

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai`i
Fourth Sunday in Lent
March 06, 2016

**He came to pay a debt he didn't owe
Because we owe a debt we couldn't pay.**

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing together

Words of Greeting

Bob Smith

Pastoral Welcome

Rev. Choo Lak Yeow

Prelude: "The Breath of God" --Landis

Kayleen Yuda

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Merciful God, just as it can be our habit to break, to unbind, to distance ourselves from those we love and from those who need us, so it is your habit and your way to draw us back together and to you, and to enfold us in your everlasting arms.
Mahalo nui loa!

People: God welcomes you to this place – if it's your first time, if you were here last week, or if you're returning after a long time away,

Leader: Everyone is happy you are here in God's presence! God is with us in our Lenten journey, providing the spiritual nourishment and divine love [agape] that we need. We remember God journeying with God's people out of Egypt and through the desert. God greeted God's people in the promised land with new food to replace their meals of manna. God was doing a new thing in their lives.

People: God, too, was journeying with our ancestors. We praise and remember God's faithfulness to our ancestors when they set foot here.

Leader: On their stay here, God greeted God's people working in the sugar cane plantations. God gave them strength when they were overworked. God used evangelists to tell them of the Good News of Jesus giving his life as a ransom for many.

People: Now we're looking for the new things that God is doing in our lives today.

Leader: Christian women and Christian men, God welcomes you to this place – where all will find love, forgiveness, and restoration as we observe Lent again.

ALL: We celebrate God's presence! We celebrate in God's presence.

Hymn: #195 'On a Hill Far Away' verses 1 – 4

Prayer of Invocation (Unison)

God of grace and truth, we come to your house today to worship you. We bring all of ourselves to you, all of the good, the bad, and the ugly. We entrust our hidden, fearful, and fragile selves to your transforming power and gentle, loving care. Blessing, glory, and honor are yours alone. Thank you for the many ways your Spirit breaks into our lives and into this troubled world. We offer this prayer in the name of the One whose name is above every name, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

***Gloria Patri**

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Time with Children 'God is still speaking!'

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: I Will Dwell in His Secret Place -Cold & Cummings

Na Leo Ni`o Lani

Scripture: Psalm 32: 1 – 5

Luke 15: 1 – 7

Sermon: Joy in heaven over one sinner

Rev. Choo Lak Yeow

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Pastoral Prayer/Prayers of People

Rev. Choo Lak Yeow

Hymn #43: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling verses 1 – 2

Invitation to the Offering:

Loving God, many are the times when we cannot see, when we cannot hear, and when we cannot understand all that is going around us. Open us to the presence of ancient ones of faith to guide us and challenge us. Be with us on mountain tops and in the valleys, in busy city streets and in our comfortable homes, opening us to the amazing workings of your spirit now and always as we bring our offering to be placed on your altar. We can offer our gifts because you have said: I go to the desert to find my sheep.

Offertory: Quiet Rest –Higgins

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)

All things come from you, our loving God. Be pleased to take the gifts of talents, time, and treasury that makes possible the ministry and mission of our Church of the Holy Cross, here in Hilo and beyond Hilo. We can offer our gifts because our church has declared: *Rejoice, for the Lord brings back his own!*' Amene.

Hymn: 'There Were Ninety and Nine,' verse 3. See Insert

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation **Rev Choo Lak Yeow**

Consecrating the Bread and Cup **Rev Brandy Karben**

Sharing the Bread and the Cup **Rev Brandy Karben**

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 communion please form a fellowship circle around the sanctuary.

***Prayer of Thanksgiving** **Rev Brandy Karben**

Closing Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling verse 3

Benediction **Rev Brandy Karben**

Choral Benediction Response: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling verse 4

Extinguishing of the Altar Candles

Postlude: Jubilation –Denton **Kayleen Yuda**

Ushers: IYAA – Jayson Rekis
Flowers: Dorothy Matsui, Amy Saito
Interim Minister: Rev. Choo Lak Yeow
Moderator: Woody Kita
Minister Emeritus: Susumu Yamane Sensei
Office Manager: Pearl Lyman
Choir Director: Rachel Edwards
Choir Accompanist: Kanako Okita
Organist: Kayleen Yuda
Childcare Coordinator: Evonne Shiohita
Childcare: Moira Tanaka

DATES TO REMEMBER

- **Today -- Board of Christian Education after worship**

COMING SOON

- **Tuesday, March 8th – Care Partners Support Meeting (BOF)**
- **Sunday, March 13th – Church Council Meeting after worship**
- **Saturday, March 19th -- Service Day please bring family and friends to help beautify our campus**
- **Sunday, March 20th – Trustees Meeting after worship**
- **Thursday, March 24th -- Blood Bank of Hawaii (BOF)**
- **Friday, March 25th – Good Friday, 12 noon service**
- **Saturday, March 26th -- Easter egg coloring at 9:00 a.m. in J's Café**
- **Sunday, March 27th -- Easter egg hunt at 9:00 a.m.**

This week at 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. 15
- **Rhythm & Life exercise class**, 3:00 pm to 4:00 pm in the Building of Faith
- **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.

Other Congregations that Worship at The Church of the Holy Cross

- **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 Marshallese Assembly of God**, worships 4 pm in the Sanctuary. --Rev. Brandy Karben
- **Muslim Community Group** meets every Friday at 1:00 p.m. in the Building of Faith Meeting Room