



Puka'ana Congregational Church

830 AM WORSHIP | NOVEMBER 30, 2025 | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Welcome to Church

WE'RE SO GLAD YOU ARE HERE



Aloha mai kākou! Welcome to Puka'ana Congregational Church. *Puka'ana* means *Exodus*. Our name reminds us that we are always on the move, journeying with our loving and liberating God who guides us through the wilderness and wonder of life. As a people of all generations, we embrace the beauty and struggle of being human, trusting that God meets us not in perfection but in our honest striving.

Whether you have been part of this 'ohana for generations, are returning after time away, or are visiting for the very first time, know that you are a cherished part of this gathering. We are a worshipping community rooted in the living Word of God and in the teachings of Jesus Christ, grounded in our Hawaiian heritage, shaped by the Spirit's movement, and committed to a faith that is both reverent and progressive. Here, we honor our history, celebrate God's presence in our midst, and lean into the hope of God's promises for the future.



No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. Our doors, our hearts, and our table are open wide. In this place you will find a community of faith that seeks justice, practices compassion, sings with joy, and strives to follow Jesus with courage and grace. We are so glad you are here—come, share in the blessing, and know that this 'ohana is incomplete without you.

Kahu Keoki Kiwaha
Senior Pastor

Vicky Dinson
Senior Deacon

Our Community Gathers

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

KA WELINA

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

KE KĀHEA I KA HAIPULE

- Kiakona* Beloved ohana, come. Even in the shadow of loss, hope still rises.
- Anaina* **We come as the dawn comes—quietly, faithfully, expecting God’s light.**
- Kiakona* The flames that destroyed cannot consume the Spirit that sustains.
- Anaina* **For the Spirit of God moves like the wind over the sea, restoring, renewing, breathing life again.**
- Kiakona* Let us gather in prayer, in song, and in solidarity—trusting that hope is stronger than despair, and aloha is deeper than ashes.
- Kākou* **We come to worship the God who brings beauty from brokenness and light from every darkness. E ala e! Rise, O Hope! E ala e!**

THE ADVENT WREATH

KA LEI O KA HIKINA

- Kahu Kivaha* Today we light the first candle of Advent, the candle of mana‘olana—hope. This wreath reminds us of God’s endless love, a circle without beginning or end. As we light this flame, we remember that hope is not just a wish, but a holy stubbornness that trusts God’s promises even in the dark. Like the dawn rising over the ocean, Christ’s light breaks through and calls us to believe again.
- Anaina* **We give thanks for the light of Christ that shines in our hearts and in our world. May this flame remind us to live with hope, peace, joy, and aloha.**
- Alaka’i* The prophet Isaiah calls to us from the past to imagine the future when God’s reign will be fully realized and recognized throughout creation. When that time comes, God “shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more.”
- Anaina* **Today, we choose to live in hope, believing that the time of God’s reign has come and is coming among us.**

Alaka'i

We light this candle of hope as a sign of our promise to follow the Light as we answer God's call to transform our hope into reality today and in the days to come.

+THE HYMN OF PRAISE

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

W&R #153

+THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

KA PULE O KA LĀ

Kabu Kivaha The Lord be with you.

Anaina **And also with you.**

Kabu Kivaha God of light and promise, you call us to journey toward your mountain, where peace and justice meet. In this season of waiting, teach us to walk in your ways—to turn our weapons into tools of care, our fears into faith, and our waiting into witness. Awaken in us a hopeful heart, that we may see your coming not as distant, but as already stirring among us through Christ, the Light of the world.

Kākou **Amen.**

To Proclaim the Word of God————

KA 'EUANELIO HEMOLELE

I KĀKAU 'IA AI E SANETA MATAIO 24:36-44

‘A‘ole i ‘ike kekahi kanaka ia lā a me ia hora, ‘a‘ole ho‘i nā ‘ānela o ka lani; ‘o ko‘u Makua wale nō. Me nā lā o Noa, pēlā ho‘i ka hiki ‘ana mai o ke Keiki a ke kanaka. No ka mea, i nā lā ma mua o ke kai a Kahinali‘i, ‘ai lākou a inu ho‘i, mare lākou a ho‘opalau no ka mare ‘ana, a hiki i ka lā i komo ai ‘o Noa i loko o ka hale lana; ‘A‘ole lākou i ‘ike, a hiki mai ke kai a Kahinali‘i, a pau loa a‘ela lākou i ka make: pēlā nō ho‘i ka hiki ‘ana mai o ke Keiki a ke kanaka. A laila, ‘elua kānaka ma ka waena, e lawe ‘ia kekahi, a e koe nō kekahi. ‘Elua wāhine e wili palaoa ana, a lawe ‘ia kekahi, a e koe nō kekahi. No laila, e kia‘i ‘oukou; no ka mea, ‘a‘ole ‘oukou ‘ike i ka hora e hiki mai ai ko ‘oukou Haku. Ua ‘ike ‘oukou i kēia, inā paha i ‘ike ka mea hale i ka wati e hiki mai ai ka ‘aihue, inā ua kia‘i ia, i wāwahi ‘ole ‘ia ai kona hale. Pēlā ho‘i ‘oukou e noho ai me ka mākaukau; no ka mea, i ka hora e mana‘o ‘ole ‘ia ai e ‘oukou, e hiki mai nō ke Keiki a ke kanaka.

Po‘e Helubelu Ka ‘Euanelio o ka Haku.

Anaina **E ho‘onani iā ‘Oe, e Kristo ke Ali‘i.**

THE HOLY GOSPEL

ACCORDING TO SAINT MATTHEW 24:36-44

“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in the days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so, too, will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken, and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken, and one will be left. Keep awake, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.

Po'e Helubelu The Gospel of the Lord.

Anaina Glory to you, Lord Christ.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

KA PULE O KA MĀLAMALAMA

Kahu Kiwaha Speak to us, O God, in our waiting, watching, hoping, and rejoicing. By your holy Word, walk with us through these Advent days until the day of your coming. **Amen.**

THE SERMON

KAHU KEOKI KIWAHA

THE APOSTLES' CREED

KE KUMU MANA'O'I'O O NĀ LUNA'ŌLELO

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.**

PRAISE MEDITATION

Here I Am To Worship

TIM HUGHES

Verse I Light of the world,
You stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes, let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.

Chorus So, here I am to worship,
Here I am to bow down
Here I am to say that You're my God!
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy,
Altogether wonderful to me!

Verse II King of all days,
Oh so highly exalted,
Glorious in Heaven above,
Humbly You came to the earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor. *Chorus*

Bridge I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross! (x2) *Chorus*

To Pray for One Another ---

THE PRAYER BOOK

KA PUKE MAU PULE

It has been the custom of this church for generations for the People to offer prayer requests at this time in our worship service – which are then recorded into our Prayer Book. All are welcome to make prayer requests here or have them added to the Prayer Book after service.

THE PRAYER HYMN

Ke Aloha A Ke Akua

NH #186

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

NA PULE A KA LEHULEHU

THE LORD'S PRAYER

KA PULE A KA HAKU

E ko mākou Makua i loko o ka lani, e ho‘āno ‘ia kou inoa. E hiki mai Kou aupuni; e mālama ‘ia Kou makemake ma ka honua nei e like me ‘ia i mālama ‘ia ma ka lani lā. E hā‘awi mai iā mākou i kēia lā i ‘ai na mākou no nēia lā. E kala mai ho‘i iā mākou i kā mākou lawehala‘ana, me mākou e kala nei i ka po‘e i lawehala i kā mākou. Mai ho‘oku‘u ‘oe iā mākou i ka ho‘owalewale ‘ia mai. Akā, e ho‘opakele nō na‘e iā mākou i ka ‘ino. No ka mea, Nou ke aupuni, a me ka mana, a me ka ho‘onani ‘ia a mau loa aku. ‘Āmene.

THE RESPONSE

WHISPER A PRAYER

E pu-le i ke ka-ka-hi-a-ka, e pu-le i ke ‘a-wa-ke-a,
E pu-le i ke a-hi-a-hi, no ko-na ho‘o-mai-ka‘i
God answers prayers in the morning, God answers prayers at noon
God answers prayers in the evening, so keep you heart in tune

To Respond with Generosity

We give our lūlū in generous and faithful response to the love, promise, and generosity of God. You are welcome to place your gifts in the offering bowl at the entrance or at the altar. If you prefer to electronically, you may visit us at pukaanchurch.org/giving, or scan the QR Code which will take you to our giving form.



THE OFFERING INVITATION

KE KAHEA I KA LŪLŪ

Kiakona Beloved, the first gift of Advent is hope. Today we give not out of surplus but out of solidarity. Let this “Hope for Helani” offering be a testimony that when one part of the Body suffers, all join in healing—because aloha rebuilds what fire cannot destroy.

+THE DOXOLOGY *Ho‘onani I Ka Makua Mau*

OLD HUNDREDTH

Ho‘onani i ka Makua mau, ke Keiki me ka ‘Uhane nō,
Ke Akua mau ho‘omaika‘i pū; kō kēia ao, kō kēlā ao. ‘Āmene.

+THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

KA PULE LŪLŪ

Kahu Kivaha Gracious God, bless these offerings we bring today—our gifts, our prayers, our shared aloha. Use them to rebuild walls and hearts alike, so that through our giving, hope will take root and rise again in Helani and beyond. In Christ’s name we pray. ‘Āmene.

+THE RESPONSE

THANK YOU LORD

E Ke Akua, ho‘opākele ‘Oe ia‘u; ‘O ‘Oe ka Ho‘ola o ke ao nei,
E Ke Akua aloha e, no Kou ola nui, mahalo nō.

Thank you Lord for saving my soul, thank you Lord for making me whole
Thank you Lord for giving to me Thy great salvation so rich and free.

To Break Bread at Christ’s Table——

THE CALL TO THE TABLE

KE KAHEA I KA ‘AHA‘AINA

Kahu Kivaha We welcome all to the table as the Lord welcomes us. For this is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. This is a table we did not set, but to which we are invited to sit. This is a meal we did not prepare, but to which we are invited to eat and to share. It is Christ’s desire that we meet him here, to be in community with him and one another, to break bread, and to share the cup of salvation.

THE HYMN

EMMANUEL

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, His name is called Emmanuel.

CONFESSION & RECONCILIATION

KA HANA PENIKENIA

Kahu Kivaha In this season of watching and waiting, Advent invites us to prepare room in our lives for the coming of Christ. Yet we confess how easily we become distracted, discouraged, or closed off to the hope God places before us. Trusting in God’s mercy that meets us as we are and leads us toward new

life, let us turn our hearts again toward grace. Come, let us offer our confessions unto God in silence.

The altar bell is rung slowly to mark the time as we pray silently.

Let us pray as one.

Kakou God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways; to the glory of your name. Amen.

Kahu Kiwaha Beloved, hear the good news: *in the name of + Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven.* God meets us with compassion, forgives us with steadfast love, and restores us with grace that is new each morning. In Christ, we are set free from what has weighed us down and empowered to walk in hope, peace, joy, and love. Thanks be to God. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

KA HO'OMAIKA'I NUI

Kahu Kiwaha God be with you.

Anaina And also with you.

Kahu Kiwaha Lift up your hearts.

Anaina We lift them up to God.

Kahu Kiwaha Let us give thanks to God Most High.

Anaina It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Kahu Kiwaha It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Creator of light and life, who stirs us from our slumber and calls us to awaken to your presence among us.

From the first dawn of creation to this Advent morning, you have been at work in the world—turning darkness into dawn, despair into hope, endings into new beginnings. Even when we have grown weary or complacent, you have whispered to us, “Now is the time to wake from sleep.” You clothe us not in fear, but in the light of Christ.

So, with all creation, with saints and angels, and with those who wait and watch for your kingdom to come, we join in the unending hymn:

THE SANCTUS

+GRAYSON W. BROWN

Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts.

Hea-ven and earth are filled with your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the

high - est. Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,

of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the

high - - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

NA 'ŌLELO HO'OKUMU

Kahu Kivaha Holy are you, O God of promise and fulfillment, and blessed is Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. In him, you showed us how to live awake—to see the hungry and feed them, to see the broken and bind their wounds, to see the forgotten and call them by name. He came among us not to confirm the world as it is, but to show us how it shall be. He came to awaken holy stubbornness within us—a faith that will not give up on peace, a love that will not let go, a hope that will not die. In his living, he taught us to walk in your light. In his dying, he revealed the depth of your love. In his rising, he promised that the night will never have the last word.

We remember that when the disciples were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to his friends, and said, “Take and eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink this, all of you. This is the cup of the new covenant, poured out for you and for all, for the forgiveness of sin. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

And so, remembering his patience, his sacrifice, and his steadfast love, we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Kākou

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

THE CONSECRATION OF THE ELEMENTS

KA PULE HO’OLA’A

Kahu Kivaha Pour out Your Spirit upon these gifts of bread and cup, and upon all who gather at this table. Make them for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be strengthened in faith, sustained in hope, and renewed in love. By Your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world—until every child is safe, every neighbor is welcomed, every heart knows peace, and all creation sings of Your glory.

Kākou

Amen.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

KE KOMO I KA ‘AHA’AINA

Kahu Kivaha Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

***Kākou* Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof; but just say the word and my soul shall be healed.**

Kahu Kivaha Nā makana o Ke Akua, na ka po‘e o Ke Akua. The gifts of God for all God’s people. Take them in remembrance that Christ died and was raised for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith and be thankful.

The bread and juice (called “elements”) are now distributed to the People by the servers. In the custom of this church, please hold onto your elements until all have been served so that we may partake of the elements together.

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

KA PULE MAHOPE O KA 'AHA'AINA

Gracious God, we thank you for meeting us at this table and renewing our hope. Strengthen us now to walk in your light with holy stubbornness, refusing to accept the world as it is and daring to live as though your kingdom is already near. Keep us steadfast in faith, persistent in peace, and alive with hope through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

To Go Forth and Serve

+THE HYMN OF SENDING

E Nā Kia'i, E Ha'i Mai

NH #33

+THE BENEDICTION

KA PULE HO'OKU'U

Kahu Kivaha Go forth in holy stubbornness—awake, hopeful, and unafraid. Hold fast to God's promise and walk in the light of Christ, for the night is far gone, and the dawn is already breaking. **Amen.**

+THE RESPONSE

GOD BE WITH YOU

God be with you till we meet again, by His counsel's guide uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet at Jesus' feet,
Till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet again.

Our Calendar

NOVEMBER 2025

30	First Sunday of Advent	Kahu Keoki Kiwaha
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DECEMBER 2025

06	Blue Christmas Service 5:30 PM	Kahu Keoki Kiwaha
07	Second Sunday of Advent	Kahu Keoki Kiwaha
14	Third Sunday of Advent	The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Roach
21	Fourth Sunday of Advent	Kahu Keoki Kiwaha
24	Christmas Eve Service: 5:30 PM	Kahu Keoki Kiwaha
25	CHRISTMAS DAY	
28	First Sunday after Christmas	Kahu Keoki Kiwaha

JANUARY 2026

04	Second Sunday after Christmas	Kahu Keoki Kiwaha
06-09	Pū'ā Foundation 30th Anniversary Gala Mana Gathering at 'Aulani: A Disney Resort	
11	First Sunday after the Epiphany Common Council Meeting	Kahu Keoki Kiwaha
17	Kaleohano-Wentworth Reunion Meeting: 9:30AM	
18	Second Sunday after the Epiphany	Kahu Keoki Kiwaha
21	SCHCC Executive Zoom Meeting: 7PM	
24	SCHCC Board of Directors Meeting: 9AM	
25	Third Sunday after the Epiphany	Kahu Keoki Kiwaha
26	HIAUCC Executive Zoom Meeting: 7PM	

Who We Are —————

A PEOPLE OF EXTRAVAGANT WELCOME —————

This is God's house of prayer, refuge, and belonging for all people. We believe that no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. We acknowledge that there are too many exclusive spaces in this world – including some churches. We are not one of them. All are invited and all are welcome, to experience the love and presence of God and community just as they are.

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST —————

Our heritage is rooted in the faith of Henry 'Ōpūkaha'ia who inspired the Congregationalist missionaries to bring Christianity to Hawaii in 1820. Today, we are the **United Church of Christ**. Our mission is to follow Jesus by loving God and neighbor, working for justice, and building a peaceful, inclusive world. Our theology centers on God's love and grace, revealed through Jesus Christ. The UCC values both the Bible and human reason, encouraging people to explore faith with openness and honesty. We believe in a Still Speaking God, meaning God continues to guide us today through the Holy Spirit, community, and conscience.

A PEOPLE WITH A MISSION —————

Sent forth by the Spirit, we follow Jesus into the world – loving God and neighbor through our **service**, our **witness**, and our **faithful stewardship of creation**.

A PEOPLE WITH A VISION —————

We envision Puka'ana Congregational Church to be a house of prayer, refuge, and belonging for all people where lives are transformed by the gospel, disciples of Jesus are nurtured and equipped, all are drawn into loving, faithful relationship with God through Christ and compassionate action in the world; and, rooted in our kuleana to malama aina, our commitment to the faithful stewardship of the land, waters, and historic spaces entrusted to our care is lived out as an expression of our love for God, creation, and future generations.

A PEOPLE WHO ALOHA 'ĀINA —————

We are in the ahupua'a of Keālia, in the moku of Kona, on the mokupuni of Hawai'i, in the pae'āina of Papahānaumokuākea. Hawai'i is an indigenous space whose original people are Kānaka 'Ōiwi. We recognize that generations of Hawaiian ancestral knowledge and lifeways have shaped and continue to care for this 'āina so that we can enjoy the gifts of this special place. We affirm our commitment to just and faithful stewardship of this 'āina upon which we continue to live out our faith in worship, fellowship, and service. We join in the work towards authentic reconciliation and healing.

What to Expect at Worship

WORSHIP LIFE AT PUKAANA

Our worship life is expressed in our Sunday Services, in services commemorating “holy” days sacred to the story of Christianity and to the Hawaiian congregational churches, and in services celebrated together with the wider UCC family. We follow a liturgical pattern – calls to worship, invoking prayers, readings, sermons, reciting the creeds, prayers of the people, tithes and offerings, holy communion, and, of course, the singing of hymns and praise songs.

WEEKLY COMMUNION

We celebrate Communion weekly in our church. Communion serves as a tangible reminder of the redemption, reconciliation, and restoration available to us all through Jesus Christ. We are moved by Christ’s leading to break bread together and share the cup “as often” as possible – creating as many opportunities to invite and welcome all to come to the table just as they are. We invite all with extravagant welcome to join us at Christ’s table.

LANGUAGES

As a historic, Hawaiian, congregational church, our services are conducted in both English and ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i. Our church welcomes people of all languages and dialects to share in our services in ways they are comfortable.

MUSIC STYLE

Our congregation loves to sing. We sing hymns that have been passed through the generations in English and ‘Ōlelo Hawai‘i. We also enjoy singing contemporary praise and worship songs and other appropriate secular songs.

BIBLE TRANSLATIONS

Bible translations are a matter of personal preference. Whatever translation, or version, speaks to your heart and to your life is welcome. In our Worship Aid, the readings are provided in Ka Baibala Hemolele and the New Revised Standard Version.

WHAT TO WEAR TO CHURCH

When you come to Puka‘ana you will see a mixture of clothing styles. Some are more formal, but most dress casually especially on those warm summer days. You are welcome here no matter what you wear, so wear whatever you feel comfortable in!

If this is your first time to our church, you will be greeted warmly by our folks. If you have any questions, concerns, or need help, you are welcome to ask us at any time.



Puka'ana Congregational Church

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