

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai`i
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Season of Creation: Mountain Sunday, September 23, 2018

Rev. Eric S. Anderson, Pastor

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing

Words of Greeting

Bob Smith

Pastoral Welcome

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Prelude: Siciliano – *J.S. Bach*

Kayleen Yuda

Call to Worship

Leader: Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?

People: No! In all these things we are more than conquerors through the One who loved us.

Leader: For all things work together for good for those who love God.

People: And nothing can separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus.

Leader: Come: Let us worship.

Hymn #12: I Sing the Mighty Power of God (v. 1-3)

Invocation

Whether you bring us up to the tops of the mountains or walk alongside us through the deepest valleys, God, we belong to you. We pray that you will make all things new, even the peaks and valleys of our hearts. Be our guest this morning as we sing and pray and learn about your vision of a world where enemies eat together, where everyone lives as long as the tallest trees, and where even work becomes a source of joy and abundance. 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: How Beautiful Upon the Mountains – Harper

Na Leo Ni`o Lani

Time with Children

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.**

Scriptures: Isaiah 65:17-25
Romans 8:28-39

Sermon: Higher Ground

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Pastoral Prayer/Prayers of People

Hymn #413: By Gracious Powers (v. 1-4)

Lay Reader: Invitation to the Offering

In ancient Jerusalem, they built the temple at the summit of the mountain, and so that is where they looked to find the eruption of peace. God's peace, however, comes from wherever God wills: at the mountain's top, or on its slopes, or even at its base in the

depths of the ocean. It comes as well from the human heart, from its heights and slopes and depths. Let God's peace now come in our giving. Let our offering now be received.

Offertory: Meditation -- *Bottenberg*

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

God, we hunger for a world where all will live with abundance, where we will no longer hurt or destroy each other, where we turn more toward celebration and less toward exploitation, when we meet our neighbors and enemies, and call them friends. Accept these gifts which we now offer. Bless them, fill them, use them so they might help bring your vision to our sight. Amen.

Hymn #442: I'm Pressing on the Upward Way (v. 1, 3-4)

Benediction

Choral Benediction Response #3: Wakantanka Taku Nitawa (v. 1 English)

Extinguishing of the Altar Candles

Postlude: Festive Postlude -- *Rogers*

Kayleen Yuda

At the organist's request, please refrain from applause after the Postlude.

Dates to Remember

Today, September 23 – J's Mini Mart

Monday, September 24 – Gathering Place will enjoy coloring bookmarks and socialization. You are invited.

Thursday, September 27 – Sr. Ministry--Rev. Rae Lelili`o of the Congregational Christian Church of American Samoa will be the guest speaker.

Minister: Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Moderator: Gloria Kobayashi

Ushers: Ming Peng, Nalyn Ang, Moira Tanaka, Doreen Lucas, Jean Tanouye

Lay Reader: Bob Smith

Flowers: Lillian Tanouye, Eric Tanouye, Kyle Nakayama families

Choir Director: Rachel Edwards

Choir Accompanist: Kanako Okita

Organist: Kayleen Yuda

Hand Bell Director: Anna Kennedy

Childcare Coordinator: Evonne Shioshita

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
- **Rhythm & Life:** Tuesdays, 3:00pm – Building of Faith
- **Choir Practice:** Tuesdays, 4:30 pm, Sundays, 8:30 am, Sanctuary
- **IYAA Bible Study,** Wednesdays, 7:30 pm in the Lounge
- **Qi Gong,** Fridays, 9:00 am – Building of Faith

Other Faith Groups that meet at Church of the Holy Cross

- **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 12:00 pm.