

**WE REMEMBER OUR SISTERS AND BROTHERS IN PRAYERS:**

Rhonda Wilkes	Janice Hayes and family
Lotima Filiai	Fred Kitonga's daughter-in-law and sister
Doreen Taylor	Warren Carthan & family
Linda & Les Takahashi	Kevin Oliveti's sister Uheina in Tonga
Laura	The family of Barb Dering
Patrick Muratta	The family of Janice Markwith
Noah Min	The family of Mabel Shimomura
Kelly Hess	The family of Lori Ramsey
Julie Reed	The family of Doug Gloege*
Gavyn Kang	The Family of Carolyn Ono*
Justine	Sione Vaikeli, whose wife is missing after the fire.
Rhoda	Chris & Velvet Welland
Sandy Wong	Ellen Di Giampaolo's grandson
Riley Hope Jacobs	Lyn and Judy Ebbesen's family
Julie Reed	Kathy Bowen
Denny White	Tonga Tuameiapi and family for the loss of his sister.
Ellen Damaskas	The Pasikala family
Grace and Rosie Nava	Edie and John Machonis
Cathy Bradshaw	Monique Peterson
Kathy Bowen	Viola Cleo Bradshaw
Cordelia Vogel	Clara
Kyle	(*people lost in the fire)
Candee	

**Prayers for our Community/Country:**

\*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.

All prayers spoken and unspoken.  
Lord, in Your Mercy, HEAR OUR PRAYERS

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



**LAHAINA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

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**MINISTERS:** Members and Friends of our Congregation

**PASTOR:** Pastor John Crewe



# LAHAINA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023

## OPENING HYMN

Come Thou Font of Every Blessing

UMH 400

1. Come, thou Fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet,  
sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,  
mount of thy redeeming love.

2. Here I raise mine Ebenezer;  
hither by thy help I'm come;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wandering from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.

3. O to grace how great a debtor,  
daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let thy goodness, like a fetter,  
bind my wandering heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,  
prone to leave the God I love;  
here's my heart, O take and seal it,  
seal it for thy courts above.



## GREETINGS AND ALOHA

Liturgist: Vaosa Tagaloa

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Pilgrims on the way, when we feel lost and ask for a sign to show us the way out of our confusion,

**People: WE REMEMBER THAT WHEN WE GATHER TO WORSHIP, WE FIND GOD IN OUR MIDST.**

Leader: When we face obstacles and barriers that keep us from the life God has called us to,

**PEOPLE: WE REMEMBER THAT GOD IS ALWAYS AT WORK AMONG US, PROTECTING AND TENDING OUR WELL-BEING.**

1.

Leader: When we cannot find our way out of conflict and discord,

**PEOPLE: WE REMEMBER THAT GOD CALLS AND EQUIPS US FOR THE WORK OF RECONCILIATION.**

Leader: When we struggle to pay attention to how God is at work all around us,

**PEOPLE: WE REMEMBER GOD'S CALL TO SIT, EAT, AND TELL ONE ANOTHER THE STORIES OF GOD'S FAITHFULNESS.**

**ALL: PILGRIMS ON THE WAY, LET US REMEMBER THAT WE, TOO, ARE SIGNS OF GOD'S PRESENCE FOR OTHERS! AMEN.**

## HYMN OF PRAISE

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

UMH 196

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus,  
born to set thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us,  
let us find our rest in thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

2. Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By thine own eternal spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by thine all sufficient merit,  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

## PRAYER TIME

Leader: Lord, in your mercy  
ALL: HEAR OUR PRAYERS

UNISON PRAYER



2.



Gracious God, we come to worship you today, seeking courage and hope for the future. Much of our lives seem chaotic these days, and today, we seek your assurance. Heal these wounds and quiet the confusion that invades our thinking. Help us to be those who bring peace to our families and communities. Banish the darkness of doubt and fear; anoint us with your light and love so that we may spread the good news of your mercy to everyone. In Jesus' name, we pray. 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**

**Psalm 149**

**Liturgist**

Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing God's praise in the assembly of the faithful!

<sup>2</sup>Let Israel celebrate its maker;

let Zion's children rejoice in their king!

<sup>3</sup>Let them praise God's name with dance;

let them sing God's praise with the drum and lyre!

<sup>4</sup>Because the Lord is pleased with his people,  
God will beautify the poor with saving help.

<sup>5</sup>Let the faithful celebrate with glory; let them shout for joy on their beds.

<sup>6</sup>Let the high praises of God be in their mouths and a double-edged sword in their hands,

<sup>7</sup>to get revenge against the nation and punishment on the people,

<sup>8</sup>binding their rulers in chains, and their officials in iron shackles,

<sup>9</sup>achieving the justice written against them. That will be an honor for all God's faithful people.



**SECOND READING**

**Romans 13:8-14**

<sup>8</sup>Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>10</sup>Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. <sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in

debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:**

*THE APOSTLE'S CREED, ECUMENICAL VERSION*

# 880

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,



**GLORIA PATRI**

**UMH 70**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**DOXOLOGY**





**HYMN OF PREPARATION**

**Seek Ye First**

**UMH 405**

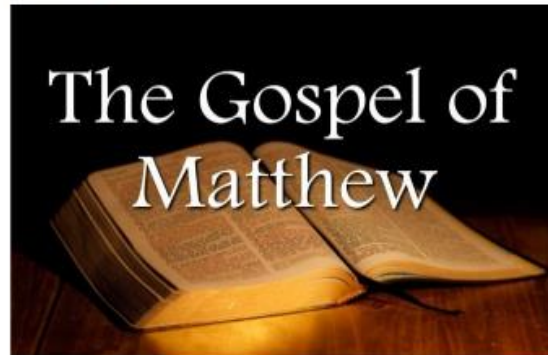
1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia
2. Ask, and it shall be given unto you. Seek and ye shall find. Knock and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, alleluia.



**SERMON SCRIPTURE**

**Matthew 18:15-20**

<sup>15</sup> 'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.' <sup>16</sup> But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses.



<sup>17</sup> If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. <sup>18</sup> Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup> Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

**MESSAGE**

**Where Two or More are Gathered**

**Pastor**

**Closing Hymn**

**Here I am, Lord**

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky. I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin, My hand will save

**5.**

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
 Who will bear my light to them?  
 Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

**Refrain**

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
 I have heard you calling in the night.  
 I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
 I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain. I have borne my people's pain.  
 I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
 I will break their hearts of stone. Give them hearts for love alone.  
 Who will speak my word to them.  
 Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame. I will tend the poor and lame.  
 I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
 Finest bread I will provide. 'Til their hearts be satisfied.  
 I will give my life to them.  
 Whom shall I send? (Refrain)

**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.



**6.**