Prayer for Maui
A prayer service of the Hawai‘i Conference United Church of Christ
August 20, 2023, 4:00 p.m. Hawai‘i time via Zoom & YouTube

Gathering and Introduction
Rev. Dr. David Popham

Kani Ka Pū A Me Ka ‘Ohe
Kalanikahua Hou Church, Maui
Blowing of the conch shell and bamboo to signal the start of the service.

“Ke Aloha O Ka Haku”
(Singers from our sister churches in East Hawai‘i
(The Queen’s Prayer)

Scripture of Lament: Psalm 137:1-6*
Rev. Scott Landis

* Adapted by Associate Conference Minister Jonathan Roach, PhD.
By the waves we sat and wept when we remembered Maui.
On the ‘ōhi‘a lehua we hung our harps, for there in our heartbreak, they asked us for songs,
our tormentors demanded songs of joy; they said, “Sing us one of the songs of Maui!”

How can we sing the songs of the Lord while our ‘āina is burning?
If I forget you, Lāhainā, may my right hand forget its skill.
May my tongue cling to the roof of my mouth if I do not remember my kuleana to Kula and every point mauka to makai,
if I do not consider Maui my highest joy.

Prayer of Lament
Rev. Kealahou Alika

Scripture of Trust: Psalm 121:1-5
Kahu Wendell Davis
I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come?
My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. God will not let your foot be moved; The One who keeps you will not slumber. The One who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

Song of Assurance: Be Now My Vision
Sung by Kristen Young

Scripture of God’s Presence: John 11:17-35
Rev. Robb Y. Kojima
When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, “The Teacher is here and is calling for you.” And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him. Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him. The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there. When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.” When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, “Where have you laid him?” They said to him, “Lord, come and see.” Jesus began to weep.
Acknowledging the Lives Lost
*A bell is rung for each of the known but not yet named fatalities.*

**Prayer of Sorrow**

*Scripture of God’s Redemptive Activity:*  
**Hebrews 4:14-16**  
Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**Prayer of Help**

*Scripture of Confidence in God: Psalm 23*  
The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
God makes me lie down in green pastures;  
and leads me beside still waters;  
God restores my soul.  
God leads me in right paths  
for God own’s name’s sake.  

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil,  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.  

You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
my whole life long.
Comfort, O comfort my people,
says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her
that she has served her term,
that her penalty is paid,
that she has received from the Lord’s hand
double for all her sins.

Get you up to a high mountain,
O Zion, herald of good news;
lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;
lift it up, do not fear;
say to the cities of Judah,
“Here is your God!”
See, the Lord God comes with might,
and God’s arm rules;
God’s reward is with them
and God’s recompense before them.
God will feed the flock like a shepherd;
God will gather the lambs in God’s arms
and carry them in God’s bosom
and gently lead the mother sheep.

Prayer of Hope

Song of Community: Hawai‘i Aloha

Benediction