

# **ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR AUGUST 2nd, 2020**

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Our worship service can be found at:

<https://www.fupchurch.org/> or  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCA1yVuDdFJrhYsmJ0TyI8UA/videos>

## **PRELUDE**

Michael Springer

## **LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

## **WORDS OF WELCOME**

Rev. Christopher Czarnecki

Aloha. For those of you who do not know me, my name is Pastor Chris. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, I want to welcome you to First United Protestant Church of Hilo. I am so glad you have decided to join us for worship today. Today's worship service centers around ideas of how we can wrestle with the situations and circumstances of our lives at times, determined to hold onto them, until we see a blessing or good thing come from them. Let us begin today with our call to worship.

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

I am divine being. Who I am is not a determination of my past, but the choices I make about my future.

**All: I am a blessing.**

Others around me also have a spark of the divine within them. It is our desire to see their Christ Nature.

**All: You are a blessing.**

Everyone has the potential to be tuned in, tapped in, and turned on to the Christ Self that can transform lives and change the world.

**All: We are a blessing.**

## **PEACE READING**

Joanne Pocsidio

Our peace reading for today comes from Og Mandino, who is the best-selling author of the book *The Greatest Salesman in the World*. Og says...

"Count your blessings. Once you realize how valuable you are and how much you have going for you, the smiles will return, the sun will break out, the music will play, and you will finally be able to move toward the life that God intended for you with grace, strength, courage, and confidence."

## SCRIPTURE READING

Joanne Pocsidio

Our Scripture reading for today comes from the Book of Genesis 32:22-31 (NLT), where Jacob wrestles with God...

<sup>22</sup> The same night he arose and took his two wives, his two female servants, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. <sup>23</sup> He took them and sent them across the stream, and everything else that he had. <sup>24</sup> And Jacob was left alone. And a man wrestled with him until the breaking of the day. <sup>25</sup> When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he touched his hip socket, and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. <sup>26</sup> Then he said, "Let me go, for the day has broken." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go unless you bless me." <sup>27</sup> And he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." <sup>28</sup> Then he said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with men, and have prevailed." <sup>29</sup> Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. <sup>30</sup> So Jacob called the name of the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life has been delivered." <sup>31</sup> The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip. <sup>32</sup> Therefore to this day the people of Israel do not eat the sinew of the thigh that is on the hip socket, because he touched the socket of Jacob's hip on the sinew of the thigh.

**Liturgist:** The grass withers and the flower fades, but the Word of God shall stand forever.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

*"Wrestling with God for a Blessing"*

Rev. Christopher Czarnecki

## GIFT OF MUSIC

*"Blessings" by Laura Story*

Solo by Joanne Pocsidio

## TIME OF PRAYER

Prayers of the People

Moment of Silence

Prayer of the Day

**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.**

### **OFFERTORY**

Now is our time of offering. If you have been spiritually nourished by today's worship service, I want to encourage you to prayerfully consider supporting the work and ministry of the church through a tithe or donation. You can now donate through our Facebook page, through our PayPal site, or by simply writing a check to the church. Let us join together in our prayer of dedication.

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**All: God, who is the source of all that is, we dedicate these gifts to you. We each have given out of our sense of prosperity, and the inner knowing that there is more where these gifts have come from. We now turn them over to you to be broken down, passed out, and freely given for the purposes of truth, life, and love. See to it God, that they are blessings. Amen.**

### **HOLY COMMUNION**

(You can use cookies and milk, crackers and tea, or bread and juice as Communion elements. The most important part is that you are sharing in Christ's meal.)

### **Invitation**

**Pastor:** God is the great provider and source of all that is. From earth's bounty we receive this bread, worked by human hands, and brought to us to be offered as our spiritual food; and this wine, made by human labor has been brought to this Table as our spiritual drink. All of this is God's doing, and not just for us, but for all the world. Christ invites us to receive these blessings with thanks and hope. Let us come, from wherever we might be, to share in Christ's table as one.

**All: Let us no longer wrestle with what is keeping us from the blessings of Christ. We lay it down and come to Christ's table knowing we are loved, without conditions, without restrictions.**

Words of Institution  
Sharing the Elements

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**All: Eternal God and maker, we give thanks for the unending love and healing presence that is celebrated in bread and cup we have shared in together. Bless this body of Christ, a body that stretches far and wide, so that we may attend faithfully to our call of following in the footsteps of Christ, with each other and throughout the world. Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

Rev. Christopher Czarnecki

### **POSTLUDE**

Michael Springer

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- If you need to reach Pastor Chris during this time you can email him at [revchrisfupc@gmail.com](mailto:revchrisfupc@gmail.com) or contact him by cell at (314)402-8167. He will return messages according to their urgency at the earliest possible time.  
**His days off have transitions to Saturday and Sundays for now.**  
Please reserve any phone calls on these days to matters that are urgent. Non-urgent matters may be sent by email.
- Due to the risks of contracting Covid-19 and the complexities in providing a safe space for people to gather, our public worship services will continue to be suspended until at least October of 2020. The church council has released a phased reopening plan but is working on detailed procedures to meet mandates and guidelines for reopening that have been outlined for places of worship. To execute a possible reopening in October we will need dedicated volunteers to help each Sunday with receiving people as they come to church and cleaning the church after worship has occurred. If you would like to volunteer please contact Pastor Chris at [revchrisfupc@gmail.com](mailto:revchrisfupc@gmail.com) or (808)935-5914.
- If you would like a hard copy of the Pastor Chris's sermon mailed to you, please contact Pastor Chris or the church office.

- On Wednesdays we now offer a “Prayer Hour on Zoom”. We gather each Wednesday at 12:00pm to share joys, struggles, or prayer requests. You can connect with us by clicking on the link below or entering the meeting ID in your Zoom app. Join the Zoom Meeting by clicking: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9035769985> or enter meeting ID: 903 576 9985.