

In Appreciation:

Greeters:	Pattie Hashimoto, Gary Younglove
Online Greeter:	May Lee
Ushers:	Betsy Eskridge, Lynn Yamamoto
Parking:	Kaz Nozue
Parking Barriers (Sat):	Dave McGill
Sound System:	Dave McGill
Zoom Moderator:	Aki Kumagai
Altar Flowers:	Dave McGill



The Celebration of Worship

April 23, 2023 • 3rd Sunday of Easter



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

Centering Prayer for Worship

Glory to You, Risen Lord, in this Eastertide season we proclaim that You are alive and worthy of all praise. Worthy were You when the angels rolled away the stone, and You came forth from the tomb, trampling death and restoring life to all. God of glory, fill us with faith overflowing, that we may share in Christ's suffering, and in the power of His resurrection. 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 and Announcements Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

** Those who can, please rise*

Call to Worship

Judy Fukuman

Leader: God calls us to this new day! God calls us to new life in Christ! God calls us to bring God's hope and renewing love to our world.

People: We open our hearts to God and offer thanks and praise to our marvelous Creator Who calls us and loves us each day.

*Opening Hymn: "Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

(#104)

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!
Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed. In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown. Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair. Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare. Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend. Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same. Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain. Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!" God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna, everyone!

Invitation to Confession

Judy Fukuman

Leader: When your soul is suffering, call out to God, who heals our brokenness and restores us to life. Trusting in God's grace, let's bring our confession to God.

Each newborn servant of the Crucified bears on the brow the seal of Christ who died.

Refrain

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, Your death has brought us life eternally.

Refrain

So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Cru-ci-fied for victory.

Refrain

*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.

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

Judy Fukuman

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: "Christ Is Alive!" (#371)

Refrain. Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod, the Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

Refrain

Prayer of Confession

Judy Fukuman

Leader: Loving God, through the saving death of Your Son upon the cross, You give us the power to forgive everyone, including ourselves.

People: Strengthen us when we are immobilized by despair, when we are overwhelmed by evil. Help us never to respond to evil with evil, but to overcome evil with good.

Leader: God of grace, give us faith and courage to be the change we want to see in the world.

All: So that all who feel suffocated by shame may receive Your healing grace; That all who are oppressed, distressed or depressed may be set free at last. Amen.

Time for silent reflection and confession to God

Assurance of God's Grace

Judy Fukuman

Leader: God calls us to throw off the heavy shroud of sorrow and regret and wrap ourselves in the joy of our Risen Lord.

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

Judy Fukuman

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

All: And also with you.

Children's Message

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

***Reflection Hymn: “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” (#280)**

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come; ‘Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures; He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.

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: Ephesians 1:7

Michael Wright

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace.

1st Scripture Reading:

Judy Fukuman

(In the Garden of Gethsemane, the third time Jesus came back and found his disciples sleeping.)

He said, “Are you going to sleep on and make a night of it? My time is up, the Son of Man is about to be handed over to the hands of sinners. Get up! Let’s get going! My betrayer is here.”

The words were barely out of his mouth when Judas (the one from the Twelve) showed up, and with him a gang from the high priests and religious leaders brandishing swords and clubs. The betrayer had worked out a sign with them: “The one I kiss, that’s the one—seize him.” He went straight to Jesus, greeted him, “How are you, Rabbi?” and kissed him. Jesus said, “Friend, why this charade?”

Sermon & 2nd Scripture Reading

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Easter Practices Series: “Practicing Grace-What about Judas?”

Matthew 27:1-7

In the first light of dawn, all the high priests and religious leaders met and put the finishing touches on their plot to kill Jesus. Then they tied him up and paraded him to Pilate, the governor. Judas, the one who betrayed him, realized that Jesus was doomed. Overcome with remorse, he gave back the thirty silver coins to the high priests, saying, “I’ve sinned. I’ve betrayed an innocent man.” They said, “What do we care? That’s your problem!” Judas threw the silver coins into the Temple and left. Then he went out and hung himself. The high priests picked up the silver pieces, but then didn’t know what to do with them. “It wouldn’t be right to give this—a payment for murder!—as an offering in the Temple.” They decided to get rid of it by buying the “Potter’s Field” and use it as a burial place for the homeless.

Musical Offering

Janet Hill