

***Sending Hymn: “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” (#464)**

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above. Melt
the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away; Giver of
immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,
stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and
forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird
and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began; Love
divine is reigning o’er us, joining all in heaven’s plan. Ever singing, march
we onward, victors in the midst of strife, Joyful music leads us sunward
in the triumph song of life.

***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.)*

Postlude

Wade Tambara

*We invite you to remain seated during the Postlude as we enjoy the music and God’s
presence together. If you need to go, please feel free to do so. Go with God’s blessings.*

In Appreciation:

Greeters:	Carla Hart, Gary Younglove
Online Greeter:	May Lee
Ushers:	Luda Wright, Michael Wright
Parking:	Tak Fukuman
Parking Barriers:	Dave McGill
Sound System:	Titus Toyama
Zoom Moderator:	Aki Kumagai
Altar Flowers:	Carla Hart



The Celebration of Worship

October 23, 2022 • 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader:	Steve Hanway
Pianist:	Wade Tambara
Japanese Reader:	Michael Wright

Centering Prayer for Worship

*Imaginative God, You smiled and the sun burst through the shadows of chaos; You
chuckled, and the hippopotamus and humpback whale splashed in creation’s fountain;
You laughed, and all that is good and beautiful and whimsical was given shape by
You. As You tell us the Good News which can never be taken from us, we rejoice in
offering it to the discouraged, the sad, and the lonely. As You fill us with grace, may
we give it away with joy in our hearts. Amen.*

Prelude

Wade Tambara

***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

Steve Hanway

Leader: Weathered corn stalks sway in the chilly morning breeze. All
creation is bathed in glowing light.

**People: Crisp apples and cider doughnuts to munch, bright
orange pumpkins in a field; God’s gift of Autumn days.**

**All: Loving Creator, we sing for joy at Autumn wonders which
reveal Your creative majesty.**

***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.

** Those who can, please rise*

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food;
God formed the creatures with a word and then pronounced them
good. Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eyes; If
I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the skies!

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.

Invitation to Confession

Steve Hanway

Leader: We turn to God, not from a position of power and strength, but
from the broken edges of our lives, and from the broken edges of the
world and the church. Let's offer our prayers of confession, trusting that
no matter what we have said, or thought, or done, God's grace is
sufficient for us.

Prayer of Confession

Steve Hanway

Leader: Risen Lord, laughing at death's foolish belief that the tomb
could hold You, You burst forth as the morning stars sparkled with joy.
**People: Forgive us for failing to see Your life-giving love at work in
the small things, the darkest moments, and the everyday moments
of our lives.**

**All: Redeeming God, with You there is always more life, more
hope, more joy and laughter. Open us now to Your love and fill us
with holy hope and resilience.**

Time for silent reflection and confession to God

Assurance of God's Grace

Steve Hanway

Leader: This is the Good News of the Gospel: In Jesus Christ, crucified,
risen, and coming again, we are forgiven and set free to live in joy with
God and with each other.

All: Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Response to God's Forgiveness**

**All Sing: 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.**

The men said to him, "Where is Sarah your wife?" He said, "In the tent."
One of them said, "I'm coming back about this time next year. When I
arrive, your wife Sarah will have a son." Sarah was listening at the tent
opening, just behind the man. Abraham and Sarah were old by this time,
very old. Sarah was far past the age for having children. Then some children were
babies. Sarah laughed within herself, "An old woman like me? Get
pregnant? With this old man of a husband?"

God said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh saying, 'Me? Have a baby?
An old woman like me?' Is anything too hard for God? I'll be back
about this time next year and Sarah will have a baby." Sarah lied. She said,
"I didn't laugh," because she was afraid. But he said, "Yes you did; you
laughed."

Musical Offering

Wade Tambara

Time for silent reflection

Opportunity To Present Offerings

Steve Hanway

**All: Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because God's given Jesus Christ, God's Son. (Repeat)
And now let the weak say, "I am strong," let the poor say, "I am
rich" because of what the Lord has done for us. (Repeat) Give
thanks. Give thanks.**

***Doxology**

Steve Hanway

**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**

Steve Hanway

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.**

Japanese Reading: Proverbs 17:22

Michael Wright

“A cheerful heart is good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones.”

1st Scripture Reading: Genesis 17:15-19

Steve Hanway

God continued speaking to Abraham, “And Sarai your wife: Don’t call her Sarai any longer; call her Sarah. I’ll bless her—yes! I’ll give you a son by her! Oh, how I’ll bless her! Nations will come from her; kings of nations will come from her.” Abraham fell flat on his face. And then he laughed, thinking, “Can a hundred-year-old man father a son? And can Sarah, at ninety years, have a baby?” Recovering, Abraham said to God, “Oh, keep Ishmael alive and well before you!” But God said, “That’s not what I mean. Your wife, Sarah, will have a baby, a son. Name him Isaac (Laughter). I’ll establish my covenant with him and his descendants, a covenant that lasts forever.

Sermon & 2nd Scripture Reading

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Sermon: “The Spirituality of ...Laughter”**Genesis 18:1-15**

God appeared to Abraham at the Oaks of Mamre while he was sitting at the entrance of his tent. It was the hottest part of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing. He ran from his tent to greet them and bowed before them. He said, “Master, if it please you, stop for a while with your servant. Rest under this tree. I’ll get some food to refresh you on your way, since your travels have brought you across my path.” They said, “Certainly. Go ahead.”

Abraham hurried into the tent to Sarah. He said, “Hurry. Get three cups of our best flour; knead it and make bread.” Then Abraham ran to the cattle pen and picked out a nice plump calf and gave it to the servant who lost no time getting it ready. Then he got curds and milk, brought them with the calf that had been roasted, set the meal before the men, and stood there under the tree while they ate.

Passing of the Peace

Steve Hanway

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

All: And also with you.

Children’s Message

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

***Hymn of Reflection: “His Eye Is on the Sparrow” (#661 GtG)**

Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?
 Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home, when
 Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is He:
 His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
 His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Refrain. I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free,
 for His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

“Let not your heart be troubled”, His tender word I hear,
 and resting on His goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;
 though by the path He leadeth but one step I may see:
 His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
 His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Refrain. I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free,
 for His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
 when song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
 I draw the closer to Him; from care He sets me free:
 His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me;
 His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Refrain. I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free,
 for His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

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.