

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL  
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai`i  
Online Worship, March 14, 2021  
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Rev. Eric S. Anderson, Pastor

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

**Welcome**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Prelude:** In the Cross of Christ I Glory – Scriveyner, Tune: Rathbun by Conkey  
Kayleen Yuda

**Call to Worship:** *based on Numbers 21:4-9* Jennifer Tanouye

Leader: During the Exodus, the people suffered hunger and thirst.

**All: They asked Moses if he had led them out to die in the wilderness.**

Leader: Snakes moved among them. They bit people. Some people died.

**All: They asked Moses to pray to God to rescue them.**

Leader: At God's direction, Moses placed a bronze figure of a snake on a pole. Those who looked at it were healed.

**All: May we, in this time, turn our gaze to the God of deliverance and find our healing.**

**Invocation:** *based on Ephesians 2:1-10* Jennifer Tanouye

**We live oddly, O God. Sometimes we live in the world as if you did not exist, as if you expected nothing of us, as if you had promised nothing to us. Sometimes that leads us to selfishness or folly; sometimes it leads us to disappointment and despair. Out of your love, you have given us life. Out of your love, you have given us Jesus. May we rejoice in your grace in our worship today, O God, and be carried by it all through our days. Amen.**

**Hymn Duet #546:** Jesus, Lover of My Soul

Eric Anderson

Doug Albertson

Movement led by Genie Phillips

**Scripture**

Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good;  
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,

those he redeemed from trouble

and gathered in from the lands,

from the east and from the west,

from the north and from the south.

Jennifer Tanouye

Some were sick through their sinful ways,  
and because of their iniquities endured affliction;  
they loathed any kind of food,  
and they drew near to the gates of death.  
Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble,  
and he saved them from their distress;  
he sent out his word and healed them,  
and delivered them from destruction.  
Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,  
for his wonderful works to humankind.  
And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices,  
and tell of his deeds with songs of joy.

John 3:14-21

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.”

**Story/Sermon:** Delivered

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Pastoral Prayer:**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Please join me in the Lord’s Prayer**

**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**

**Instrumental Anthem:** To Jesus Christ, Our Sovereign King - Mainzer Gesangbuch, arr. Anthony Giamanco  
Kanako Okita

**Call to Offering**

Jennifer Tanouye

We invite you to an offering. Jesus, we know, literally embodied the love of God. We embody our love in different ways: with prayer and contemplation, with acts of love and compassion, and in this moment, with gifts to the world through the community of Christ. Today we dedicate the One Great Hour of Sharing offering, which supports global ministries of the United Church of Christ. Please send your offering through the mail in an envelope to 440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai’i, 96720, or give online at [holycrosshilo.com/donate](http://holycrosshilo.com/donate). Let us pray together:

**Offertory Prayer:**

**Bless these gifts, O God, offered by your people created in your image. Bless these gifts that embody our care for one another and the world so that they also embody your care for all people and for all Creation. Bless these gifts, O God, in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Vocal Anthem:** #553 There Is a Balm in Gilead

Eric Anderson  
Doug Albertson  
Movement led by Genie Phillips

**Announcements**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Benediction**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Postlude:** Postlude -- McKay

Kayleen Yuda

**Dates to Remember**

Today, March 14 – Council Meeting after worship

Today, March 14 – Dedication of One Great Hour of Sharing

<b>Minister</b>	Rev. Eric S. Anderson
<b>Moderator</b>	Woody Kita
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Jennifer Tanouye
<b>Chapel Decorations</b>	Genie Phillips
<b>Choir Accompanist</b>	Kanako Okita
<b>Choir Director</b>	Doug Albertson
<b>Organist</b>	Kayleen Yuda
<b>Hand Bell Director</b>	Anna Kennedy
<b>Childcare Coordinator</b>	Evonne Shioshita
<b>Movement Leader</b>	Genie Phillips
<b>Projected Imagery</b>	Sue Smith
<b>Web Master</b>	Ruth Niino-DuPonte

**This week at the Church of the Holy Cross**

- **Bible Study with Pastor Eric:** Tuesdays, 3:00 p.m. via Zoom
- **Pickleball:** Mondays, 12 noon, Thursdays, 8:30 a.m., Saturdays 1:00 p.m., Building of Faith
- **Online Song** – Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m. online
- **Community Concert** -- 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays, 6:00 p.m. online