

“OPEN HEARTS...OPEN MINDS...OPEN DOORS”



LAHAINA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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LAHAINA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH, 2024
2nd Sunday of Lent



UMH 131

OPENING HYMN

We Gather Together

1. We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; he chastens and hastens his will to make known. The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing. Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

3. We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant, and pray that thou still our defender wilt be. Let thy congregation escape tribulation; thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

2. Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine; so from the beginning the fight we were winning; thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine!



GREETINGS AND ALOHA

Liturgist: Vaosa Tagaloa

***CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 50)**

(* You may stand.)

Leader: Lenten travelers, who is this Jesus that we follow?

People: HE IS THE MESSIAH.

Leader: What kind of Messiah is Jesus?

PEOPLE: HE IS THE MESSIAH WHO TEACHES THAT HE WILL LOSE HIS LIFE AND WHO CALLS US TO LOSE OUR LIVES IN ORDER TO SAVE OUR LIVES.

Leader: How does it feel to follow a Messiah whose teachings and call are so hard and uncomfortable?

PEOPLE: SOME FEEL FEAR AND ANGER, WHILE OTHERS FEEL UNCERTAIN AND ANXIOUS, AND STILL OTHERS FEEL RESOLUTE AND READY TO FOLLOW.

Leader: We are not alone in our feelings about following Jesus as our Messiah. It is a hard road. The blessing is that we do not travel it alone.

ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD THAT WE SHARE THIS JOURNEY WITH JESUS AND ONE ANOTHER AS WE LOSE OUR LIVES FOR THE SAKE OF THE GOSPEL TO SAVE OUR LIVES THROUGH JESUS, OUR MESSIAH. AMEN.

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

Standing on the Promises

UMH 374

1. Standing on the promises of Christ my King, through eternal ages let his praises ring; glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, standing on the promises of God.be.

Refrain:

Standing, standing, standing on the promises of God my Savior;
standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

2. Standing on the promises that cannot fail, when the howling storms of doubt and fear assail, by the living Word of God I shall prevail, standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

PRAYER TIME

Leader: Lord, in your mercy

ALL: HEAR OUR PRAYERS

UNISON PRAYER

Spirit of the ages, guide us according to your purposes, as you once called Abram and Sarai long ago. Train our ears to hear your call, and tune our hearts to open at the sound of your voice. As we pick up our cross to follow you, raise us to newness of life. For you call us to be children of your covenant, heirs with your Son, and disciples of your grace. 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.)

First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Liturgist

2.

3. Standing on the promises of Christ the Lord, bound to him eternally by love's strong cord, overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword, standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]

4. Standing on the promises I cannot fall, listening every moment to the Spirit's call, resting in my Savior as my all in all, standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]



When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, 'I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.' ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴'As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

¹⁶God said to Abraham, 'As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.'

SECOND READING

Romans 4:13-25

Liturgist

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, 'I have made you the father of many nations')—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become 'the father of many nations', according to what was said, 'So numerous shall your descendants be.' ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith 'was reckoned to him as righteousness.' ²³Now the words, 'it was reckoned to him', were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

THE APOSTLE'S CREED, ECUMENICAL VERSION

880

3.

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

OFFERING

LUMC Choir

*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings
 flow Praise Him, all creatures here
 below.*

*Ho'onani i ka Makua Mau,
 Ke Keiki me ka 'Uhane no,
 Ke Akua Mau ho'omaika'i
 pu, ko kela ao, ko kela ao.
 Amene.*

*Praise Him above, ye heavenly host
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
 Amen.*

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Pastor

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Be Still My Soul

UMH 534

1. Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your
 side. Bear patiently the cross of grief
 or pain; leave to your God to order
 and provide; in every change, God
 faithful will remain. Be still, my soul:
 your best, your heavenly friend
 through thorny ways leads to a joyful
 end.

2. Be still, my soul: your God will
 undertake to guide the future, as in
 ages past. Your hope, your
 confidence let nothing shake;
 all now mysterious shall be bright at
 last. Be still, my soul: the waves and
 winds still know the Christ who ruled
 them while he dwelt below. 4.

3. Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening
 on when we shall be forever with the
 Lord, when disappointment, grief, and
 fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love's
 purest joys restored. Be still, my soul:
 when change and tears are past, all safe
 and blessed we shall meet at last.



SERMON SCRIPTURE

Mark 8:31-38

Pastor

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, 'Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.'

³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.'

MESSAGE

What Is your Cross?

Pastor

*CLOSING HYMN

Where He Leads Me

UMH 338

1. I can hear my Savior calling,
 I can hear my Savior calling,
 I can hear my Savior calling,
 "Take thy cross and follow, follow
 me."

2. I'll go with him through the garden,
 I'll go with him through the garden,
 I'll go with him through the garden,
 I'll go with him, with him all the way.
 (Refrain)

Refrain:
 Where he leads me I will follow,
 where he leads me I will follow,
 where he leads me I will follow;
 I'll go with him, with him all the way.

3. I'll go with him through the judgment,
 I'll go with him through the judgment,
 I'll go with him through the judgment,
 I'll go with him, with him all the way.
 (Refrain)

4. He will give me grace and glory,
 he will give me grace and glory,
 he will give me grace and glory,
 and go with me, with me all the way.
 (Refrain)



***SENDING FORTH/BENEDICTION**

Pastor

***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 aheaha 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.



LUMC Online Offering



WE REMEMBER OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN PRAYERS:

Norman Scott
 Rhonda Wilkes
 Lotima Filiai
 Doreen Taylor
 Linda & Les Takahashi
 Ariana and Austin
 Patrick Muratta
 Noah Min
 Kelly Hess
 Lotu Carlsen and family
 Monique Peterson
 Viola Cleo Bradshaw
 Amalia Houff and parents, Rev.
 Kim Houff and Mark Houff
 Sandy Wong
 Riley Hope Jacobs
 Julie Reed
 Denny White
 Ellen Damaskas
 Grace and Rosie Nava
 Cathy Bradshaw
 Kathy Bowen
 Cordelia Vogel
 Roz Baker
 Laura Fowle
 John and Cindy Yaos
 Sherri Atkinson
 Gavin Kang
 Julie Freeman

Janice Haynes and family
 Fred Kitonga, his sister, and nephew, Lawrence, for the loss of Lawrence's wife, Mary.
 The family of Ellen DiGiampaulo in the passing of Ellen's dear mother, Beverly
 Warren Carthan & family
 Kevin Oliveti's sister Uheina in Tonga
 Dan and the family of Jodeen Bryen
 The family of Barb Dering
 The family of Janice Markwith
 The family of Frank Emanuel
 The family of Mabel Shimomura
 The family of Lori Ramsey
 The family of Doug Gloege*
 The Family of Carolyn Ono*
 Lotu Carlsen and family
 Sione Vaikeli, for the loss of his wife Linda*
 Chris & Velvet Welland
 Lyn and Judy Ebbesen's family
 Heather Coffey
 Tonga Tuameiapi for the loss of his sister.
 Hyalene Crewe's friend, Maila,
 The Pasikala family
 Terry Mitchell and daughter, Lindsay Hopewell
 Edie and John Machonis
 Sandy (Currently incarcerated)
 Clara
 Ane Tagaloa

Prayers for our Community/Country:

(*people lost in the fire)

- *For the family, friends, and loved ones of those who lost their lives in the Lahaina fires.
- *We pray for continued support for all churches and non-profit organizations working to meet our community's physical, psychological, and spiritual needs after a devastating tragedy.
- *We offer prayers of gratitude for our firefighters, EMTs, police officers, other first responders, and civilians who walked into danger for our safety.
- *We pray for our medical staff who face growing workloads as they deal with multiple health crises. Inspire us to demand more staff and better work environments.
- * We pray that our leaders will work diligently to address our community's needs and not forget to address the problems of those most in need but frequently ignored.

