

***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:	Judy Fukuman, Diane Younglove
Online Greeter:	May Lee
Ushers:	Julie Chew, William Yee
Parking:	Phillip Chew
Parking Barriers (Sat):	Titus Toyama
Sound System:	Titus Toyama
Zoom Moderator:	Lori Hart
Altar Flowers:	Tak & Judy Fukuman



Winter Warmth Collection

Parkview is collecting NEW clothing items in November to distribute to people living in tents and parks. We are collecting: warm hats, gloves, ponchos, scarves, socks, outerwear like vests and jackets, any size, including children's sizes and XL-XXL sizes.

Bring them during worship service or during church office hours (Mon 10 am-12 pm & Thurs 9-11 am).

Thank you in advance for these blessings you are sharing!



The Celebration of Worship

November 27, 2022 • First Sunday of Advent

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader:	Betsy Eskridge
Pianist:	Wade Tambara
Japanese Reader:	Haruko Sakakibara
Advent Candle Lighters:	Aki Kumagai, Miko Kumagai

Centering Prayer for Worship

Gracious God, we begin the journey to Bethlehem during this holy season of Advent. Come now and teach us the way of salvation as we worship. For we seek to prepare for the birth of Your Son, the One who brings hope of renewal and the promise of everlasting life, Christ Jesus our Lord. 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

Advent Candle Lighting

Aki & Miko Kumagai

Reader: Today is the first Sunday in the season of Advent. Advent means “coming”, and in this season we prepare for the coming of Christ. As the days grow shorter and the nights

longer, we who are people of faith turn to symbols such as candles, evergreens and wreaths to proclaim our belief in the unquenchable light of God shining in Jesus.

This morning we light the first candle in the Advent wreath, the candle of Hope. (Light the first candle now.) Hope is like light shining in a dark place. With the lighting of this candle, we celebrate the hope that we have in Jesus Christ as we pray for a world of love and peace. Let's pray:

Reader: Dear God, we continue to hope in Your promise that Christ will come again to fill our lives and all the world with love, joy and peace.

All: Thank you God for the light of hope. As we prepare for Christ's coming this holy season, help us share Your hope with others. Amen.

Advent Candle Lighting Song: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (#8) *Sing verse 1.*

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

Call to Worship **Betsy Eskridge**

Leader: People of Advent, lift up your hopes. In all seasons of life, God draws near us with love, God is always with us.

People: In this season of waiting, Jesus reminds us that Bethlehem is the beginning of our spiritual journey, not the end of our journey.

All: In this season of Advent anticipation and hope, may God's Spirit open our hearts to the coming of Emmanuel, God-with-us.

***Opening Hymn: "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" (#2)**

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold the King of glory waits; the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Betsy Eskridge

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: "O Little Town of Bethlehem" (#44)**

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
and praises sing to God the King and peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Sermon & 2nd Scripture Reading **Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave**

“Prepare Him Room - Waiting in Hope”

Luke 1:18-25

Zachariah said to the angel, “Do you expect me to believe this? I’m an old man and my wife is an old woman.”

But the angel said, “I am Gabriel, the messenger of God, sent especially to bring you this glad news. But because you won’t believe me, you’ll be unable to say a word until the day of your son’s birth. Every word I’ve spoken to you will come true on time—God’s time.”

Meanwhile, the congregation waiting for Zachariah was getting restless, wondering what was keeping him so long in the sanctuary. When he came out and couldn’t speak, they knew he had seen a vision. He continued speechless and had to use sign language with the people.

When his priestly assignment was completed, he went back home. It wasn’t long before his wife, Elizabeth, conceived. She went off by herself for five months, relishing her pregnancy. “So, this is how God acts to remedy my unfortunate condition!” she said.

Musical Offering **Wade Tambara**

Time for silent reflection

Opportunity To Present Offerings **Betsy Eskridge**

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 **Betsy Eskridge**

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.

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart from earthly use for heaven’s employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide. Let me Thy inner presence feel; Thy grace and love in me reveal.

Invitation to Confession **Betsy Eskridge**

Leader: When we pause to look at our lives, we find a lot that doesn’t measure up to God’s intentions for us. This holy season, the circular Advent wreath with no beginning and no end, reminds us of God’s endless mercy toward us. Let’s admit the places we need God’s healing and wholeness as we ask God for forgiveness.

Prayer of Confession **Betsy Eskridge**

Leader: Holy God of Advent, in these days when our hearts tremble with stress and fear and what-ifs, come to us. In this season when our hearts are filled with worry, not wonder, come to us.

People: God of grace and truth, in Jesus Christ You came to us as light shining in darkness. We confess that we have not always welcomed the light, but have turned from it. We live in arrogance and denial, as though we have no need of grace. Forgive us.

All: God, we know we have disappointed Your hopes and harmed others through our words and actions. Renew us, that we may be awake and alert, watching for the glorious return of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Time for silent reflection and confession to God

Assurance of God's Grace

Betsy Eskridge

Leader: God has promised that the day of our salvation is near. As we are watchful in prayer and faithful in showing kindness and doing justice, God's peace and hope will strengthen and sustain us.

All: Thanks be to God! We believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Passing of the Peace

Betsy Eskridge

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

All: And also with you.

Choir Song

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Welcoming New Members

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Aki Kumagai

Miko Kumagai

*Hymn of Reflection: "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You" (#11)

O Lord, how shall I meet You, how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet You, my hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast,
to do in spirit lowly all that may please You best.

Love caused your incarnation; love brought You down to me;
Your thirst for my salvation procured my liberty.
O love beyond all telling, that led You to embrace in love,
all loves excelling, our lost and fallen race.

A glorious crown You give me, a treasure safe on high,
that will fail nor leave me as earthly riches fly.
My heart shall bloom forever for You with praises new,
and from Your name shall never withhold the honor due.

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: Isaiah 9:2

Haruko Sakakibara

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined.

1st Scripture Reading: Luke 1:5-17

Betsy Eskridge

During the rule of Herod, King of Judea, there was a priest whose name was Zachariah. His wife was descended from the daughters of Aaron. Her name was Elizabeth. Together they lived honorably before God, careful in keeping to the ways of the commandments and enjoying a clear conscience before God. But they were childless because Elizabeth could never conceive, and now they were quite old.

It so happened that as Zachariah was carrying out his priestly duties before God, working the shift assigned to his regiment, it came his one turn in life to enter the sanctuary of God and burn incense. The congregation was gathered and praying outside the Temple at the hour of the incense offering. Unannounced, an angel of God appeared just to the right of the altar of incense. Zachariah was paralyzed in fear.

But the angel reassured him, "Don't fear, Zachariah. Your prayer has been heard. Elizabeth, your wife, will bear a son by you. You are to name him John. You're going to leap like a gazelle for joy, and not only you—many will delight in his birth. He'll achieve great stature with God.

"He'll drink neither wine nor beer. He'll be filled with the Holy Spirit from the moment he leaves his mother's womb. He will turn many sons and daughters of Israel back to their God. He will herald God's arrival in the style and strength of Elijah, soften the hearts of parents to children, and kindle devout understanding among hardened skeptics—he'll get the people ready for God."