

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO BROADWAY



WICKED

GRACE, FRIENDSHIP,
AND THE COST OF
DISCIPLESHIP

CENTRAL UNION CHURCH

May 3, 2026 † 11 AM Service

THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

COMMUNION SUNDAY

Parish Hall

Welcome to Central Union Church, where we believe that God dwells in you and in each person here today. When we see you, we see God's image, and we are honored and dignified by your presence. Thank you for coming.

“We Engage and Embrace ALL as we seek to Embody Christ!”

THE COMMUNITY GATHERS...

From many places we gather here. This is a high point of our week. We see our friends. We make new friends. And we spend time with the loving Christ who meets us where we are, as we are. In this Sanctuary we worship and through worship the courage within us is kindled to inspire courageous living beyond this place.

Gathering Music

Worship Team

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Rushan Sinnaduray

* Sharing Aloha

Call to Worship *(responsively)*

Tom Kiyabu

One: God does not see as the world sees.

Many: The world looks at appearances, but God looks at the heart.

One: God calls us beyond easy labels of good and wicked, friend and foe.

Many: God calls us to see one another with mercy.

One: Jesus invites us to love without limits.

Many: To love even when it is hard. To stand for what is right. To choose grace over fear.

One: Come, people of God who are seen, known, and loved by God.

Many: Let us worship the One who looks at the heart and teaches us how to love.

* Music

Here I Am to Worship

Worship Team

**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

**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.**

**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 *(Repeat x4)*
*(Chorus)***

*** Music**

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Worship Team

Chorus

**Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul, Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul, I'll worship Your holy name.**

**The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes.**

**You're rich in love, and You're slow to anger
Your name is great, and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. *(Chorus)***

**And on that day, when my strength is failing
The end draws near, and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years, and then forevermore.**

Worship Your holy name. Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.

**Sing like never before, O my soul, I'll worship Your holy name.
Worship Your holy name. Worship Your holy name.**

CCLI Song # 6016351

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Time for Keiki & Prayer

TO HEAR GOD'S WORD...

Scripture	1 Samuel 16:7 & Luke 6:27-36	Carol Alevizos
Sermon	WICKED: GRACE, FRIENDSHIP, AND THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP	Pastor Rushan
Music for Reflection	<i>For Good</i>	Worship Team

TO RESPOND IN FAITH....

Prayers for Ourselves and Others Pastor Rushan

The Lord's Prayer *(in unison)*

**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.**

Invitation to the Offering

To give online to support our mission and ministry, scan this QR code with your smartphone's camera OR type bit.ly/give2cuc into your web browser and select "General Fund" from the drop-down menu.



Prayer

Holy Communion

We practice open communion here at Central Union Church, which means that **all** are welcome to gather at Christ's table and to share in this meal – a symbol of our connectedness to each other, to all of creation, and to God. In addition to regular bread, there will also be a gluten-free option available – please indicate to those serving if you require gluten-free bread.

Communion Song

Worship Team

Prayer of Thanksgiving *(in unison)*

We give thanks that we have gathered together in this sacred place, and been refreshed at this table. We rejoice in the giftedness of each person here. We are grateful for who we are for each other. May we go forth into the world in courage and peace to share the unfailing love that we have experienced in this meal. Amen.

AND GO FORTH IN LOVE.

*God's love cannot be contained within the walls of this Sanctuary.
Take the love of Christ from this place into your homes, neighborhoods, and communities.*

* Music

Hawai'i Aloha

Worship Team

'E Hawai'i e ku'u one hānau e,
ku'u home kula iwi nei,
'Oli no au i nā pono lani ou,
'E Hawai'i, aloha e.

Hui:

'E hau 'oli e na 'opio o Hawai'i nei,
'Oli e! 'Oli e!
Mai nā ahe ahe makani e pā mai nei.
Mau ke aloha, no Hawai'i. *(hana hou - repeat)*

Martin Smith © 1994 Curious? Music UK (Admin. by Integrity Music)

* Closing Prayer *(in unison)*

Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen. *(Adapted from Ephesians 3:20-21)*

* Benediction

Pastor Rushan

* Congregational Response

Worship Team

Then let us go to serve in peace, the Gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus' name.

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Our WORSHIP is ended...our SERVICE now begins.

*Please rise in body and/or spirit.

*Today's flowers have been lovingly arranged by **Dona Hanaike**, with assistance from **Gabi Bedlion**, and have been provided by **Joe & Barb Elm** and **'Ohana**, in loving memory of Joe's mother, **Willida Elm**, who was a Sokakyo-level ikebana master. Willida, who would have been 102 today, May 3rd, passed away at 98 in 2022.*

TODAY IS PACIFIC ISLANDER AND ASIAN AMERICAN MINISTRIES SUNDAY



PAAM (Pacific Islander and Asian American Ministries) **Sunday** is observed in the United Church of Christ (UCC) on the **first Sunday in May** to recognize and celebrate the gifts and contributions of Pacific Islanders and Asian Americans in the life of the UCC. PAAM is part of the UCC's Council for Racial and Ethnic Ministries (COREM) which advocates for the racial and ethnic concerns within the United Church of Christ.

TODAY WE ALSO CELEBRATE LEI DAY

Hawaiian lei are known as symbols of aloha. The first lei contest, referred to as Lei Day, was held on May 1, 1928. Poet laureate, Don Blanding, originally from Oklahoma, came to Hawai'i in 1915 after seeing a play in Kansas City called "The Bird of Paradise" that depicted a romantic (and completely fictional) Hawai'i. In 1927, Blanding and a fellow "Honolulu Star-Bulletin" newspaper writer named Grace Tower Warren came up with the idea of honoring the tradition of the lei, which they thought to be in decline. The first Lei Day was held on May 1, 1928, and was a resounding success. It took place in the lobby of Bank of Hawai'i and the official judges that day were: Princess Abigail Wahiikaahuula Campbell, Elizabeth Lahilahi Webb (lady-in-waiting for Queen Lili'uokalani) and Ali'i Lucy Kalaniki'eki'e Davis. The festival included a lei competition in which lei were judged based on the appropriate use of flowers and colors of islands as designated in 1923 by Hawai'i's Territorial Legislature's Joint Resolution #1. Ever since this inaugural lei competition in 1928, we continue to celebrate May Day in Hawai'i as being synonymous with Lei Day. It is our unique and special way to celebrate our shared traditions. (source: Kamehameha Schools website - ksbe.edu)



JAZZ VESPERS: TONIGHT!



Join us in the **Atherton Courtyard** from **5:30 to 6:30 PM, tonight, May 3, 2026**, as we bring together amazing musicianship and holy inspiration for a service of prayer, meditation, silence and music.

REGISTER FOR COMPASSION CAMP 2026

Kids ages 3-11 are invited to **Compassion Camp** hosted by our Children's Ministry from **July 20-24**. Suggested donation is \$65. Space is limited. Learn more and register online: bit.ly/cuc2026compassion.



HELP US BRING SCRIPTURE TO LIFE—JOIN OUR TEAM OF READERS!

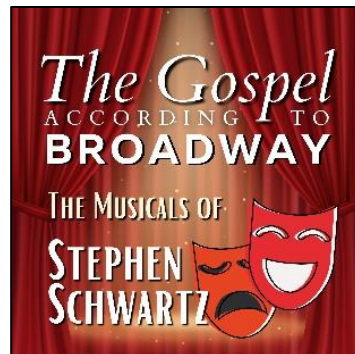


If you are interested in reading in a worship service, please join our pool of readers! We are always in need. To learn more and/or to sign up, use this QR code or type this link into your browser: bit.ly/readcuc.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO BROADWAY

A Sermon Series • April 19 – May 17, 2026

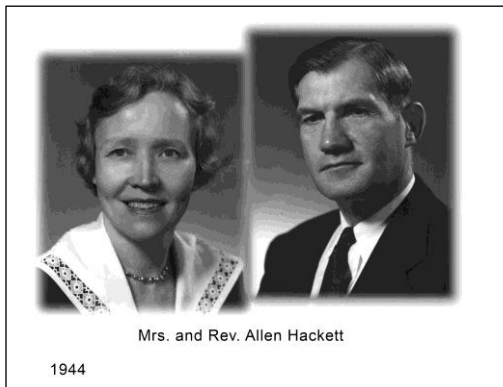
In the next few weeks, we invite you to experience the good news in a fresh way through *The Gospel According to Broadway: The Musicals of Stephen Schwartz*. Drawing on beloved Broadway shows, this series explores how faith, grace, justice, and purpose are revealed through modern storytelling and song. Rooted in the United Church of Christ's belief that **God is Still Speaking**, this series echoes Pastor John Robinson's reminder to the Pilgrims that "the Lord hath more truth and light yet to break forth from his holy Word." We listen for God's voice not only in Scripture, but also in the culture and stories that surround us today. Join us as we discover how God continues to speak—on the stage, in community, and in our lives.



Sermon Schedule:

- **Today** – *Wicked: Grace, Friendship, and the Cost of Discipleship*
- **May 10** – *The Prince of Egypt: Deliverance and Divine Calling*
- **May 17** – *Pippin: The Search for Meaning*

CUC HISTORY WEBSITE



Visit the CUC History Website... cuchistory.org. Under Sermons... [Reverend Allen Hackett stepped up to our pulpit in 1944](#),

You will enjoy learning about our 18th Senior minister and how, from the beginning he infused new vitality into the life of Central Union Church...

WE'RE STILL COLLECTING STAMPS



Your new or used U.S. and foreign stamps are used by handicapped individuals in sheltered workshops for a stamp project. Every undamaged stamp, postcard or stamped envelope has potential value to the folks in this program. Please leave your contributions at the *Church Office Reception Desk* marked "Attention: **Carol Miura**". Mahalo!

HELP WITH SERVING ALOHA FOOD DISTRIBUTION

The **Serving Aloha** weekly food distribution can always use volunteers! There is a wide range of tasks that cover a range of physical abilities (bagging food, distributing to guests, registering guests for walk-in and drive-through distribution, and clean-up).

Volunteers should **check in between 9-10 AM** at the registration desk in the Women's Building. Wear close-toed shoes. Sunscreen and bottled water are also recommended. The distribution finishes at 1 PM, although "work shift" times are flexible. Questions? Contact Martha Balkin at mecbalkin@gmail.com. Groups are encouraged to schedule their visit.



COMMUNITY MINISTRY NEEDS YOU!



On the **second Tuesday of the month, between 2 and 4:30 PM**, we prepare 100 hot meals for Keauhou Shelter, and the Youth Outreach shelter in Waikiki. We could use a few extra bodies. You should come and join us! Especially anyone who could help with the delivery of the food. For more information, email **Laura Steelquist** at laura@steelhawaii.com or text her at (808) 221-0126.

SERVICE OF HEALING & PRAYER: MAY 17TH

Come and discover a place of healing for your soul, rooted in the traditions of the Scottish island of Iona where Celtic Christianity flourishes. The service, from **5:30 to 6:30 PM** in the **Atherton Memorial Chapel**, generally on the **third Sunday of the month**, will include music from the Taizé community, prayer, silence, and the ritual of the laying on of hands.

SERVICE of
HEALING &
PRAYER 

A PAUSE ON THRIFT SHOP DONATIONS



The Thrift Shop (Honolulu campus) will **NOT be accepting any more donations** until further notice. Many items have been donated around the turn of the year, but we don't have enough volunteers and space right now to sort and store all the donations. **Please hold your donation items or offer them to another organization.** Mahalo for remembering the Central Union Thrift Shop! We look forward to accepting more donations in the future.

WELCOME TO WORSHIP AT CENTRAL UNION CHURCH



Thank you for joining us in worship today. Your presence and participation are an important part of shaping this experience of worship for all of us. **Know that whoever you are and wherever you are in your journey of life and of faith, you are welcome here!**

If you are a guest here today, we would love for you to become a regular part of what God is doing in and through this church community. Let us know you visited today by completing this brief form here: bit.ly/cucguest, or by using this QR code, so that we can reach out to you and welcome you to our community.



Nursery: A staffed Nursery is available during the **9 AM and 11 AM services**. Children, ages birth through three years, may be left in the Nursery where they will be cared for during the service.

Sunday School: We offer a Sunday School program for children, age 3 through 5th Grade, during the **9 AM and 11 AM services**. Children participate in the first part of the service and will leave for Sunday School following the Time for Keiki.

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Youth Group: We offer a Youth Group for young people in grades 6 through 12. This week, the Youth will meet **between Noon and 1:30 PM** in the Youth Room.

Young(ish) Adults: We have a Young(ish) Adult ministry here at CUC for Generations X, Y, Z. We gather monthly and would love to connect with you! For more information, please email youngish@centralunionchurch.org.

Our Ministers are Every One of Our Members!
Senior Minister, The Rev. A. Rushan Sinnaduray

Please note: By attending events on campus, you may be included in photos and videos recorded by church representatives. Your presence grants your permission to be in these photos or videos, which may be used for communications or archival purposes.

If you do not wish to be photographed or included in communications, you may let a church representative know. Mahalo!

Central Union Church — A United Church of Christ 'Ohana
Celebrating transforming lives since 1887!
"We Engage and Embrace ALL as we seek to Embody Christ!"
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