Live into hope of liberty, the right to speak, the right to be, the right to have one's daily bread, to hear God's word and thus be fed.

Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed. God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.

Benediction Rev. Stephen Smith

*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: Sue Lorens, Titus Toyama Online Greeter: May Lee Luda Wright, Michael Wright Ushers: Gary Younglove Parking: Parking Barriers (Sat) William Yee Sound System: Cathy Nishizaki Zoom Moderator: Lois Van Beers Glenn & Evelyn Kubota Altar Flowers:



The Celebration of Worship

August 6, 2023 • 10th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor:

Worship Leader:

Pianist:

Japanese Reader:

Communion Elders:

Rev. Stephen Smith

Titus Toyama

Michael Wright

Donna Komure-Toyama, Titus Toyama

Centering Prayer for Worship

God of the universe, we have sensed Your majestic presence in the world and in our lives. You are the light and freedom and hope of new creation. Give us grace to center our hearts on You. As we worship, help us to encounter You, to hear You, to know You, to welcome Your presence as You welcome each one of us. Fill us with Your Spirit as we worship you, so that we may fulfill Your holy purpose of taking care of each other and 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.

8

^{*} Those who can, please stand

Welcome and Announcements

Titus Toyama

Call to Worship

Titus Toyama

Leader: Here we are Lord! We believe in Your power to change us;

People: Your creating power making relationships new, Your redeeming power saving us from despair,

Leader: Your sustaining power giving us courage and strength.

All: As we worship, as we encounter You and pray and listen together, we open ourselves to the transforming power of Your kingdom; changing our hearts, our lives and our world. Amen!

*Opening Hymn: "God Is Here!" (#461)

God is here! As we Your people meet to offer praise and prayer, may we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share. Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace; here are table, font, and pulpit; here the cross has central place. Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech, here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold; here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old. Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom, in an age of change and doubt, keep us faithful to the gospel; help us work Your purpose out. Here, in this day's dedication, all we have to give, receive; we, who cannot live without You, we adore You! We believe!

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

Titus Toyama

Joys & Concerns

Titus Toyama

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer Rev. Stephen Smith 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: "Live into Hope" (#332)

Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed. The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!

Live into hope! The blind shall see with insight and with clarity, removing shades of pride and fear- a vision of our God brought near.

*Communion Hymn: "Let Us Break Bread Together" (#513)

Let us break bread together on our knees; let us break bread together on our knees.

Refrain. When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees; let us drink wine together on our knees.

Refrain.

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

- from the Iona Community

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.** Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving Words of Institution Receiving the Elements

Invitation to Confession

Titus Toyama

Leader: If we want to live as God's children, to grow in hope, to walk in the Light, we must admit our failings and harmful ways, so we may open ourselves to God's healing mercy.

Prayer of Confession

Titus Toyama

Leader: Loving God, you long for us to be faithful and kind, to live as role models of trust and love for a world desperate for both.

People: But we know the mistakes we have made, the harsh words we have spoken, the trouble we have stirred up by our bad tempers and unforgiving hearts.

Leader: Every day we do things that wound Your heart; our brokenness leads us to neglect others and harm the planet.

All: Forgive us. Pour out Your healing Spirit on us, and on our world, we pray. Amen.

Time for silent reflection and confession to God

Assurance of God's Grace

Titus Toyama

Leader: Thanks be to God! We are not left alone, but find strength and hope in God's compassionate love and peace.

All: We believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, and given guidance and purpose for our lives. 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

Titus Toyama

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

All: And also with you.

Children's Message

Rev. Stephen Smith

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 55:1

Michael Wright

Hear, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price.

1st Scripture Reading: Matthew 14:13-21 Titus Toyama

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven and blessed and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full.

And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Sermon & 2nd Scripture Reading

Rev. Stephen Smith

Summer Sermon Series: The Spirituality of Movies

Genesis 32:22-31

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saving, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

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.