

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL

440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i

Service of Worship May 25, 2025

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Rural Life Sunday

Graduate Recognition Sunday

Rev. Eric S. Anderson, Pastor

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

Please note that audio and video of this service are being live streamed on the Internet and will be recorded. The right rear section of the sanctuary will not be captured by any cameras. Please be aware that in other sections you may be visible at times.

Prelude: Sing to the Lord Kayleen Yuda

Lighting of the Candles

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome Rev. Eric S. Anderson

* **Call to Worship:** (based on Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5) Nina Buchanan

Leader: The apostle had a vision of a city without sun or moon,

People: **A city lit by the glory of God.**

Leader: Through the city flows a river of life.

People: **Life flowing from the seat of God and from the Lamb.**

Leader: One day we shall know a life without curses, without pain,

People: **All God's people will rejoice in light and love forever and ever.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

* **Hymn #573:** Lead On Eternal Sovereign (v. 1-3)

* **Invocation:** (based on Psalm 67) Nina Buchanan

Let your face shine upon us, O God; let your gracious ways and your saving power be known among all the nations. You have given us justice, O God, and beyond justice you have given us forgiveness. For these gifts and many others we worship you today, so hear us as we pray in Jesus' name, Amen.

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem: Just As I Am Kayleen Yuda

Time with the Children

Recognition of Graduates

Scripture: Acts 16:9-15 Nina Buchanan

During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

John 14:23-29

Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine, but is from the Father who sent me.

'I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, "I am going away, and I am coming to you." If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

Sermon: Leaving Peace Rev. Eric S. Anderson

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Please join 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

* **Hymn #580:** O Kou Aloha No (v. 1-4)

Call to Offering Nina Buchanan

Peace between communities; peace between people; peace within the spirit: these are the gifts Jesus has given to us. These are the gifts for us to pass on. With these offerings we seek to build peace in souls near and far. Whether you share your gift here in the church today, through a gift online, or via an envelope in the mail, let the offering now be received.

Offertory: Song of Bells Kayleen Yuda

* **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**

* **Offertory Prayer** Nina Buchanan

God of peace, accept the gifts your people have presented to you. Bless us with peace through them, and bless all people with peace through them, in Jesus' name. Amen.

* **Hymn #584:** I Am the Light of the World (v. 1-4)

Announcements Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Benediction Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Postlude: O Wondrous Day Kayleen Yuda

* **Please stand if you are able.**

Permissions

Sing to the Lord

Lani Smith

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Tune LANCASHIRE by Henry T. Smart, 1836
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Just As I Am
William B. Bradbury,
Charlotte Elliot
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O Kou Aloha No
Text by Queen Liliuokalani, 1893
Tune LILIUOKALANI by Queen Liliuokalani, 1893
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Song of Bells
Carl Simone
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I Am the Light of the World
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Important Dates

Today—J's Mini Mart

Today—Graduate Recognition Sunday

Mondays, 11:30 a.m. –Pickleball lessons; contact Connie 808-936-7534 or Ruth at rnduponte07@gmail.com to sign up.

Bible Study – Tuesdays, 3 p.m. via Zoom--The meeting link will be in the Weekly Chime.

Wednesdays, 5 p.m. in Pastor’s Study

Wednesdays, 12 noon –Pickleball lessons; contact Connie 808-936-7534 or Ruth at rnduponte07@gmail.com to sign up.

Pastor	Rev. Eric S. Anderson
Moderator	Stefan Tanouye
Vice Moderator	Lorraine Davis
Lay Reader	Nina Buchanan
Organist/Pianist	Kayleen Yuda
Hand Bell Director	Anna Kennedy
Sunday School Teacher	Gloria Kobayashi
Sunday School Aide	Johanna Narruhn
Chapel Decorations	Laura Ota In Memory of Eileen Shiraishi
Projected Imagery	Sue Smith
Web Master	Ruth Niino-DuPonte
Videographers	Eric Tanouye, Eli Yamaki, Mace Peng Ruth Niino-DuPonte, Bob Smith

We welcome you to worship this day. Church of the Holy Cross seeks to help its members, friends, and visitors follow the guidance of God, Christ, and the Holy Spirit, encouraging all people to love one another according to the teachings of Jesus. We live and teach the faith, speak good news, minister to people near and far, and work with other households of faith and helping agencies to improve our community and our world. To learn more visit our website at holycrosshilo.com.



If you wish to donate to the church electronically, please scan this QR code.

Other Faith Groups that meet at Church of the Holy Cross

- **The United Church of Christ, Pohnpei** – Sanctuary, 12 noon
Rev. Bensis Henry
- **Congregational Christian Church of American Samoa** – Sanctuary, 2:00 p.m.
Rev. Sitau Ofoia, Jr.
- **The Bedesta Church** – Sanctuary, 4 p.m.
Rev. Edmes Edwin