



The Celebration of Worship

November 8, 2020 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson
Pastoral Residents: Rola Al Ashkar
Veronica Gould

Special Video

Thanks to the contributors and to Jonathan Sakakibara for the video.

Welcome

Please join in lighting a candle at home.

Introit

All: Make us one, Lord, make us one. Holy Spirit make us one. Let Your love flow so the world will know, we are one in You.

Call to Worship

Leader: Come and find the quiet center.

Congregation: We come seeking peace and freedom.

Leader: Come and find the room for hope.

Congregation: We come seeking peace and freedom.

All: Clear our eyes that we can see the things that really matter.

Help us, Lord and guide us.

Gathering Hymn

“Come and Find the Quiet Center”

Confession and Assurance of God’s Grace

All: God of grace, forgive us for the choices we make that impact others, forgive us when we choose selfishly. Heal our world, heal our nation. Give us grace to live through the consequences of our choices, wisdom to change, and courage to recreate our reality.

Leader: God’s love shines through the oppressive darkness to heal our spirits and to prepare us to become effective disciples! Take heart, God’s love is poured out for you.

All: Amen.

Response to God’s Forgiveness

Glory be to Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Discovery Table

Veronica Gould

Hymn of Grace

“Guide My Feet”

Unison Prayer Of Guidance

All: Now may the words of our mouth, the meditation of our hearts, the interpretation of our minds, and the response of our hands be acceptable to You, our Lord and our Redeemer. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

First Scripture Reading

Psalm 78:1-7

Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old, things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us. We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the Lord, and Their might, and the wonders that God has done. God established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which God commanded our ancestors to teach to their children; that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children, so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep God’s commandments.

Second Scripture Reading

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-16, 19-25

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors--Terah and his sons Abraham and Nahor--lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods...

Then I took your father Abraham from beyond the River and led him through all the land of Canaan and made his offspring many. “Now

therefore revere the Lord, and serve God in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.” Then the people answered, “Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods...”

But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the Lord, for God is a holy God, a jealous God; who will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, then God will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the Lord!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the Lord.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The Lord our God we will serve and we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

Sermon Rola Al Ashkar
“Heavy Choices”

Opportunity To Present Offerings & Doxology

Please enter any prayer requests, joys or concerns, in the comments of the Facebook Live video so we can include you in our prayers.

All: Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication Rola Al Ashkar

Joys & Concerns/Pastoral Prayer Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderso

The Lord’s Prayer

All: Our Parent Who art in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come, Your 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 Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Sending Hymn

“Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

Benediction

Rola Al Ashkar

Response: “Shalom”

Sha rom, sha rom, mata a u hi ma de. Sha rom, sha rom, Kami no mi megumi. (Peace, peace, until we meet again. Peace, peace, may we be blessed with grace from God.)

Sha rom, sha rom, mata a u hi ma de. Sha rom, sha rom, yuta kani, yuta kani, yuta kani. (Peace, peace, until we meet again. Peace, peace, abundantly, abundantly, abundantly.)

In Appreciation:

Online Greeter

May Lee

Flowers

William & Judy Yee

Virtual Coffee Time Hosts

Jujikai