoral Welcome**

**Rev. Choo Lak Yeow**

**Prelude: “Praise to the Lord, The Almighty”** *Arr: Jordan*

**Kayleen Yuda**

**\*Call to Worship:**

Leader: Journey with us, O God, through this day, through this Lenten Season. May we follow your leading and draw strength from your presence beside us. And in those times and places we feel alone, help us to trust you will bring good to us and to all. Amene.

**People: We have come from various parts of Hilo and beyond to join together and worship God in this place we call our Church of the Holy Cross. God is our companion throughout life.**

Leader: God has given us many gifts and offers us a place to live together, sharing all that God has given us.

**People: We remember when God was with us when we were growing up, a bit confused and quite often out of focus.**

Leader: God answers our pleas for guidance, companionship, and provisions with abundance.

**People: God promises to provide for our needs. We open our hearts to God’s promise and celebrate the giving of our gifts to God.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

**\*Hymn: #18 ‘Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer,’** verses 1 - 3

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

**As we settle into the Season of Lent, may we remember God’s promise with our forebears. They were far from home, doing double the work for half the pay, and they were exploited. God led them out of their oppression into a place of abundance, joy, and celebration. We follow in their train. God, open then our hearts and minds to know the**

paths you have placed before us to be better examples of your covenant people during this Season of Lent, this season of journey and abundance for all. Amene.

**\*Gloria Patri**

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

**Time with Children: "Lent and Valentine"**

**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: "Down to the river"** *By: Sheldon Curry*

***Na Leo Ni'o Lani***

**Scripture: Deuteronomy 26: 5 – 11**

**Scripture: Luke 4: 1 – 13**

**Sermon: 'Wilderness' in our life**

**Rev. Choo Lak Yeow**

### **WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED**

**Pastoral Prayer/Prayers of People**

**Rev. Choo Lak Yeow**

**Hymn: #190 'Beneath the Cross of Jesus,'** verses 1 -3

**Invitation to the Offering:**

Before God hears our cries from the wilderness of our life, God's love is available to us. Grace is abundant. During this Season of Lent, we seek God's refreshing love and grace as we journey together even when we celebrate St Valentine's Day. We bring the gift of our

St Valentine's Day chocolate to the foot of your Cross, O Jesus, our Savior. Teach us to blend the fruit of our years of labor which is symbolized in the chocolate of our life with your ultimate giving of your self which is symbolized in your Cross. Here, O my Lord, is my offering of my gifts and myself.

**Offertory: "Minuet in G" By: Handel**

**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]**

**Was it for crimes that I have done, Christ groaned upon the tree?**

**Amazing pity! Grace unknown! And love beyond degree!**

**But tears of grief cannot repay the debt of love I owe;**

**Here, Christ, I give myself away as all that I can do! Amene.**

**\*Closing Hymn: #207 'Just as I Am, verses 1 - 3**

**\*Benediction**

**Rev. Choo Lak Yeow**

**\*Choral Benediction Response: #207 'Just as I Am, verse 4**

**\*Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**

**\*Postlude: "Trumpet Tune in F" By: Jordan**

**Kayleen Yuda**

**Ushers:** Christian Albano, Theone Albano, Clarice Suzuki, Wayne Suzuki & Amy Shiroma

**Flowers:** Else Ushijima (Mem)

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

**Moderator:** Woody Kita

**Minister Emeritus:** Susumu Yamane Sensei

**Office Manager**

**Choir Director:** Rachel Edwards

**Choir Accompanist:** Kanako Okita

**Organist:** Kayleen Yuda

**Childcare Coordinator:** Evonne Shiohita

**Childcare:** Irene Okada

**\*\* REMINDER \*\***  
**Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**After worship**

**DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Today, February 14<sup>th</sup>**  
**First Sunday in Lent**  
**Happy Valentines' Day**  
**Council Meeting**  
**After worship**

**Monday, February 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**CHC Office Closed**  
**Presidents' Day**

**Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>**  
**Messenger**

Please submit articles by Friday, February 12<sup>th</sup>

**Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**Refreshments Provided by**  
**Suzuki Family/Amy Shiroma**

**Sunday, February 21<sup>st</sup>**  
**Trustees Meeting**  
**After worship**

**Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**J's Mini Mart**  
**Before Worship**

**Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**Deacons Meeting**  
**After worship**

**Sunday, February 28<sup>th</sup>**  
**Annual 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 am to 1pm in the Building of Faith.  
**Rev. Ichiro Annes**
- **Bedesta Church** worships at 1:30 pm in the Building of Faith.  
**Pastor Edmes Edwin**
- **Congregational Christian Church of American Samoa, Hilo [CCCAS]** worships at 12 pm in Sanctuary.  
**Rev. Take Sunia**
- **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**
- **First Marshallse Assembly of God**, worships 4 pm in the Sanctuary.  
**Rev. Brandy Karben**