



## The Celebration of Worship

December 13, 2020 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson  
Pastoral Residents: Rola Al Ashkar  
Veronica Gould  
Worship Leader: Donna Komure-Toyama  
Pianist: Janet Hill  
Japanese Reader: Mieko Davis  
Zoom Moderator: Judy Yee

### Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson

*Please join in lighting two candles at home.*

Ailia Chaw

**On this Third Sunday in Advent, we celebrate joy. We rejoice in the good news of God's love born for us. We light the third candle to invite the joy of Christ into our lives today. May our joy shine for all to see!**

### 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

Donna Komure-Toyama

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord!

**People: God is our salvation.**

Leader: Again, I say rejoice!

**People: Alleluia! Christ is with us.**

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord-- again I say rejoice!

**People: The Spirit of the Lord restores our joy.**

**All: May our joy shine for all to see!**

### Confession Prayer

Donna Komure-Toyama

Most Merciful Creator, we confess that we have sinned against You, against one another, against Your creation, and against ourselves. Our lives are out of step with our faith. The spirit is willing, but the flesh is weak. Restore in each of us the person You created us to be. Renew us with the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.

### Assurance of God's Grace

Donna Komure-Toyama

Leader: Hear the Word of God from the first letter to the Thessalonians: "May the God who gives us peace make us holy in every way and keep your whole being-- spirit, soul, and body-- free from every fault at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

**People: "The one who calls us will do this, because our God is faithful."**

### Response to God's Forgiveness (spoken)

Donna Komure-Toyama

**All: 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

Donna Komure-Toyama

Leader: The peace of Lord be with you always.

**All: And also with you.**

### Hymn

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You"

### Children's Message

Veronica Gould

### Unison Prayer Of Guidance

Donna Komure-Toyama

**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.**

### Japanese Psalm Reading (Psalm 126:3, 5-6)

Mieko Davis

The LORD has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading Luke 1:46-55

Donna Komure-Toyama

*The Song of Mary Magnificat*

My soul proclaims Your greatness, O God!

My heart rejoices in You, my Savior,

because You have showered Your servant with blessing!

From now to the end of time,

all generations will know the great things You have done for me.

Mighty One! Your name is holy!

In every age,  
your compassion flows to those who reverence You!  
But all who seek to exalt themselves in arrogance  
will be leveled by Your power.  
You have deposed the mighty from their seats of power,  
and have raised the lowly to high places.  
Those who suffer hunger,  
You have filled with good things.  
Those who are privileged,  
You have turned away empty-handed.  
You have come to the aid of Your people,  
in fulfillment of the promise You made to our ancestors—  
when You spoke blessing to Sarah and Hagar  
and all their descendants, to the utmost generation!

**2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading John 1:6-8,19-28** Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

This is the testimony given by John when [the Jewish community] sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, “I am not the Messiah.” And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the prophet?” He answered, “No.” Then they said to him, “Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” He said, “I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, ‘Make straight the way of the Lord,’” as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, “Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?” John answered them, “I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal.” This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

**Sermon** Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson  
“Just Who Are You, Anyway?”

**Musical Offering** Janet Hill  
*Time for silent reflection.*

**Holy Communion** Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson

**Opportunity To Present Offerings** Donna Komure-Toyama

**Doxology (spoken)** Donna Komure-Toyama

**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** Donna Komure-Toyama

**Joys & Concerns/Pastoral Prayer** Rola Al Ashkar  
Judy Yee

**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.**

**Hymn**

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

**Benediction** Rev. Dr. Pamela Anderson

**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:**

Coffee Time Hosts

Mariners