

CHURCH OF THE HOLY CROSS
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST – CONGREGATIONAL
440 West Lanikaula Street, Hilo, Hawai'i
Service of Worship August 23, 2026
Thirteenth 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: Suite in D Minor Kayleen Yuda

Lighting of the Candles

Ringling of the Bell

Welcome: Rev. Eric S. Anderson

*** Call to Worship** (based on Psalm 124) Ming Peng

Leader: If the LORD had not been for us – and let us say it together:

People: If the LORD had not been for us, we would have been swept away in the flood.

Leader: The torrent would have gone over us.

People: We would have flailed in the raging waters.

Leader: We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the hunters.

People: Like a freed bird we sing our thanks and our praise to God.

All: Let us worship God!

*** Hymn #309:** We Are Your People (v. 1 – 6)

*** Invocation** (based on Psalm 138) Ming Peng

We thank you, O God, because you heard our prayers and you answered them in the midst of the storm. You increased our strength of soul. Fulfill your purposes for us, for your steadfast love endures forever, and we are the work of your hands. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Please be seated

WE SHARE THE WORD OF GOD

Anthem: My Shepherd Will Supply My Need Marlise Ahuna

Time with the Children Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Scripture: Ming Peng

Romans 12:1-8

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought to think but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members and not all the members have the same function, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have gifts that differ according to the grace given to us: prophecy, in proportion to faith; ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in teaching; the encourager, in encouragement; the giver, in sincerity; the leader, in diligence; the compassionate, in cheerfulness.

Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Sermon: This Age or Any Other 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 #448: Take My Life, God, Let It Be (v. 1-4)**

Call to Offering Ming Peng

In each day we seek to live our calling as Jesus' followers, and to manifest God's love in the world. We do that as individuals, and we do it together as a church through 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: Sylvine 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** Ming Peng

We bring these gifts to you, O God, in thanksgiving for your help to us in the troubles of our lives. We bring these gifts to you, O God, so that they may aid others in the troubles of their lives. Amen.

*** Hymn #535: O Holy God, Whose Gracious Power (v. 1 – 4)**

Please be seated

Announcements Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Benediction Rev. Eric S. Anderson

Postlude: Allegro Organ Concerto #15 Kayleen Yuda

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

Permissions:

Suite In D Minor

Contributors: Johann P Krieger

Tune: © 1974 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of
The Lorenz Corporation (Admin. by Music Services)

Streamed by permission ONELICENSE A-735890

We Are Your People

Text by Brian Wren, 1973

© 1975 by Hope Publishing Company

Tune WHITFIELD by John Wilson, 1975

© 1980 by Hope Publishing Company

Streamed by permission ONELICENSE A-735890

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Arranger: Cydney Olson Van Duker

Permission: Van Duker

Streamed by permission ONELICENSE A-735890

Take My Life, God, Let It Be

Text by Frances R. Havergal, 1874

Tune VIENNA by Justin H. Knecht, 1797

Public Domain

Sylvine

Contributors: John Troutman, Theodore Dubois

Tune: © 1982 Lorenz Publishing Company, a division of
The Lorenz Corporation (Admin. by Music Services)

Streamed by permission ONELICENSE A-735890

O Holy God, Who's Gracious Power

Text by Jane Parker Huber, 1978

© 1980 by Jane Parker Huber

Admin. by Westminster/John Knox Press

Tune WELWYN by Alfred Scott-Gatty, 1900

Public Domain

Streamed by permission ONELICENSE A-735890

Allegro Organ Concerto #15

Johana Gothfried

Arranged by Kevin Norris

Public Domain

Streamed by permission ONELICENSE A-735890

Important Dates

After Worship – Church Picnic

Wednesdays, 11:00 a.m. – A Song from Church of the Holy Cross – holycrosshilo.com

Wednesdays, 5:00 p.m. – Bible Study – Pastor's Study

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 Ming Peng

Chapel Decorations Laura Ota, in memory of Albert Ota

Organist/Pianist Kayleen Yuda

Music Director-Accompanist Bob Grove

Guest Vocalist Marlise Ahuna

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.



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