

# CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

## UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL

440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i

Online Worship July 4, 2021

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Eric S. Anderson, Pastor

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

**Welcome**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Prelude:** Pastorale—Couperin, arr. Stephens

Kayleen Yuda

**Call to Worship:** *based on Psalm 123*

Barbara Iwami

Leader: Let us lift up our eyes to the one enthroned in the heavens.

**All: As those who seek aid and comfort, let us look to the LORD.**

Leader: Let us pray for the mercy of God to come swiftly and surely.

**All: We have endured enough, we have suffered enough, to crave the mercy of God.**

Leader: Let us bring our souls to the worship of God.

**Invocation:** *based on Psalm 48*

Barbara Iwami

**Across the years we hear the words of your glory, O God, glory applauded in walls and towers, in temples and ramparts. None of those towers stand, all of the ramparts have crumbled. We pray to you today outside the place in which we prefer to worship you. Though the works of human hands may crumble, O God, let your love be steadfast and strong. Though hazards keep us from gathering as we wish, let your glory be your wisdom and compassion. Be our guide today, tomorrow, and forever. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

**Hymn #459:** Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

Eric Anderson

Doug Albertson

Movement led by Genie Phillips

**Scripture**

Barbara Iwami

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh,

a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Mark 6:1-13

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent.<sup>13</sup> They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

**Story/Sermon:** Elated

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:** Piano Sonata No.8 Pathetique 3rd mvt.-- Beethoven:

Kanako Okita

**Call to Offering:**

Barbara Iwami

We are who we are – people of good will, people with some ability to change the world. We are not God – but God works through us. Let us gather some of our gifts together that God may inspire us and work through us together. 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**

**Accept these gifts, O God, given from our resources. Accept these gifts, and accept as well**

**the weaknesses we offer with them. Our souls wait for you. We wait to be filled with the Holy Spirit and by your grace, to be strong in Christ. Amen.**

**Vocal Anthem:** This Is My Song

Eric Anderson

Doug Albertson

Movement led by Genie Phillips

## **Service of Holy Communion**

### **Invitation**

The first to be invited to Jesus' table  
were not the wealthy and the powerful.  
There was a bride and groom too poor  
or too disorganized to order enough wine.  
There were the wisdom-seekers who did not pack food.  
There were the fishermen who couldn't catch fish.

Later, Jesus' table included outcasts:  
women with troubled histories,  
tax collectors, people who couldn't clean.  
Jesus ate his last meal with friends who would deny him.  
One of them would betray him.

Jesus' table expanded to comfort grieving souls,  
renew his own family, inspire his best friends.  
Greeks and Romans, though feared, took their places.  
The persecutors gave up persecuting  
and marveled at the love displayed at Jesus' table.

This table, your tables, are Jesus' table.  
This table, your tables, are laid with love.  
This table, your tables, are not places to be judged.  
This table, your tables, are places of Jesus' welcome.

### **Prayer of Consecration**

Worker of Wonders, Creator of Universes,  
we praise you for the glory of your works,  
glory that can only echo the glory of yourself.  
We offer thanks for what you have given,  
what you have shared, over the course of ages:  
A sun, a world, a planet sparkling with life,  
our lives of co-creation, breathing in your image,  
the gift of freedom, the gift of guidance,  
the gift of law, the gift of prophets.

In the fullness of time, you gave us Jesus.  
We give you thanks for such a deep expression

of your love, of love incarnate, of love poured out  
in word and healing, in sweat and blood.  
We thank you for the gift of Christ's resurrection,  
new life that promises new life,  
new life that summons us to share new life with all.

We ask of you the Holy Spirit to bless these gifts  
of bread and cup, these gifts adorning many tables  
in many places, these gifts that by your grace  
will nourish us in body and in soul. May your Holy Spirit  
give us power in our weakness,  
to share your gifts of grace with all the world.

Come, O Holy Spirit, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

## **Sharing of the Elements**

Leader: In the bread which we break, we participate in the body of Christ.  
[Breaking and eating of the bread]

Leader: In the cup which we bless, we participate in the new life Christ brings.  
[Drinking of the cup]

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Leader: Let us give thanks:

Unison: **We give you thanks, O Gracious God. You have blessed our tables with the Holy Spirit. Increase our faith. Increase our love for one another. Increase our commitment to the blessing of the world. May we serve your people in courage and in peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Announcements**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Benediction**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Postlude:** Festival March -- Stickle

Kayleen Yuda

## **Permissions**

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

Text: Robert Robinson, 1758

Text: Word alterations © 1993 The Pilgrim Press

Tune: NETTLETON, John Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, 1813

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This Is My Song

Text: Lloyd Stone (vv. 1-2), Georgia Harkness (v. 3)

Text: © 2007, Lorenz Publishing

Tune: FINLANDIA, Jean Sibelius

Arr.: The Hymnal, 1933

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**Dates to Remember**

Today, July 4 – Communion Sunday

Today, July 4 – Trustees meeting after worship

Saturday, July 10 – Trustees Service Day

<b>Minister</b>	Rev. Eric S. Anderson
<b>Moderator</b>	Woody Kita
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Barbara Iwami
<b>Chapel Decorations</b>	Jon & Remi Tanouye
<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
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