

## W.O.W. is Happening Now! “Whispers of Worship”

We are now in the season of Lent (the 40 days leading up to Easter), which began on Sunday, Mar 6. It is a great time to reflect on our faith as we approach the celebration of Jesus’ resurrection on Easter. During this special season, the worship team is inviting you to share your “W.O.W.” moments from worshiping together. A W.O.W. (Whisper of Worship) might be something that struck you during the service that you’ll think about during the week. It might be a memory or a feeling or nudge that came to you. W.O.W.s can be prompted by the scripture readings, the children’s message, the music, the sermon, or they might be something that you’d never heard or thought of before. Everyone’s W.O.W.s are different and unique!

Our prayer is, that by sharing our Whispers of Worship, we’ll be drawn closer to each other and to God, and that it’ll help us all to listen more closely for those little “whispers” we might otherwise miss.

If you attend in-person worship, you’ll get a post-it note with your bulletin on which you can write a few words, a whole thought, or even doodle a picture. Afterward, we hope you’ll leave your post-it notes on a white board that will be provided, so we can share those Whispers and learn together. (It’s up to you whether you include your name or not.) If you are attending worship via Zoom, we hope you’ll share your Whispers in the Zoom chat or email them to the church office during the week, and we’ll add those to the W.O.W.s on the board.

We hope you’ll join us in trying something new during the Lenten season - what other response could there be to God’s amazing love but “WOW!”? We look forward to worshiping with you!

Submitted by:

Sue Lorens for the Worship Team

Donna Toyama, Haruko Sakakibara & Pastor Sarah



## The Celebration of Worship

March 27, 2022 • 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Lent

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader:	Liam Wright
Pianist:	Janet Hill
Japanese Reader:	Michael Wright

### Prelude

Janet Hill

### \*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.**

### Welcome/Announcements

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

### Call to Worship

Liam Wright

Leader: We come to praise the God of all life and to affirm Jesus Christ as the truth and center of our lives.

**People: We celebrate places where love is found in life, and we give thanks for the gift of new life that comes to us this Lenten season.**

**All: Come now, Holy Creator God, open our hearts and minds to receive your mighty renewing Spirit as we sing your praise.**

### \*Opening Hymn: “I Sing the Mighty Power of God” (#288)

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,  
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day.

The moon shines full at God’s command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food.

God formed the creatures through the Word, and then

pronounced them good. Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed,

where’er I turn my eye, if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

There’s not a plant or flower below but makes Thy glories known. And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from Thy throne, while all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care, and everywhere that we can be, Thou, God, art present there.

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*\* Those who can, please rise*

### Invitation to Confession

Liam Wright

Leader: O Lord, You have searched us and understand us. You know every path we take, every decision we make; You know all there is to know about us. And yet, You offer us forgiveness. We come now to make our confession to You, relying on Your amazing grace.

### Prayer of Confession

Liam Wright

Leader: O God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to ignore. Gracious God, open our hearts, our preoccupations with ourselves, the pessimism that is an insult to Your will and power.

**People: We have wounded You, others, and ourselves by the wrongs we have done. Forgive us and transform us, so that we may love as You love us.**

**All: Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in Your likeness; through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*Time for silent reflection and confession*

### Assurance of God's Grace

Liam Wright

Leader: Hear the good news: Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, and Christ prays for us.

**All: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Thanks be to God! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**

### \*Response to God's Forgiveness

**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

Liam Wright

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

**All: And also with you.**

### Children's Message

Haruko Sakakibara

Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for justice and for bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on: renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us; make us one!

### \*Benediction

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

### \*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:

Greeters:

Luda Wright, Diane Younglove

Online Greeter:

May Lee

Usher:

Michael Wright

Parking:

Phil Chew

Sound System:

Dave McGill

Zoom Moderator:

Lois Van Beers

Why do you look at the speck that is in your brother's eye, but do not notice the log that is in your own eye? Or how can you say to your brother, 'Let me take the speck out of your eye,' and behold, the log is in your own eye? You hypocrite, first take the log out of your own eye, and then you will see clearly to take the speck out of your brother's eye."

### **Musical Offering**

Janet Hill

*Time for silent reflection*

### **Opportunity To Present Offerings**

Liam Wright

### **\*Doxology**

**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**

Liam Wright

### **Joys & Concerns**

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

### **Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer**

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

**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: "Help Us Accept Each Other" (#754 GtG)**

*Sing to the tune of "The Church's One Foundation"*

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some, to love them as we find them, or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance until we know by heart the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.

### **Hymn of Reflection: "Be Thou My Vision" (#339)**

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
naught be all else to me, save that thou art;  
thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise,  
thou mine inheritance now and always:  
thou and thou only, first in my heart,  
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of Heaven, my victory won,  
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!  
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,  
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

### **Unison Prayer of Guidance**

**All: Now may the words of our mouths, the meditations 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 Reading: Luke 6:31**

Michael Wright

Do to others as you would have them do to you.

### **1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading: James 4:11-12**

Liam Wright

Brothers and sisters, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against a brother or sister or judges them speaks against the law and judges it. When you judge the law, you are not keeping it, but sitting in judgment on it. There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you- who are you to judge your neighbor?

### **Sermon and 2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading**

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Lenten Series: Questions Jesus Asked - Need New Glasses?

Matthew 7:1-5

Jesus said, "Do not judge, so that you will not be judged. For in the way you judge, you will be judged; and by your standard of measure, it will be measured to you.