

Makawao Union Church



Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

October 31, 2021

**Please stand in body or in spirit
Congregational responses are printed in **bold***

The Time of Preparation

Prelude *Lux Aeterna (from Requiem)* Maurice Duruflé

English Translation:

May eternal light shine on them, Lord, with your saints forever, for you are good. Give them eternal rest, Lord, and may light perpetual shine upon them, for you are good.

(performed by Choir of New College, Oxford University; Edward Higginbottom, director)

Welcome, Announcements, and Greetings

*Gathering Song *Surely the Presence of the Lord*

**Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel His mighty power and His grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings,
I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.**

“Surely the Presence,” by Lanny Wolfe, ©1971 Lanny Wolfe Music, CCLI License # 1618251

*Call to Worship

We remember, O God...

**The countless saints of history
who have blazed a trail of courage through time,**

We remember, O God...

**The tender touch of loved ones,
the example of heroes,
the healing words of comforters,
the remarkable acts of fearless ones.**

We remember, O God...

**The gentle strength of grandmothers,
the loyalty of friends,
the kindness of strangers,
the joy of children,
the sacrifice of parents.**

We remember, O God...

**The supreme love of Jesus,
the blessing of his Spirit,
the reminder of his words,
the sharing of his suffering,
the glory of his resurrection:
shown forth in the lives of his disciples,
young and old,
dead and living,
articulate and silent,
strange and familiar,
brilliant and ordinary.**

We remember in every time and place the saints of God
who have shown us the Lord.

*Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...
let us worship God with joy!*

— posted on the [Desperate Preacher's](#) website.

1 For all the saints who from their la - bors rest, who to the
 2 You were their rock, their ref - uge, and their might: you, Christ, the
 3 Still may your peo - ple, faith - ful, true, and bold, live as the
 4 Ringed by this cloud of wit - ness - es di - vine, we fee - bly
 5 And when the strife is fierce, the war - fare long, steals on the

world their stead-fast faith con - fessed, your name, O Je - sus,
 hope that put their fears to flight; 'mid gloom and doubt, you
 saints who no - bly fought of old, and share with them a
 strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet in your love our
 ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, then hearts are brave a -

be for - ev - er blessed,
 were their one true light,
 glo - rious crown of gold. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
 faith - ful lives en - twine,
 gain, and faith grows strong.

Gathering Prayer

May God be with you.
And also with you....

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.

We Hear the Good News

Anthem

A Singer's Prayer

Robert J. Powell

When my soul has left this body,
And my sins then stand forgiven.
In the glory of God's presence,
Let me learn the songs of heaven.
Songs of peace and of creation,
Songs of joy shine on each face,
Songs of unsequestered color,
Songs of everlasting grace.

Songs of sacred understanding,
Shimmer in God's holy light.
Songs of loves compelling beauty,
Lustrous glory, God's delight.
Let mine rise with all the voices,
Every tongue God's mystery tell,
Echoes back the love between us,
Heaven where my true heart dwells.

(Text by Beverly Easterling)

Scripture

Ruth 1:1-18 (NRSV)

Judy Anderson

1 In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. ²The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. ³But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. ⁴These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, ⁵both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband. ⁶Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the LORD had considered his people and given them food. ⁷So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. ⁸But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go back each of you to your mother’s house. May the LORD deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. ⁹The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband.” Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. ¹⁰They said to her, “No, we will return with you to your people.” ¹¹But Naomi said, “Turn back, my daughters, why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? ¹²Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, ¹³would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me.” ¹⁴Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law, but Ruth clung to her. ¹⁵So she said, “See, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” ¹⁶But Ruth said, “Do not press me to leave you or to turn back from following you! Where you go, I will go; where you lodge, I will lodge; your people shall be my people, and your God my God. ¹⁷Where you die, I will die— there will I be buried. May the LORD do thus and so to me, and more as well, if even death parts me from you!” ¹⁸When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

Hebrews 12:1-2 (NRSV)

Jay Slaughter

12 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, ²looking to Jesus the

pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Mark 12:28-34 (NRSV)

Jay Slaughter

²⁸ One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” ²⁹ Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one;’ ³⁰ you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ ³¹ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” ³² Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; ³³ and ‘to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,’ and ‘to love one’s neighbor as oneself,’—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” ³⁴ When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

Sermon

The Rev. Heather Mueller

“God, help me to be one too”

We Respond with Thanksgiving

Prayers of the People

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

* Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

We give you thanks, eternal God, for those who have run the race of faith before us and now surround us like a cloud of witnesses. We thank you for those who pass the word of your love to each new generation. We thank you for martyrs and saints who give themselves in love for you and in the pursuit of peace and justice on earth. We give you thanks, infinite God, for the church around the world. May your people, wherever they are, be one. With faithful people of all ages, may we be Christ’s body on earth, for it is in the name of Christ Jesus that we pray. Amen

*Hymn *Give Thanks for Life* #297 (The New Century Hymnal)

(See Pages 9-10)

We Go Forth

Benediction

*The Queen's Prayer Queen Lili'uokalani # 580

*'O kou aloha nō, Aia i ka lani
A 'o kou 'oiā i'ō, He hemolele ho'i. 'Āmene.*

English translation:

Your loving mercy is as high as heaven and your truth so perfect.

Postlude *Fanfare on "Sine Nomine"*
(performed by John West)

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ◆ **Please continue supporting MUC with your time, talents and treasures.**

To make a donation please visit our website at www.makawaounionchurch.org and look for the **Donate** button at the bottom of the screen or you can send your donations via US Postal service to our mailing address:

Makawao Union Church
PO Box 790071
Paia, HI 96779

- ◆ **Congregational Meeting** please remain in the Sanctuary after worship today. Don't forget to sign in at the table in the entrance.
- ◆ **Secondhand Heaven** is open Saturdays from 9AM to 2PM. Looking to change up your jewelry and accessories? Come see all they have to offer in the clothing room and the check-out desk. See you Saturdays! Stay tuned for news of opening up on Wednesdays.
- ◆ **Halloween** is tonight – we hope everyone has a safe and fun night. May you find more treats than tricks!



Mahalo to the following for their talents and service:

- To The Rev. Heather Mueller** for being our supply Pastor.
- To Martha-Lee Bohn** for organizing and contributing to today's service.
- To Molly Schad** for being our Guest Musician today.
- To the Deacons** for serving as our Ushers today.
- To the Deacons** for providing the Altar flowers.
- To Judy Anderson and Jay Slaughter** for being our reader today.
- To Judy Anderson, Chris Kepler, Kiele Kepler, John Rowehl, and Jay Slaughter** for our music today.
- To Chris Kepler** for being our Tech host today.

Upcoming Events:

- Nov 5 6:30PM Alcoholics Anonymous, Sanctuary
- Nov 6 9AM Secondhand Heaven, Community Hall
- Nov 7 10:30AM Worship – In-Person or Zoom

1 Thess. 5:18; Rom. 16:1-16; Eph. 1:15-16

Shirley Erena Murray, 1986

1 Give thanks for life, the mea- sure of our days,
 2 Give thanks for those who made their life a light
 3 And for our own, our liv - ing and our dead,
 4 Give thanks for hope, that like the wheat, the grain

mor - tal, we pass through beau - ty that de - cays,
 caught from the Christ-flame, burst - ing through the night,
 thanks for the love by which our life is fed,
 that lies in dark - ness does its life re - tain

Yet sing to God our hope, our love, our praise,
 Who touched the truth, who burned for what was right,
 A love not changed by time or death or dread,
 In res - ur - rec - tion to grow green a - gain,

The image shows a musical score for the hymn "Alleluia". It consists of two systems. The top system is for the vocal line, written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 2/4 time signature. The melody begins with a quarter rest, followed by notes G4, A4, B4, A4, G4, F#4, E4, D4. The lyrics "Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! ia!" are written below the notes. Above the staff are guitar chords: G/D, D/E, Em7, C/DD, C/G, D, C/G, D, G. The bottom system is for piano accompaniment, with a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The right hand plays chords in the treble clef, and the left hand plays a simple bass line in the bass clef. The score includes first and second endings, indicated by brackets and repeat signs.

Ministers: **The Whole Congregation**
Church Administrator: Shanna Robidoux
Music Director: John Rowehl
Church Office Hours: Mon – Fr: 9 am to 4 pm
Phone: (808) 579-9261
Email: makawaunion@gmail.com
Web page: www.makawaunionchurch.org
P. O. Box 790071 Paia, HI 96779



*Bill Eckhoff
Claire Schopen
Clara Shelton
Dottee Barron
Harriet (H) Collopy
Janet VanOrman
Joe Schopen
Linda Compian
Pastor Rascal
Peter Baldwin
William Guy Fisher*