

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai`i
5th Sunday of Easter, April 24, 2016
Rev. Eric S. Anderson, Pastor

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing

Words of Greeting

Mary Ann Katayama

Pastoral Welcome

Rev. Eric Anderson

Prelude: Brother James' Air *–Bain-Jordan*

Kayleen Yuda

All those who are able, please rise. (Unison reading in **bold** text)

Call to Worship

Leader: G. M. Hopkins said: The world is charged with the grandeur of God.

People: Praise God!

Leader: Thomas Berry said: The universe is a communion of subjects, not a collection of objects.

People: Praise God from the heavens

Leader: Hildegard of Bingen said: All creation is a song of praise to God.

People: Praise God from the earth.

Leader: Edgard Mitchell said: The Earth is a sparkling blue and white jewel laced with slowly swirling veils of white, like a pearl in a thick sea of black mystery.

People: Praise God from the deepest sea

Leader: Black Elk said: Great Spirit, give me strength to walk the soft earth, a relative to all that is.

People: Praise God, men and women, young and old.

Leader: Rachel Carson said: Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts.

People: Praise God!

Hymn #17: To You, O God, All Creatures Sing (vs. 1, 2, 4)

Prayer of Invocation – Unison

Loving God, we are in awe of how you make all things new: even in the midst of humdrum and every day, you bring forth new life. Even when we think we know the answers, you bring fresh questions. Even when we are unsure of tomorrow, you bring new hope and promises. May we respond with joy at the way in which you make all things new. Amen.

Gloria Patri

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Time with Children

Rev. Eric Anderson

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

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.

Anthem

International Young Adult Association

Scriptures: John 13:31-35

Acts 11:1-18

Sermon: "What Were You Thinking, Peter?"

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Pastoral Prayer/Prayers of People

Rev. Eric Anderson

Hymn: They'll Know We Are Christians by our Love (see insert)

Invitation to the Offering:

It has been said that gratitude follows grace, like thunder follows lightning. In response to God's gifts of unconditional love and continual creation, we offer now our hearts, minds, souls, and strength to the One from whom all blessings flow.

Offertory: Fughetta –*Muffat*

Kayleen Yuda

Doxology:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 Praise Him all creatures here below
 Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
 Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost -- Amen

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Gracious God, you offer us abundant life. We offer you thanks and praise. You sow in us the gift of giving. We dedicate these first fruits to you. Your goodness abounds, your provision is sure. To you we offer these gifts of gratitude; to you we rededicate our loves and lives. Amen.

Hymn #388: Help Us Accept Each Other (vs. 1, 3, 4)

Benediction

Choral Benediction Response #82 – Go, My Children, with My Blessing (v. 1)

Extinguishing of the Altar Candles

Postlude: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty –*Jordan*

Kayleen Yuda

Minister: Rev. Eric S. Anderson
Ushers: Moira Tanaka, Esther Kodani, Newton Chu, Margaret Torigoe
Flowers: Millie Daikawa
Moderator: Woody Kita
Minister Emeritus: Susumu Yamane Sensei
Office Manager: Pearl “Momi” Lyman
Choir Director: Rachel Edwards
Choir Accompanist: Kanako Okita
Organist: Kayleen Yuda
Childcare Coordinator: Evonne Shioshita
Childcare: Clarice Suzuki

Dates to Remember

- Today – Board of Deacons Meeting
- Today – Bread for the World Sale
- Sunday, May 1 – Communion
- Sunday, May 1 – Board of Christian Education Meeting
- Sunday, May 8 – Council Meeting

Special Announcement**

Rhythm & Life exercise classes are canceled for April 26 and May 4. Classes will resume on Tuesday, May 10.

This week at the Church of the Holy Cross

- **Choir Practice**, 8:30 a.m. Sunday in the Sanctuary and 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm on Tuesday in the sanctuary
- **IYAA Bible Study** Wednesday at 7:30 pm in the lounge.
- ****Rhythm & Life exercise class**, every Tuesday at 3:30 pm in the BoF (Canceled for April 26 and May 4, 2016)
- **Ballroom Dance** class meets every Wednesday at 6:30 pm in the BoF
- **Ron Fujiyoshi, Ohana Ho’opakele** meets every Thursday at 9:00 am in the Lounge
- **Qigong** meets every Friday at 9:00-10:30 am in the BoF
- **Hand Bell Choir** every Saturday at 1 pm in J’s Café

Other Faith Groups that meet at Church of the Holy Cross

- **The Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga** meets in the Sanctuary on Sunday from 2 pm to 4 pm and Wednesday from 6 to 7 pm

Rev. Stiven Pousima; Assistant to Pastor: Tevita Talanoa

- **The United Church of Christ, Pohnpei** – 10am to noon in the Building of Faith.
Rev. Ichiro Annes
- **Samoan Church** worships at 12 pm in the Sanctuary.
Rev. Take Sunia
- **First Marshallese Assembly of God**, 4 pm in the Sanctuary.
Rev. Brandy Karben
- **Muslim Community Group** meets every Friday at 1:00 pm in the Building of Faith Meeting Room