

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

A Service of Hope and Healing

Hosted by Kona UMC with Help from Hospice of Kona
December 19, 2017 (Tuesday), 6pm

WELCOME & PRAYER

Debra Nakora
Spiritual Care Provider at Hospice of Kona

HYMN “Emmanuel, Emmanuel” UMH 204

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.**

MESSAGE IN DRAMA “Where Are You, God?”

SPECIAL MUSIC “The Lord’s Prayer” Rev. Dr. Sunny Ahn

SCRIPTURE READING & HOMILY

“Hope for the Holidays” Jenny Schroedel
Bereavement Services Coordinator at Hospice of Kona

HYMN “Be Still and Know That I Am God” TFWS 2057

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God.

CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

Leader: We light this Advent candle to remember those persons who have been loved and lost. We pause to remember their name, their face, their voice. We give thanks for the memory that binds them to us this season which anticipates Christmas.

People: May God’s eternal love surround them.

Ring the Singing Bowl & Light the first candle

Leader: We light the second candle to redeem the pain of loss: the loss of relationships, the loss of jobs, the loss of health. As we gather up the pain of the past, we offer it to You, O God, asking that into our open hands, you will place the gift of peace.

People: Refresh, restore, renew us, O God, and lead us into your future...

Ring the Singing Bowl & Light the second candle

Leader : We light this third candle to remember ourselves this Christmas time. We pause and remember the past weeks, months and for some of us, years of down times. We remember the poignancy of memories, the grief, the sadness, the hurts, the pain of reflecting on our own mortality.

People: Let us remember that dawn defeats darkness.

Ring the Singing Bowl & Light the third candle

Leader: This fourth candle is lit to remember our faith and the gift of hope which God offers to us in the Christmas story. We remember that God who shares our life, promises us a place and time of no more pain and suffering.

People: Let us remember the One who shows the way and who goes with us into our tomorrow.

Ring the Singing Bowl & Light the fourth candle

Leader: In the spirit of this season, let us now ask our God for what we need for ourselves as we participate in the Christmas season as people coping with our loss, pain, suffering, loneliness, grief, sadness. In response to the words, “Loving God, hear our prayer,” you’re invited to respond with “And in your merciful love, answer.” Let us pray.

God, we come to you as Christmas dawns with the pain growing inside us. As the nights have been growing longer, so has the darkness wrapped itself around our hearts. In this season of our longest nights, we offer to you the pain in our hearts, the traumas that some of us cannot put into words. Loving God, hear our prayer,

People: And in your merciful love, answer.

Ring the Singing Bowl

Leader: Compassionate God, there are those among us who are grieving over what might have been. A death or loss has changed our experience of Christmas. Once it was a special day for us too, but someone has died or moved away. Or we have lost a job, a dream, a goal, a cause. We find ourselves adrift, alone, lost. Loving God, hear our prayer,

People: And in your merciful love, answer.

Ring the Singing Bowl

