



**"Huaka`i Saili Matagi"
(Finding Our Way Forward)**

Ke Akua Mana Loa
O God,
hear our prayer
Prayers from the 195th 'Aha Pae'aina



'Aha Pae' Aina Prayer

Prayer by delegates to the 195th 'Aha Pae' aina

Music by Ken Makuakane

Bind us together our God
Sharing our love in your infinite ways
Breathe your aloha in us
Walk closely beside us through all of our days

CHORUS:

G Em C Am D D7 G

Voice

Ke A - ku - a ma - na lo - a, O God, hear our prayer

Ke Akua Mana Loa

O God, hear our prayer.

God of grace, God of mercy
We are created to be just like you
God of love, God of peace
Forgive us, receive us, we call out to you

CHORUS

Open our hearts and our minds
Discerning your spirit, we welcome you in
Joy overflowing our hearts
Show us your vision so we can begin

CHORUS

In response to a recent assessment of the Hawai'i Conference and the Hawai'i Conference Foundation, a strategic planning process was launched at the 195th 'Aha Pae'aina in 2017.

About the process

Starting in September 2017, the Conference began developing a strategic plan to guide its future. A strategic planning consultant, Cynthia Scherr, was hired to help facilitate this process. The purpose of the strategic plan is to unite under a shared vision that will guide the Conference into a spiritually rich and fulfilling future.

Strategic Planning Team: The Conference Council appointed a strategy team to work with consultant Cynthia Scherr and incoming Intentional Interim Conference Minister Gabrielle Chavez.

Members of the team are: Jack Belsom (Waiola UCC); Robinson Fredrick (Central Union Church); Mary Herbig (UCC-Judd Street); Roberta Jahrling (Kaumakapili Church); Wryen Keoki Kiwaha (Puka'ana Congregational Church); Jeannie Thompson (Kapa'a UCC); Iese Tuuao (Acting Conference Minister); and Lori Yamashiro (Conference staff).

The strategic planning team will provide insight, guidance and connection with congregations. More information will be shared as strategic planning progresses. Feel free to contact members of the strategy team or Cynthia, through the Conference Office, if you have thoughts or comments you would like to contribute.

From Scherr Memo, June 2017

Participants at the 2017 'Aha Pae'aina discussed the qualities of God's presence that they experience personally and that reflect their deepest desires and longings for the Conference. Some of the adjectives people used included: *big and generous, connection, unconditional love, opportunity, boundless, shepherd, surprise, clarity, aggressive, willing to call us out, mystery, patience, joyful, transcendent and still speaking.*

Small groups then composed prayers for strategic planning which Ken Makuakane synthesized into one prayer set to music.

Small Group Prayers

Loving & Caring Father,
We thank you for Ohana, the HCUCC Conference
uniting us spiritually through this conference.
We seek your guidance pathway harmoniously in our
journey. Open our hearts to whatever your calling
is. Help us focus on our strength in working
together. Help us to listen to your quiet focus. Turn
our eyes upon Jesus and His cross.

God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

Ke Akua,
Let your awesomeness spill over upon us and to our
family, friends, and neighbors. May our spirits
overflow with joy as we see you revealed in our
midst. Continue to breathe your aloha upon all our
churches.

As you are infinite and all powerful, replenish our souls
with peace and comfort that we may walk in your
ways of love and unity.

We can glorify God even in our disabilities.
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

Le Atuae, Ke Akua, Yokwe, Kami-sama,
O God, help us to find purpose and meaning. Open our
hearts to one another. Heal us from divisions and
wounded hearts, for otherwise we would not be in
this open space. Thank you for the past and the
present. Guide us; give us wisdom; give us
compassion. May each voice be heard.

God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

God of the past and of the future,
We thank you for the opportunity to gather for this
event, sharing our love and experiences. You know
us intimately and love us fiercely. We wish to
honor those who have come before us and those
who will come after us, asking for your guidance
with youth and bringing the ages together for a
common purpose. We have no vision unless we
find your vision.

We call on you to call us out.
When we perpetuate the evil of silencing others
When we are not true to ourselves
When we live in negativity rather than hope
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

Ke Akua,
We ask for your continued guidance, love and strength in
giving unity to our home and sister churches. Bless
everyone present here today as well as their ohana.
Please give us grace, peace, hope, and love. Let us
be obedient to you always. We love you, Lord!
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

Lead Holy Spirit
Unite us, faithful healer
In your faith-filled peace.
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

God, forgive us our sins
That we might come before you,
Cleansed in your righteousness.
Please guide us to understand your purpose
On our journey into the future.
Help us to overcome our divisions
And unify us.
In the ever-widening expanse of our lives,
May our hopes and dreams
Shine like stars before life's journey.
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

Prue Lun Luem
Papa tumasr inkusrao
Elos oal paye
Tokosra lalos tuku
Orekma nu falu
Kiteh kut len se inge
Ma kut mongo misenge
A nunak munas nu sesr
Ke ma koluk
Oana kut nunak munas
Nu sin mwet su
Orekma koluk nu sesr
A tia kol kut in mwel
Ah eis kut lac liki
Ma koluk lasr
Tuh tokosra lalos
A ku
A wolana ma patpat
God kulang, God pakoten
God of grace, God of mercy

Loving and Gracious God,
We give you thanks for all your creation and the peace
and joy it brings
Open our hearts and minds to further possibilities
Strengthen our relationships, one with another
Help us keep our senses of humor
We are many parts; make us one in the body of Christ.
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

Lord,
We ask you to heal anyone who is not feeling well in our
church that they may be ready for the work ahead.
O God, guide our feeble steps along the journey.
Please provide pastors for the many churches that need
them, and help them move their churches forward.
Also help the people to find worship facilities.
O God, in your quiet approach, let us see and hear and
understand the unexpected within each other to see
our strengths and envision a future of a united
church.
We lay before you our agenda and take up your purpose
and plans for this part of your vineyard to
accomplish your heart's desire.
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

Generous God,
As we begin to move forward, guide our hearts and
minds to be the church that you would have us be.
Help us serve in love and respect and hold us to
appreciate the diversity among us.
Guide us on this journey to be stewards to all.
Please open every door that no one can open, and close
those that need to be closed so we can move on.
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

Holy Spirit,
Open our hearts and ears to listen to your message.
Bring previous strategic planning results into this process
for insight, wisdom and guidance.
Blow through us, displacing, dislodging fear and
hesitation; rather, make the advantageous and bold
to walk in your ways of love and peace.
We pray for hearts and minds, for healing grace and
reassurance for a transformation to nurture and
sustain a loving future.
We give thanks, O God, that you go before us to show us
the ways to your future for us.
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

Magnificent and Heavenly Father,
We pray for your intervention through your Holy Spirit
Thank you, Father, for your unfailing love
God give us the understanding in what to support and
what not to support and the wisdom to know the
difference.
That we all begin with love and end with love in all that
we do.
Remove our addictions
Take us on a journey
In your holy name
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

Most gracious and loving God,
Bind us together especially at this gathering.
Guide us in our activities
Lead us to unite our thoughts as we plan.
Help us as a conference to forgive one another, learn
from one another, listen to one another and work
together.
Open our hearts and minds to discern your Holy Spirit.
Let us be welcoming as you are.
Let the impossible become possible.
Oh God, help us to accept one another as you accept us.
Be patient to forgive us being sinners.
Reveal to us your ways as we make our diversity into an
open opportunity.
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

God of love and mercy,
Creator and sustainer of heaven and earth,
We praise your Holy name.
Thank you for being my God and for loving me.
Thank you for always providing for all my everyday
needs and for your healing power in my life every
day.
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

Living and gracious God,
Ke Akua Mana Loa,
In your divine genius, you created us to be different, to
be diverse.
Help us to be a church where all voices are heard, where
all views are respected, and all people are welcome
and are safe to be open and true.
In your wisdom, set us ablaze with your Spirit, and
inspire us that the plan we create reflects your
character.
Unite us in your Spirit, inspired by your grace that we
may welcome all, love all, and seek justice for all.
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

E kane I ka wai ola
Holo I ka lewa lani, kau ka eo ka ua I ka makahi
Our loving and gracious Lord,
You knew our needs before we did
You are so big and great
We honor and worship you
We ask your wisdom, presence and guidance
E Ke Akua, he oia i'o
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa

Oh God, hear our prayer.
God of all times and places;
God of all ages and races,
We thank you that even now,
You are in the midst of our planning.
We are faced with the awesome task of discerning the
future of our Conference.
We are grateful for the power of your peaceful presence,
and that as we listen in quietude, ideas and visions
will bring us to a place of Imua—forward and
victory in the cross for our Conference.
We lift up our Hawai‘i Conference in the name of Jesus,
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

E Ke Akua mani lani
Mahalo nui loa ia kakou
We thank you for this day, that we can come to you
For your blessing and Aloha
Trust in faith for your guidance for our prayers and
continued teaching for us to love one another.
We thank you for your son, Jesus, and the gift of
salvation. We thank you for your peace that
surpasses all understanding.
Thank you, Heavenly Father, for your love and for giving
us clarity of your vision for us.
Lead us with grace as we seek to find the path that leads
us to the future, honoring all our days.
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.

God of joy,
You call us out of our joylessness and solemnity.
Beyond differences, divisions and desires, reconnect us
and all your children in listening to you and one
another.
Give us the strength to listen with patience and love.
God, please grant us clear communication.
Expand our vision beyond the limitations of the present
that we might imagine the future you call us to.
God, who calls to us from the future waiting for us to
make up our minds, inviting us to ignore a
competing call from suspect isolation, from
somewhere we don't know, but we do.
May we move beyond hard of hearing to sing a call of
wild abandon to do what we say.
God may we be receptive to new ideas and concerns of
others.
God of grace, God of mercy,
Ke Akua Mana Loa
Oh God, hear our prayer.