

SUNDAY, JULY 16TH 2023, 9:30 A.M.
SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER
PENTECOST
BAPTISM OF MASINATA'IALA
GALOIA-MOORE

PRELUDE

Roz Baker

BLOWING OF THE CONCH SHELL

Rick Kimball

PROCESSION

GREETINGS AND ALOHA

Liturgist

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Liturgist

Leader: Come in for a little while to escape the busyness of the week to this place of worship.

People: We come to connect with God's rejuvenating word.

Leader: Leave behind the stress of everyday life and come into the light of knowledge.

People: In Christ, we see God's ways.

Leader: Come into worship with offerings of praise.

People: We come to hear the word and respond!

All: Your word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

***HYMN OF PRAISE.**

Be Thou My Vision

451

**1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**2. Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word;
I ever with thee, and thou with me, Lord.
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**3. High King of heaven, my victory is won
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!**

Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Pastor

THE SHARING OF OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

Pastor

**LORD, IN YOUR MERCY:
Hear our Prayers.**

UNISON PRAYER

Loving God, gather us into this moment of reverence, celebration, and growth. As your children, we long for renewed faith and meaning. Your Son lights our path, inviting us to read, think, and seek understanding. Today, as we consider the Parable of the Sower with its images of rocky ground, tangled thorns, and green shoots, may the light of your word illuminate our way and become the joy of our hearts! Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE “Queen Liliuokalani’s Prayer”

O kou aloha no. Aia i ka lani. A'o Kou 'oia i'o. He hemolele ho'i. Amene
(Your loving mercy is in heaven, and your truth so perfect. Amen.)

BAPTISMAL COVENANT

(See Insert)

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ: Through the Sacrament of Baptism, we are initiated into Christ’s holy Church. We are incorporated into God’s mighty acts of salvation and given new birth through water and the Spirit. All this is God’s gift, offered to us without price.

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

I present Masinata’iala Galoia for baptism.

RENUNCIATION OF SIN AND PROFESSION OF FAITH

The pastor addresses parents or other sponsors of candidates not able to answer for themselves:

Pastor: On behalf of the whole Church, I ask you: Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness, reject the evil powers of this world, and repent of your sin?

I will.

Pastor: Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to resist evil, injustice, and oppression in whatever forms they present themselves?

I will.

Pastor: Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior, put your whole trust in his grace, and promise to serve him as your Lord, in union with the Church which Christ has opened to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I will.

Pastor: Will you nurture Masinata'iala in Christ's holy Church so that, by your teaching and example, she may be guided to accept God's grace for herself, to profess her faith openly, and to lead a Christian life?

I will.

The pastor addresses the congregation, and the congregation responds:

Pastor: Do you, as Christ's body, the Church, reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Pastor: Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include these persons

With God's help, we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will surround her with a community of love and forgiveness so that she may grow in her trust of God and be found faithful in her service to others. We will pray for her that she may be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life.

Apostle's Creed in Question and Answer Format

Pastor addresses to all: Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

Pastor: Do you believe in Jesus Christ?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, [who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day, he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.]

Pastor: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, [the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

[*universal]

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Pastor addresses the entire congregation.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Eternal Father: When nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the days of Noah, you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood, you set in the clouds a rainbow. When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.

****Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.**

Pastor: In the fullness of time, you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed by your Spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make disciples of all nations.

****Declare his works to the nations, his glory among all the people.**

Pastor: Pour out your Holy Spirit to bless this gift of water and Masinata'iala who receives it, to wash away her sin and clothe her in righteousness throughout her life that, being raised with Christ, she may share in his final victory.

****All praise to you, Eternal Father, through your Son Jesus Christ, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen.**

BAPTISM WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

The pastor addresses all candidates:

Pastor: I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Pastor: May the Holy Spirit work within Masinata'iala so that, being born through water and the Spirit, she may be a faithful disciple of Jesus Christ.

COMMENDATION AND WELCOME

Pastor: Now, it is our joy to welcome our new sister in Christ, Masinata'iala Galoa-Moore!

The congregation responds: Through baptism you are incorporated by the Holy Spirit into God's new creation and made to share in Christ's royal priesthood. We are all one in Christ Jesus. With joy and thanksgiving we welcome you as members of the family of Christ.

THE READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES

Liturgist

FIRST READING

Psalm 119:105-112

¹⁰⁵Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.

¹⁰⁶I have sworn an oath and confirmed it,
to observe your righteous ordinances.

¹⁰⁷I am severely afflicted;
give me life, O Lord, according to your word.

¹⁰⁸Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord,
and teach me your ordinances.

¹⁰⁹I hold my life in my hand continually,
but I do not forget your law.

¹¹⁰The wicked have laid a snare for me,
but I do not stray from your precepts.

¹¹¹Your decrees are my heritage for ever;
they are the joy of my heart.

¹²I incline my heart to perform your statutes
for ever, to the end.

SECOND READING

Romans 8:1-11

¹ There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

LITURGIST: THIS IS THE WORD OF THE LORD.

PEOPLE: THANKS BE TO GOD!

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**
THE APOSTLE'S CREED, ECUMENICAL VERSION

880

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

(** universal)

GLORIA PATRI

UMH 70

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor

CHOIR OFFERING

LUMC Choir

DOXOLOGY

HYMN OF PREPARATION

In the Garden

314

1. I come to the garden alone
while the dew is still on the roses,
and the voice I hear falling on my ear
the Son of God discloses.

Refrain:

And he walks with me, and he talks with me,
and he tells me I am his own;
and the joy we share as we tarry there,
none other has ever known.

2. He speaks, and the sound of his voice,

is so sweet the birds hush their singing,
and the melody that he gave to me
within my heart is ringing. (Refrain)

3. I'd stay in the garden with him
though the night around me be falling,
but he bids me go; thru the voice of woe
his voice to me is calling. (Refrain)

SERMON SCRIPTURE

Matthew 13:1-23

Pastor

“That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: ‘Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹Let anyone with ears listen!’

¹⁰Then the disciples came and asked him, ‘Why do you speak to them in parables?’ ¹¹He answered, ‘To you it has been given to know the secrets of the kingdom of heaven, but to them it has not been given. ¹²For to those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ¹³The reason I speak to them in parables is that “seeing they do not perceive, and hearing they do not listen, nor do they understand.” ¹⁴With them indeed is fulfilled the prophecy of Isaiah that says:

“You will indeed listen, but never understand,
and you will indeed look, but never perceive.
¹⁵For this people’s heart has grown dull,
and their ears are hard of hearing,
and they have shut their eyes;
so that they might not look with their eyes,

and listen with their ears,
and understand with their heart and turn—
and I would heal them.”

¹⁶ But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. ¹⁷ Truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, but did not see it, and to hear what you hear, but did not hear it.

¹⁸ ‘Hear then the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; ²¹ yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.’

MESSAGE

Tilling the Soil

Pastor

MINISTRY UPDATE

Pastor

***CLOSING HYMN**

Hymn of Promise

707

**1. In the bulb there is a flower;
In the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise:
Butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
There’s a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.**

**2. There’s a song in every silence,
Seeking word and melody;**

**There's a dawn in every darkness,
Bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
What it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.**

**3. In our end is our beginning;
In our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing;
In our life, eternity,
In our death, a resurrection;
At the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.**

***BENEDICTION**

*** CIRCLE OF OHANA "HAWAII ALOHA" (Rev. Lorenzo Lyons)**

E Hawai'i e ku'u one hanau e, Ku'u ho-me kulaiwi nei. Oli no au i na pono lani ou, E Hawai'i, aloha e. E hau'oli na `opio o Hawai'i nei. `Oli e! `Oli e! Mai na aheahe makani e pa mai nei. Mau ke aloha, no Hawai'i.

(O Hawai'i, O sands of my birth, My native home. I rejoice in the blessings of heaven, O Hawai'i, aloha. Happy youth of Hawai'i, Rejoice! Rejoice! Gentle breezes blow. Love always for Hawai'i.)