

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i
Rev. Eric S. Anderson, Pastor

Candle Light Service

December 24, 2025

Prelude: The First Noel

Kayleen Yuda

Opening Carol #135: O Come All Ye Faithful (v. 1-4)

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Nakamoto Family

Family Member: The night has come! A child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. The night has come, the child has arrived, and we have gathered to sing the praise of Jesus.

All Sing:

**To a stable, hard and bare,
let us journey to stand and stare,
listening to a mother's prayer,
as Christ is born, the blessed child of Mary.**

Tune: JOSEPH LIEBER, JOSEPH MEIN 7.8.8.11.

Family Member: During the Advent season, we have lit four candles, each one representing a grace we seek in the Christ child. Tonight we light them again: a candle shining for Hope. A candle shining for Peace. A candle shining for Joy. A candle shining for Love. Jesus was born to bring these to us, and much more: Forgiveness. Power. Justice. Guidance. Inspiration. Righteousness. Companionship. Faith. God with us. For all this and in celebration of much more, we light this central candle for Christ.

Unison Prayer: We sing to you with songs both old and new, O God, in celebration of your salvation. We proclaim your greatness, shining like the stars in the heavens. We proclaim your strength, standing like the mountains. We proclaim your splendor, crashing like the spray upon the shore. And we proclaim your tender mercy, coming to us in the child of Bethlehem, your power made perfect in weakness. Increase our joy tonight as we worship you in Jesus' name. Amen.

Service of Lessons and Carols

Please remain seated while singing these carols

Anthem: "All on a Christmas Morning" / "Ah, Bleak and Chill the Wintry Wind"
Holy Cross Singers

First Lesson: Isaiah 9:2, 6-7
Lorraine Davis

Carol #116: O Come, O Come Emmanuel (v. 1-2)

Second Lesson: Luke 1:26-35, 38
Eli Yamaki

Carol #124: Away in a Manger (v. 1-2)

Third Lesson: Luke 2:1, 3-7
Joyce Nakamoto

Anthem: This Child Will Make a Joyful Morning
Rebekah Anderson
and Eric Anderson

Fourth Lesson: Luke 2:8-16
Momi Lyman

Carol #144: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing (v. 1-2)

Fifth Lesson: Matthew 2:1-12
Stefan Tanouye

Carol #139: The First Nowell (v. 1-3)

Sixth Lesson: John 1:1-5, 14
John Narruhn

Carol #132: Joy to the World

Meditation
Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Christmas Prayer
Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Service of Candlelight

Carol #134: Silent Night (v. 1-3)

Benediction
Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Postlude: Joy to the World/Hallelujah
Kayleen Yuda

Permissions

The First Noel

John Innes

Tune: (c) 1979 Hope Publishing Company

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O Come All Ye Faithful

Text: Latin attrib. to John Francis Wade, 18th cent.

Trans. by Frederick Oakeley, 1841

Tune ADESTE FIDELES 18th cent. English melody

Public Domain

All On a Christmas Morning

Ah, Bleak and Chill the Wintry Wind

from The Alfred Burt Carols Set I

Text by Bates G. Burt & Wihla Hutson

Music by Alfred S. Burt

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O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Text from Psalterium Canticum Catholicarum, 1710

Trans. by John Mason Neale, 1852

Tune VENI EMMANUEL, 15th cent. French melody

Public Domain

Away in a Manger

Text Anon., 1885

Tune MULLER attrib. to James R. Murray, 1887

Public Domain

This Child Will Make a Joyful Morning

Text and Tune by Eric S. Anderson

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Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Text by Charles Wesley, 1739

Tune MENDELSSOHN by Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

Public Domain

The First Nowell

Trad. English text

Tune THE FIRST NOWELL trad. English melody

Public Domain

Joy to the World!

Text by Isaac Watts, 1719

Tune ANTIOCH by Lowell Mason, 1836

Public Domain

Silent Night

Text by Joseph Mohr, 1818

Trans. by John F. Young, 1863

Tune STILLE NACHT by Franz Gruber, 1818

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Joy to the World/Hallelujah Chorus, arr. Albin Whitworth

Tune: © 1985 Lorenz Publishing Company

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Pastor

Moderator

Choir Director

Guest vocalist

Organist

Hand Bell Director

Projected Imagery

Web Master

Videographers

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Rebekah Anderson

Kayleen Yuda

Anna Kennedy

Sue Smith

Ruth Niino-DuPonte

Eric Tanouye, Eli Yamaki

Ruth Niino-DuPonte, Bob Smith

Chapel Decorations

Mahalo nui to the many members and friends who donated the Poinsettias for use during the Christmas season. You may take your flowers home after the Christmas Eve candle light service.



If you wish to donate to
the church electronically,
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