

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL  
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai`i  
Online Worship September 26, 2021  
Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Rev. Eric S. Anderson, Pastor

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

**Welcome**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Prelude:** Allegro (Organ Concerto No. 15)—Johann Walther, arr. Kevin Norris  
Kayleen Yuda

**Call to Worship:** *based on James 5:13-20*

Cindy Debus

Leader: Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise.

**All: Are any among you sick? They should call for others to pray for them.**

Leader: The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up.

**All: Anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven.**

Leader: Therefore we confess our sins to one another and we pray for one another, so that we might be healed.

**All: May our prayers in this time be loving, powerful, and effective, sustaining the souls of the world.**

**Invocation:** *based on Psalm 124*

Cindy Debus

**If you had not been with us in our desperation, O God, we do not know what would have happened. We might have been swept away in a flood of suffering, lost in raging waters of grief. You have lifted us, O God, as from a snare or a net. Blessings to you, O God, our help. Blessings to you, O God, who made heaven and Earth. Amen.**

**Hymn #181:** You Are Salt for the Earth, O People

Eric Anderson

Doug Albertson

Movement led by Genie Phillips

**Scripture**

Cindy Debus

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, "If only we had meat to eat! We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at." Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. So

Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child, to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors’? Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

So the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!

Mark 9:38-50

John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.

**Story/Sermon:** Still the Child

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:** Invention 6 BMV 777, J. S. Bach      Mace Peng

**Call to Offering:**      Cindy Debus

How can we remove the obstacles from the path of God's children? How can we ease their journey in the life of the world, of the heart, and of the spirit? We do it with gifts of love and grace, including the gifts we present to the Church of Jesus 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:**

**Your children, O God, are our neighbors, our family, our selves. Bless your children, O God, through these gifts. May we be gathered as one 'ohana in your sight. Amen.**

**Vocal Anthem:** Cuando el Pobre      Eric Anderson  
Doug Albertson  
Movement led by Genie Phillips

**Announcements**      Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Benediction**      Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Postlude:** A Tune for the Trumpet – J.S. Bach, Arr. P. Paxton—(From 69 Chorale Melodies with Figured Bass)      Kayleen Yuda

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by Johann Walter, arr. Kevin Norris  
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A Tune for the Trumpet  
by J. S. Bach, arr. David Paxton  
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Cuando el Pobre

by Miguel Marzano, Jose Antonio Olivar (c) 1971

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<b>Pastor</b>	Rev. Eric S. Anderson
<b>Moderator</b>	Woody Kita
<b>Lay Reader</b>	Cindy Debus
<b>Chapel Decorations</b>	Laura Ota
<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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**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, Tuesdays, 8:30 a.m., Wednesdays, 2:00 p.m., Thursdays, 8:30 a.m., Saturdays 12:00 p.m., Sundays 1:30 p.m. Building of Faith—limited to 10 attendees
- **Online Song** – Wednesday, 11:00 a.m. online
- **Community Concert** – 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4th Fridays, 6:00 p.m. online