

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i
Second Sunday after Christmas
Epiphany Sunday, January 5, 2020

Rev. Eric S. Anderson, Pastor
Rev. Dr. Jonathan Roach, Guest Pastor

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Pre-Service Music – Congregational singing

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Words of Greeting

John Narruhn

Pastoral Welcome

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Roach

Prelude

Kayleen Yuda

Call to Worship

One: The feast of your shining star is at hand, Holy One. The choirs are assembled, and the angels stand ready to join the celebration!

All: The mountains shout out and the clouds voice their praise; the waves leap for joy and the rainbows show their awe of the good news of the God-child who has come.

One: As the sound of our singing, the cries of our prayers, and the sharing of God's words fills this space, we pray that the light in our hearts burn brighter and we beg that measure by measure may our hearts swell until the crescendo of your light fills every dark concern of this world.

All: And let there be love—love that leaves the sheep on the hillside to “go and see;” love that leaves the jar by the well to “go and tell;” love that leaves the nets by the boat to “be fishers of a higher calling;” and as the star of Bethlehem's hope beckons us, let us leave what is holding us back and jump for God's opportunity.

Hymn: We Three Kings (v. 1-4)

Invocation

God, you placed a star in the sky to draw wise folk to the place of Christ's nativity. There you revealed the mystery of your eternal purpose for all humanity: God made flesh, born of Mary, opening to all the world the promise you made to Abraham and Sarah. Empower your church to be as the light of the star, that we may draw the world to the glory and peace of Christ, our Lord, through whom we pray. 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: What Child

Doug Albertson
Joanne Pocsidio

Time with Children

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Roach

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.**

Please be seated and children may leave for Sunday School

Scriptures: Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon: What Gifts Do We Bring?

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Roach

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Pastoral Prayer/Prayers of People

Hymn #159: As with Gladness Those of Old (v. 1-4)

Invitation to the Offering:

Glorious God, you led pilgrims of wisdom to seek Jesus, your Holy Child, born of Mary. Overjoyed in the presence of his radiant light, they knelt down at the infant's crib and offered him precious gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. We, too, offer our gifts in gratitude, reverence, and thanksgiving for the birth of your child, whom you called to lead the world into the fullness of life. Receive and bless this offering as a joyful sign of the boundless love and abundant life we are called to share in Christ. Amen.

Doxology:

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

Prayer of Dedication

God of every nation, by the light of a wondrous star you led wandering magi to the humble infant Jesus, the gift of yourself to us. In the miraculous and the mundane, in union with all who have glimpsed the light of your gift, take our simple, humble gifts and multiple them untold times to light the way for all who need hope, food, safety, or peace this day; in gratitude. Amen.

Hymn #139: The First Noel (vs. 3-5)

THE LORD'S SUPPER**Invitation**

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Roach

Consecrating the Bread and Cup

Rev. Jihey Roach, BCC

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Please come forward, as you are able, to share in the bread of life and the cup of salvation, then return to your pew and remain standing. If you wish to receive communion in your seat, please remain seated, and we will come to you.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Roach

Holy Jesus, we thank you for sharing your life with us today. As this season of joy and hope ends, be with all who suffer from illnesses of the mind or of the body, all who hunger, and all who lack of shelter. Kindle in them the warmth of your presence and surround them with your steadfast love. We are grateful for the blessings of this day, and we ask that you help us to share this blessing beyond Church of the Holy Cross' doors and in the light of your love let us go forth to the work you have for us this week. Amen.

Closing Hymn: Canticle of the Turning (v.1-3)

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Jonathan Roach.

Choral Benediction Response: Canticle of the Turning (v. 4)

Extinguishing of the Altar Candles**Postlude**

Kayleen Yuda

Guest Preacher's Bio:

Jonathan Roach is an ordained UCC pastor, theologian, author, and librarian. He grew-up across the Midwest in Terre Haute, Indiana, the twin cities of Dennison and Uhrichsville, Ohio, and Alpena, Michigan, which is literally halfway between the equator and the North Pole. After earning his BA in English Education, he earned graduate degrees from Wayne State University (MLIS), Ecumenical Theological Seminary (MDiv), and St. Thomas University (PhD). He was ordained in 2008 at his home church, First Congregational Church of Detroit, Michigan. For his Ph.D. in practical theology, he worked with a group of United Church of Christ clergy to develop a theology of work for clergy who had suffered burnout. He has over 40 publications including his first book "Expressing Theology: A Guide to Writing Theology that Readers Want to Read" in 2015, and he served on the faculty of Ecumenical Theological Seminary from 2002-2009. He left St. Thomas University where he was Interim-Dean of the Library when he was called to the role of pastor and teacher of Stratham Community Church, United Church of Christ in New Hampshire. In July of 2019, he moved with his family to Hilo, Hawai'i when his wife, Rev. Jihey Roach, accepted the call to serve Hawai'i Care Choices and is looking forward to what comes next!

Dates to Remember

Monday, January 6 – Pickleball, 1 p.m. in the Building of Faith

Minister: Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Guest Minister: Rev. Dr. Jonathan Roach

Moderator: Bob Smith

Ushers: Barbara Iwami, Lei Jack, Joyce Nakamoto, Michi Koizumi & Millie Daikawa

Lay Reader: John Narruhn

Flowers: Laura Ota

Choir Accompanist: Kanako Okita

Choir Director: Doug Albertson

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

- **The Gathering Place** – Resumes Monday, January 13th at 9 a.m.
- **Pickleball** – Monday, 1:00 p.m. in the Building of Faith
- **Choir Practice** – Tuesday, 4:00 p.m. in the Lounge
- **IYAA Bible Study** -- Wednesdays, 7:00 pm in the Lounge
- **Hand Bell Choir Practice** -- Fridays, 2:00 pm in the sanctuary