

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL  
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i  
Service of Worship March 15, 2026  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

Rev. Eric S. Anderson, Pastor

*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:** Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

Kayleen Yuda

**Lighting of the Candles**

**Ringing of the Bell**

**Welcome**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Call to Worship** (based on Psalm 23)

Jennifer Tanouye

**Leader:** Because the LORD is my shepherd, I live without fear.

**People:** **I rest and I move in beautiful places, restored in soul.**

**Leader:** I do not fear the shadowy places, for God's protection covers me.

**People:** **My table is laid in joy, my life is crowned in power.**

**Leader:** Goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

**People:** **God will be with me in my home here and my home to come forever.**

**All: Let us worship God!**

\* **Hymn #248:** Such Perfect Love My Shepherd Shows (v. 1-6)

\* **Please join me in the Invocation** (based on John 9:1-41)

Jennifer Tanouye

**So often we connect sin with suffering, O God, as if the world brought retribution for each person's wrongs. We know better. May we refrain from judging others in their sorrows, and may we have your grace when aching from our troubles. Bring your healing to your people, body, mind, and soul, so we might show your gracious care to all around. Amen.**

**Please be seated**

# WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

**Anthem:** Alleluia

Holy Cross Singers

**Time with the Children**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Scripture:**

Jennifer Tanouye

1 Samuel 16:1-13

The Lord said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the Lord said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the Lord.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the Lord commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the Lord; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the Lord." But the Lord said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the Lord does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the Lord chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The Lord has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The Lord said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

Ephesians 5:8-14

...For once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of the light<sup>[a]</sup> is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Sleeper, awake!  
Rise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”

**Sermon:** Not Any of These

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

## **WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED**

**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**

\* **Hymn #446:** Jesus, Still Lead On (v. 1-4)

**Call to Offering**

Jennifer Tanouye

We have not all been summoned to lead nations. We have not all been summoned to withdraw from the world in prayer. We have all been summoned to live out our lives as faithfully as we can, given what we understand of God’s call. May 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:** Father, We Praise Thee

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**

Jennifer Tanouye

**We thank you, O God, for summoning us to be your people and for guiding us in wisdom and truth. Accept these gifts extended from your wisdom and your truth, and may they display your loving glory. Amen.**

\* **Hymn #547:** Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (v. 1 - 5)

**Please be seated**

**Announcements**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Benediction**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

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

**Note on the Anthem:**

Randall Thompson composed "Alleluia" in July 1940, just after the fall of France to Nazi Germany. He later wrote, "The word 'Alleluia' has so many possible interpretations. The music in my particular Alleluia cannot be made to sound joyous. It is a slow, sad piece, and... here it is comparable to the Book of Job, where it is written, 'The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away. Blessed be the name of the Lord.'"

**Permissions:**

Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

Tune by Peter Schren, 1630-1692

Arr. by James Mansfield

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Such Perfect Love My Shepherd Shows

Text by Henry W. Baker, 1868

Tune DOMINUS REGIT ME by John B. Dykes, 1868

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Alleluia

Text and tune by Randall Thompson, 1940

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Jesus, Still Lead On

Text by Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, 1721

Trans. by Jane Borthwick, 1846

Tune SEELENBRAUTIGAM by Adam Drese, 1698

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Father, We Praise Thee

Arr. by Benton Price, 1968

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Amazing Grace

Text by John Newton, 1779

Tune AMAZING GRACE Columbia Harmony, 1829

Arr. by Edwin O. Excell, 1900  
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Be Thou Exalted

By Chester Nordman

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### **Important Dates**

**Today, March 15** – Deacons Meeting after worship service

**Sundays, 8:30 a.m.** – Holy Cross Singers Rehearsal in the Lounge

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

**Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m.** – One Song from Church of the Holy Cross streamed live

**Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m.** – Bible Study in person, in Pastor's Study or via Zoom

**Wednesdays, 6:30 p.m.** – Lenten Study of Wisdom, in Pastor's Study or via Zoom

**Fridays, 10:00 a.m.** – Bell Choir Rehearsal in the Building of Faith Meeting Room

**Saturday, 8:30 a.m.** – Service Day

### **Help Needed**

Help is needed with the altar decorations for Easter Sunday service. The pick-up of the lilies and placing them on the altar is generally done on the day before the Sunday morning service. If you are able to help out please contact Cindy Debus at 808-895-4011. Easter Lilies are \$13.50. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board next to J's cafe.

**Last day to sign-up is today;** you may take your lily home after the Easter Service. Checks, cash or VENMO (@Cynthia-Debus) to Cynthia Debus.

Thank you for your willingness to assist with our Easter decorations.

**Pastor**

**Moderator**

**Vice Moderator**

**Lay Reader**

**Chapel Decorations**

**Organist/Pianist**

**Music Director-Accompanist**

**Hand Bell Choir Director**

**IYAA Choir Director**

**Sunday School Teacher**

**Sunday School Aide**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Lorraine Davis

Elwood Kita

Jennifer Tanouye

Cynthia Debus

Kayleen Yuda

Bob Grove

Anna Kennedy

Stuart Mori

Gloria Kobayashi

Johanna Narruhn

**Image Artist**  
**Live Stream Director**  
**Sound Engineer & Assistant Director**  
**Videographers**

Sue Smith  
Ruth Niino-DuPonte  
Ben Yamaki  
Eric Tanouye, Mace Peng, Bob  
Smith, Cindy Debus, Woody Kita

### **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**

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](http://holycrosshilo.com).



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