

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i
Service of Worship August 31, 2025
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
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: Kayleen Yuda

Lighting of the Candles

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome Rev. Eric S. Anderson

*** Call to Worship:** (based on Psalm 112) Cindy Debus

Leader: Happy are those who honor the LORD and delight in God's commandments.

People: **They rise in darkness as a light for the upright. They are gracious, merciful, and righteous.**

Leader: May all be well with those who act with generosity and justice.

People: **May the righteous be remembered forever!**

Leader: They have given to the poor, their names are spoken in honor.

People: **The hearts of the righteous are steady; they will not be afraid, for they are secure in the LORD.**

All: **Let us worship God!**

*** Hymn #454:** Lord, I Want To Be a Christian (v. 1-4)

*** Invocation:** (Psalm 81:1, 10-16) Cindy Debus

We sing aloud to you, O God our strength. We raise our voices to the God of Creation. We know that we falter and fail in our faith. We do not bridle our stubborn hearts, and it works out badly for us time and again. Help us to listen to you, to walk in your ways. Feed us on the finest wheat of your grace, and the sweet honey of your love. Amen.

Please be seated

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem: Tell Us A Story

Eric Anderson

Time with the Children

Rev. Eric Anderson

Scripture: Proverbs 25:6-7

Cindy Debus

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great;
for it is better to be told, 'Come up here',
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

Luke 14:1, 7-14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, "Give this person your place", and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher"; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'

He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'

Sermon: Pride at Home

Rev. Eric Anderson

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Pastoral Prayer

Rev. Eric 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

* **Hymn #504:** You Walk along Our Shoreline (v. 1-3)

Call to Offering

Cindy Debus

God's people need your help. Some are hungry in body, some are hungry in spirit. When we pool our gifts, we can bring what God has given us to their aid. 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:

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**

Cindy Debus

Accept these gifts, O God, which even gathered together cannot meet the world's need. Accept these gifts and let your power magnify their influence for good and for grace. Amen.

*** Hymn #539: Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant? (v. 1-6)**

Please be seated

Announcements

Rev. Eric Anderson

Benediction

Rev. Eric Anderson

Postlude:

Kayleen Yuda

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

Permissions

Prelude

Lord, I Want To Be a Christian

Text: African-American spiritual

Public Domain

Tune I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN, African-American spiritual

Arr. by Joyce Finch Johnson, 1992

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Tell Us A Story

Written by Eric Anderson

Streamed by permission of Eric Anderson

You Walk along Our Shoreline
Text by Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1984
© 1991 by G.I.A. Publications, Inc.
Tune SALLEY GARDENS trad. Irish melody
Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1994
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Offertory

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?
Text by Richard Gillard, 1977
© 1977 Universal Music,
Brentwood Benson Publishing
Tune SERVANT SONG by Richard Gillard, 1977
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Postlude

Important Dates

Today, August 31— Board of Stewardship & Mission meeting after worship in the lounge

Saturday, September 20th – Walk to End Alzheimer's, Liliuokalani Gardens, 8:00 a.m. You are invited to participate as a walker, or to donate to our church's commitment to end Alzheimer's disease.

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

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

Wednesdays, 5 p.m. – Bible Study in person, in Pastor's Study or via Zoom.

Pastor	Rev. Eric S. Anderson
Moderator	Stefan Tanouye
Vice Moderator	Lorraine Davis
Lay Reader	Cindy Debus
Organist/Pianist	Kayleen Yuda
Hand Bell Director	Anna Kennedy
Sunday School Teacher	Gloria Kobayashi
Sunday School Aide	Johanna Narruhn
Chapel Decorations	Carol Morioka
Projected Imagery	Sue Smith

Web Master
Videographers

Ruth Niino-DuPonte
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

Church of the Holy Cross Office Hours

Monday through Wednesday: 8 a.m. to 12 noon
Thursday: 8 a.m. to 10 a.m.
Friday: Closed