

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai`i
Third Sunday of Advent, December 17, 2017
Rev. Eric S. Anderson, Pastor

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing

Words of Greeting:	John Narruhn
Pastoral Welcome:	Rev. Eric S. Anderson
Prelude: O Come, Little Children -- <i>Schulz</i>	Kayleen Yuda

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle (Joy): Yamaki family

Family Member: Joy is a flower bud that bursts into bloom.

Family Member: Joy is a lehua that folds into seeds.

Family Member: Joy is the seed that surfs on the wind.

Family Member: Joy is the seed's shoot that grows softly in secret until it blooms again.

All: Joy is a bud, a flower, a seed, and a shoot: each one celebrating the life that came before, each one celebrating its beauty and promise, each one celebrating the life which will come.

All Sing:

Now with our sister Mary we rejoice!

As one we raise our praise with heart and voice,

For you, O God, in blossom and shoot

Have in our Savior given joy its root.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel

Shall come to you, O Israel!

Family Member: With this third candle of Advent, we kindle a light for joy. This light shines for joy softly glimmering within a single person. This light shines for joy that sets our families to laugh. This light shines for joy that dances through our neighborhoods and cities. This light shines for the joy inexpressible that lies ahead in the heart of God.

Hymn #119: My Soul Gives Glory to My God

(v. 1-5)

Invocation:

Givers of joy, fill our hearts with praise as we gather to worship you. As your light in a closed room banishes the darkness, let your light shine within us so that no shadow of fear troubles this hour. Remind us of your presence and your faithfulness in all times and places. Let your light shine through us, illuminating your way in this not-perfected world. Amen.

Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, And to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem: Magnificat—*James Chepponis*

Na Leo Ni`o Lani
Gloria Kobayashi, piano

Time with Children:

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Please rise if you are able and join hands in a circle for the
Lord's Prayer 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.**

What Child Is This—*William ChattertonDix*

Kayleen Yuda
Timothy Nakamoto

Christmas Pageant

Hymn #154: Go Tell it on the Mountain

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Pastoral Prayer/Prayers of People:

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Hymn #125: Angels We Have Heard on High (v. 1-3)

Invitation to the Offering:

People may feel joy when prompted by great things, like a great success, or by small things, like the perfume of a flower. These gifts may seem small or great to us, and they may seem small or great to those who are fed through them, but small or great, they have the potential to inspire deep and precious joy. Let our offering now be received.

Offertory: O Come All Ye Faithful – *Dello Joio*

Kayleen Yuda

Timothy Nakamoto

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:

May these gifts offered in love – love for you, love for your people – grow in your world into flowers of joy. Rejoice, O God, in the giving, and may those fed through these gifts be inspired to join the glad song. Amen.

Hymn #164: Arise, Your Light Is Come (v. 1-4)

Benediction:

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Choral Benediction Response #116: O Come, O Come Emmanuel (v. 6)

Extinguishing of the Altar Candles

Postlude: O Blessed Emmanuel – *Bach-Thompson*

Kayleen Yuda

Special Announcements

Please bring non-perishable food items and toiletries to put under our *Giving Tree* located at the entrance to the sanctuary. The food will be given to the Food Bank and the toiletries will go to Hope Services for the homeless.

Poinsettias purchased may be taken home after Christmas Eve service on December 24th.

Dates to Remember

Monday, December 18 – The Gathering Place—Gardening, games and handwork.
Sunday, December 24 – Deacons Meeting after worship
Sunday, December 24 – Poinsettias may be taken home
Sunday, December 24 – Installation of Officers and Board Members
Sunday, December 24 – Christmas Offering
Sunday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight worship

Minister: Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Moderator: Gloria Kobayashi

Minister Emeritus: Rev. Susumu Yamane

Ushers: Newton & Roberta Chu, Moira Tanaka, Ruth Niino-DuPonte

Lay Reader: John Narruhn

Flowers: Jean Kita

Choir Director: Rachel Edwards

Choir Accompanist: Kanako Okita

Organist: Kayleen Yuda

Hand Bell Director: Anna Kennedy

Childcare Coordinator: Evonne Shioshita

Childcare: Lei Jack

Pre-Service Music: Bob and Sue Smith

Projected Imagery: Sue Smith

Web Master: Ruth Niino-DuPonte

Office Manager: Pearl “Momi” Lyman

This week at the Church of the Holy Cross

- **Bible Study with Pastor Eric:**
Sundays, 8:30 am – A Survey of the Bible in J’s Café
Wednesdays, 9:30 am—Lectionary readings for the upcoming Sunday Service in Pastor’s office
Wednesdays, 6:30 pm – Pastor’s office
- **A Gathering Place:** Mondays 9-12 noon, Building of Faith
- **Rhythm & Life:** Tuesdays, 3:00 p.m., Building of Faith
- **Choir Practice:** Tuesdays, 4:30 pm, Sundays, 8:30 am, Sanctuary
- **IYAA Bible Study,** Wednesdays, 7:30 pm in the Lounge
- **Ron Fujiyoshi, Ohana Ho’opakele,** Thursdays, 9 am in the Lounge
- **Qigong,** Fridays, 9:00 am in the Building of Faith
- **Hand Bell Choir Practice:** Fridays, 2 pm, in J’s Café

Other Faith Groups that meet at Church of the Holy Cross

- **The Free Wesleyan Church of Tonga** worship in the Sanctuary Sundays from 2 to 4 pm and Wednesdays from 6 to 7 pm
Assistant to Pastor: Tevita Talanoa, Stiven Pousima
- **The United Church of Christ, Pohnpei** – worship in the Meeting Room of the Building of Faith Sundays at 10 am.
Rev. Bensis Henry
- **Congregational Christian Church of American Samoa** worship in the sanctuary, Sundays at 12 noon.
Rev. Ausage Lelili'o and Rev. Rae Lelili'o
- **The Bedesta Church** worship in the Meeting Room of the Building of Faith, Sundays at 1:30 pm.
Rev. Edmes Edwin
- **Muslim Community Group** worship in the Building of Faith Meeting Room, Fridays at 1:00 pm.