

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove the glories of His righteousness and wonders of His love, and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of His love.

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

Janet Hill

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:	Terri Bowman, Carla Hart
Online Greeter:	May Lee
Ushers:	Terri Bowman, Julie Chew
Parking:	Dave McGill
Parking Barriers (Sat):	Jonathan Sakakibara
Sound System:	Cathy Nishizaki
Zoom Moderator:	Nancy Arata-Fong
Altar Flowers:	Lynn Yamamoto



The Celebration of Worship

December 18, 2022 • Fourth Sunday of Advent

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader:	Titus Toyama
Pianist:	Janet Hill
Japanese Reader:	Miko Kumagai
Advent Candle Lighters	Davis Family

Centering Thought for Advent Worship

Almighty God, who came to us long ago in the birth of Jesus Christ, be born in us anew today by the power of your Holy Spirit. We offer our lives as home to You and ask for grace and strength to live as your faithful children always. Through Christ our Lord, Amen.

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

Advent Candle Lighting Ian, Mieko, Hannah & Sora Davis

On this fourth Sunday of Advent, we light three purple candles on the Advent wreath, and one pink candle. The pink candle of JOY. (*Light four candles now.*)

God's Joy shines in the darkness. It sings in the shadows. It cannot be contained. It was the hope of the saints, the call of the prophets, the courage of young Mary, the faithfulness of Joseph, the excitement of the shepherds, and magnificent glory of the angels. Open your heart to joy and you will recognize joy shining in the most challenging struggle to the most wondrous delight, for God's joy flows through everything. Give love with open hands and you will find God's joy shining in the power that can transform lives.

Let's pray:

Leader: Promised One, as we prepare the way for Your coming, help us find joy in You.

All: Candle in the window, star in the night sky. Jesus, Light of God's joy, you lead us home. Amen.

Advent Candle Lighting Song:

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly (#37) verse 1

Infant holy, Infant lowly, for His bed a cattle stall; Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the babe is Lord of all. Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing: Christ the babe is Lord of all.

Call to Worship

Titus Toyama

Leader: Let's prepare our hearts to celebrate the birth of the Christ Child and the coming of Christmas.

People: Though there was no room at the inn to receive You that night upon Your first arrival, we prepare You room here in our hearts, Lord Jesus.

Leader: As we decorate and celebrate, we do so remembering Your redemptive movement into our broken world. Our glittering ornaments and Christmas trees, our carols and delicious feasts –

strong,” let the poor say, “I am rich” because of what the Lord has done for us. (Repeat) Give thanks. Give thanks.

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**

Titus Toyama

Joys & Concerns

Titus Toyama

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: “Joy to the World!” (#40)**

Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king; let every heart prepare Him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.

everyone was on his way to register for the census, each to his own city. Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the city of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and family of David, in order to register along with Mary, who was engaged to him, and was with child. While they were there, the days were completed for her to give birth. And she gave birth to her firstborn son; and she wrapped Him in cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

Sermon & 2nd Scripture Reading

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

“The Angels’ Song of Joy”

Luke 2:8-14

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there appeared with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to all women and men who please God.”

Musical Offering

Janet Hill

Time for silent reflection

Opportunity To Present Offerings

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

People: By these small tokens we affirm that something amazing has happened in time and space –

Leader: That on a particular night and place, so many years ago, God was born to us, an infant King, our Prince of Peace.

People: Our wreaths and ribbons and colored lights, our giving of gifts and gatherings with family friends are small ways in which we repeat the sounding joy first proclaimed by angels in the skies near Bethlehem.

All: We prepare You room here in our hearts today, Lord Jesus. We celebrate for Your arrival, Emmanuel – God with us!

-adapted from “Every Moment Holy”
by Douglas McKelvey

*Opening Hymn: “Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” (#31)

Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King.
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King!”

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the virgin’s womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King!”

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by born that we no more may die, born
to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the new-born King!”

Invitation to Confession

Titus Toyama

Leader: Grace and peace are the gifts God longs to give, not only to us, but to the whole world. With the songs of angels in our ears, we can no longer lash out with angry words that wound others. Looking for the shepherds to arrive, we cannot ignore the family living in their car in the parking lot at Wal-Mart. Let's bring the weight of our regrets and irritability and missed opportunities to the One who calls us to Advent living.

Prayer of Confession

Titus Toyama

Leader: Dear God, in the midst of temptations and missed opportunities, of our own doubting of You and of ourselves, the great hope begins to rise again:

People: The hope that You will come to us, that the Child will be born again in our midst, the Prince of Peace in a world at war. Rid us of our warring ways.

Leader: Help us to open ourselves to receive the gift of new life from You.

All: To those unmoved by the good news of Christ's birth, send angels to sing carols of hope and peace. Giver of Advent joy, may we bring Your joy to those You send us to serve this week. Amen.

Time for silent reflection and confession to God

Assurance of God's Grace

Titus Toyama

Leader: Here is the good news: Speak with the whispers of hope until it silences despair; sing the carols of compassion until all join in the chorus; shower others with wonder and delight and join in God's dance of grace.

All: Thanks be to God. We are forgiven! So, we welcome others just as we have been embraced by God's love and joy. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Titus Toyama

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

All: And also with you.

Children's Message

Special Music by Parkview's Children

Hymn of Reflection:

"Angels We Have Heard on High" (#23)

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo; Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song?

Gloria, in excelsis Deo; Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo; Gloria, in excelsis Deo.

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: John 15:11

Miko Kumagai

Jesus says: "These things have I spoken to you, that My joy might remain in you, and that your joy might be full."

1st Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-7

Titus Toyama

Now in those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus, that a census be taken of all the inhabited earth. This was the first census taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. And