

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL  
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i  
Service of Worship March 22, 2026  
5<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:** At the Cross Kayleen Yuda

**Lighting of the Candles**

**Ringling of the Bell**

**Welcome:** Rev. Eric S. Anderson

\* **Call to Worship** (based on Romans 8:6-11) Stefan Tanouye

Leader: You are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit.

**People: We are grateful that the Spirit of God has chosen to dwell in us.**

Leader: Though sin brings death in the body,

**People: The Spirit brings life in Christ.**

Leader: The Spirit of God will revive your mortal bodies in Christ.

**People: We are grateful that the Spirit of God has given us life!**

**All: Let us worship God!**

\* **Hymn #456:** More Love to You, O Christ (v. 1-3)

\* **Invocation** (based on Psalm 130) Stefan Tanouye

**Hear our voices, O God, for we cry to you from scary places. We fear your judgement, and we are grateful for your forgiveness. We wait for you and we hope for you more than those who yearn for the morning. We rejoice in your power to redeem, and we bless you for the forgiveness of our sins. Amen.**

**Please be seated**

# WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

**Anthem:** I Wonder as I Wander      Jim Thompson

**Time with the Children**                      Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Scripture:**                                      Stefan Tanouye

Ezekiel 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you and will cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophecy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live." I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, "Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.' Therefore prophesy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord."

John 11:1-45

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill." But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it." Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again." The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?" Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him." The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right." Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him." Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again." Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world."

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." Jesus began to weep. So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?" So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with

strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, “Unbind him, and let him go.”

Many of the Jews, therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

**Sermon:** The One You Love is Ill      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. Amen.**

\* **Hymn #207:** Just as I Am (v. 1-4)

**Call to Offering**              Stefan Tanouye

There are things beyond our powers to influence or improve, and for these things we appeal to God. There are other things that we can affect and contribute to, and for these things we bring our offerings. 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:** Comfort and Rest              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**              Stefan Tanouye

**Accept our gifts, O God, and set them to bless your people. May they find nourishment in body, mind, and spirit through the offerings we bring. Amen.**

\* **Hymn #488:** Be Still, My Soul (v. 1 - 3)

**Please be seated**

**Announcements**              Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Benediction**                      Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Postlude:** Song of Joy    Kayleen Yuda

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

**Permissions:**

At the Cross

Tune by Ralph Hudson

Arr. by Gregg Sewell

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More Love to You, O Christ

Text by Elizabeth C. Prentiss, ca. 1856

Tune MORE LOVE TO YOU by William H. Doane, 1870

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I Wonder as I Wander

by John Jacob Niles

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Just as I Am

Text by Charlotte Elliott, 1836

Tune WOODWORTH by William B. Bradbury, 1849

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Comfort and Rest

by Edward Broughton

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Be Still, My Soul

Text by Katharina von Schlegel, 1752

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Song of Joy

by Robert J. Hughes

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## **Important Dates**

**Today, March 22** – Trustees 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

**Tuesday, March 24, 4:30 p.m.** – Board of Christian Education, J's Café

**Tuesday, March 24, 7:00 p.m.** – Interfaith Communities in Action, Building of Faith

**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

**Pastor**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Moderator**

Lorraine Davis

**Vice Moderator**

Elwood Kita

**Lay Reader**

Stefan Tanouye

**Chapel Decorations**

Beverly Dodo

**Organist/Pianist**

Kayleen Yuda

**Guest Soloist**

Jim Thompson

**Music Director-Accompanist**

Bob Grove

**Hand Bell Choir Director**

Anna Kennedy

**IYAA Choir Director**

Stuart Mori

**Sunday School Teacher**

Gloria Kobayashi

**Sunday School Aide**

Johanna Narruhn

**Image Artist**

Sue Smith

**Live Stream Director**

Ruth Niino-DuPonte

**Sound Engineer & Assistant Director**

Ben Yamaki

**Videographers**

Eric Tanouye, Mace Peng, Bob Smith,

Cindy Debus, Woody Kita

**Office Manager**

## **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).



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