

**CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL  
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai`i  
Service of Worship June 7, 2026  
Second Sunday after Pentecost  
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:** Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart with Holy, Holy, Holy Kayleen Yuda

**Lighting of the Candles**

**Ringing of the Bell**

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

\* **Call to Worship** (based on Psalm 33:1-12) Gloria Kobayashi

**Leader:** Rejoice in the LORD, O people. Praise befits the upright.

**People:** **The word of God is upright. God works in faithfulness.**

**Leader:** The LORD loves righteousness and justice,

**People:** **The earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.**

**Leader:** The guidance of the LORD stands forever; God's thoughts to all generations.

**People:** **Happy are those whose God is the LORD.**

**All:** **Let us worship God!**

\* **Hymn #565:** God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending (v. 1 – 4)

\* **Invocation** (based on Psalm 50:7-15) Gloria Kobayashi

**You have told us and told us, O God, that we do not worship you properly with sacrifice alone. All we have comes from you, so we offer what is yours already. Encourage us to share our substance with our neighbors, so that having fulfilled our vows to you, we may worship you with a sacrifice of thanksgiving. In Jesus' name, Amen.**

**Please be seated**

# WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

**Anthem:** Let Us Break Bread Together

Kayleen Yuda

**Time with the Children**

Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Scripture:**

Gloria Kobayashi

Hosea 5:15-6:6

I will return again to my place  
until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face.  
In their distress they will beg my favor:

“Come, let us return to the Lord,  
for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us;  
he has struck down, and he will bind us up.  
After two days he will revive us;  
on the third day he will raise us up,  
that we may live before him.  
Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord;  
his appearing is as sure as the dawn;  
he will come to us like the showers,  
like the spring rains that water the earth.”

What shall I do with you, O Ephraim?  
What shall I do with you, O Judah?  
Your love is like a morning cloud,  
like the dew that goes away early.  
Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets;  
I have killed them by the words of my mouth,  
and my<sup>[a]</sup> judgment goes forth as the light.  
For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice,  
the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax-collection station, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him.

And as he sat at dinner<sup>[a]</sup> in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting<sup>[b]</sup> with Jesus and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” But when he heard this, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go

and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have not come to call the righteous but sinners."

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she was saying to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And the woman was made well from that moment. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread through all of that district.

**Sermon:** God Desires Mercy

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.**

**Call to Offering**

Gloria Kobayashi

What does God ask us to give? Love to our neighbors, and love to our God. May this moment be one in which we give both to our God and to those around us. 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:** Introit

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**      Gloria Kobayashi

**Merciful One, accept the gifts of your people. We rejoice in your mercy, and we pray that these offerings might spread your grace to people near and far. Amen.**

\* **Hymn #337:** Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether (v. 1-3)

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Invitation**

**Consecrating the Bread and Cup**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

\* **Hymn #23:** There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (v. 1 – 2)

**Please be seated**

**Announcements**              Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Benediction**                  Rev. Eric S. Anderson

**Postlude:** See How Great a Flame Aspires              Kayleen Yuda

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

**Permissions:**

Spirit of God Descend Upon My Heart with Holy Holy Holy

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God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

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Let Us Break Bread Together #232465

Contributors: Mark Hayes

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#### Introit

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### **Important Dates**

**Today, 11:30 a.m.** - Board of Trustees in the Lounge

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

**Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m.** - Cancelled this week

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

**Fridays, 9:00 a.m.** - Bell Choir Rehearsal in the Building of Faith Meeting Room

**Pickleball Lessons** - Contact Connie 808-936-7534 or  
Ruth at rnduponte07@gmail.com to sign up

**Pastor** Rev. Eric S. Anderson  
**Moderator** Lorraine Davis  
**Vice Moderator** Elwood Kita  
**Lay Reader** Gloria Kobayashi  
**Chapel Decorations** Gloria Kobayashi  
**Organist/Pianist** Kayleen Yuda  
**Music Director-Accompanist** Bob Grove  
**Hand Bell Choir Director** Evan Montemayor  
**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** Kahealani Mahone-Brooks

### **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.