*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: Bill Grissom, Herning Grissom Online Greeter: May Lee Terri Bowman, Pattie Hashimoto Ushers: Parking: Gary Younglove Parking Barriers (Sat): Neil Matsuoka Sound System: Kaz Nozue Zoom Moderator: Lois Van Beers Altar Flowers: Bill & Herning Grissom



The Celebration of Worship

March 5, 2023 • Second Sunday in Lent

Pastor:

Sermon:

Worship Leader:

Pianist:

Japanese Reader:

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Titus Toyama
Dave McGill
Papanese Reader:

Janet Hill
Haruko Sakakibara

Centering Prayer for Worship

Lord Jesus, our Savior, on this second Sunday of Lent, we proclaim that You are the One who leads us to life. Holy Spirit, Hope of the despairing, come to our lives and bring us joy. Living God, healer of the wounded, come make us whole. Show us the way to new light and life this Lenten season, as we join in Your transforming work in the world. 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

Call to Worship

Dave McGill

Leader: Thank you, God for this new day. As we worship, may we grow in faith and increase in love, so that we may be worthy of the call you have placed upon our lives.

People: O God, when we seek justice for another, when we love kindness more than recognition, we live as You ask us to live.

Leader: When we walk hopefully through life, when we offer forgiveness to those who hurt us, we are the blessing You hope we will be.

All: Stir our hearts to sense You in every moment, and serve You at every opportunity. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: "God of the Sparrow" (#272)

Sing verses 1,3, 5, 6

God of the sparrow, God of the whale

God of the swirling stars

How does the creature say Awe

How does the creature say Praise

God of the rainbow God of the cross God of the empty grave

How does the creature say Grace

How does the creature say Thanks

God of the neighbor God of the foe God of the pruning hook

How does the creature say Love

How does the creature say Peace

God of the ages God near at hand God of the loving heart

How do your children say Joy

How do your children say Home

*Sending Hymn: "What a Friend We Have in Jesus" (#403)

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear! What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer! O what peace we often forfeit; O what needless pain we bear, all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!

Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere? We should never be discouraged: take it to the Lord in prayer! Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!

Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care? Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer! Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!

In His arms He'll take and shield thee; thou will find a solace there.

Charge

Titus Toyama

This is the day that the Lord has made. We will rejoice and be glad in it.

Benediction

Titus Toyama

Benediction: An Irish Blessing

May the road rise to meet you,

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face,

The rains fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again,

May God hold you in the palm of His hand.

Sung Benediction

Sakura Chorus

"Dona Nobis Pachem"

this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

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 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

Dave McGill

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.

Invitation to Confession

Dave McGill

Leader: We will not hide our sins or remain silent, but will confess them to the One who surrounds us with steadfast love. Let's open our hearts to God and make confession for the imperfections of our lives.

Prayer of Confession

Dave McGill

Leader: God, we want to serve you well each day but we know our failures – the way we hurry through life with little time for You, our tendency to make excuses for our faults, and criticize others..

People: We have responded to others harshly and impatiently, and without grace. Forgive us for the harm we have done, and for the good we might have done but failed to do.

Leader: Forgive us for focusing on our own well-being so there's not much time or energy left for others.

All: May Christ's grace that is lavished upon us deepen our desire to share our resources and do what pleases You.

Time for silent reflection and confession to God

Assurance of God's Grace

Dave McGill

Leader: When we confess our harmful thoughts, words, and actions to God, God delights in setting us free from guilt and regret.

People: God's grace is more than sufficient for our failings. God's grace is more powerful than our sin and shame.

Leader: God never withholds love from anyone who seeks God.

All: Thanks be to God! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

*Response to God's Forgiveness: "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" (#582GtG)

All Sing:

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me, and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me, and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

*Passing of the Peace

Dave McGill

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

All: And also with you.

Children's Message

Sue Lorens

Sakura Chorus

"For Friends Far Away"

*Hymn of Reflection: "Grace Alone" (Black #2162)

Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith, every difference we will make is only by his grace. Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine, every blessing left behind is only by his grace.

Refrain. Grace alone which God supplies, strength unknown he will provide. Christ in us our Cornerstone; we will go forth in grace alone.

Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach, everywhere we share his peace is only by his grace. Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away, every sorrow turned to praise is only by his grace.

Refrain. Grace alone which God supplies, strength unknown he will provide. Christ in us our Cornerstone; we will go forth in grace alone.

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: Psalm 118:1, 19-24 Haruko Sakakibara O give thanks to the Lord; for He is good: because His mercy endures for ever. Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord: I will praise Thee: for Thou has heard me, and have become my salvation. The stone which the builders refused has become the head stone of the corner. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day which the Lord has made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

1st Scripture Reading: Matthew 6:5-6

Dave McGill

And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

Sermon & 2nd Scripture Reading "A Prayerful Journey"

Titus Toyama

Matthew 6:7-13

When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then in this way:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name. Your kingdom come. Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us