

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

Haruko Sakakibara

Fugue from “Ariadne Musica” by Johann Caspar Ferdinand
Fischer (1656-1746)

*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
Ushers: Judy Fukuman, Donna Komure-Toyama
Parking: Tak Fukuman
Parking Barriers (Sat) Dave McGill
Sound System: Jonathan Sakakibara
Zoom Moderator & Greeter: Lois Van Beers
Altar Flowers: Stan & Christine Umeda



The Celebration of Worship

September 3, 2023 • Labor Day Weekend

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader: Christine Umeda
Pianist: Haruko Sakakibara
Japanese Reader: Haruko Sakakibara
Communion Elders: Terri Bowman, Maurine Huang

Centering Prayer for Worship

*We take a deep breath this morning, O God,
between summer, too soon gone, and a busy fall.
In the rhythm of our busy lives, remind us again that
You are with us in every season of life.
Open our hearts and our eyes and our minds
to Your creative love in Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.*

Prelude

Haruko Sakakibara

*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.**

** Those who can, please stand*

Call to Worship

Christine Umeda

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God; May our worship reflect God's glory.

People: The skies proclaim God's handiwork. May we see each other as the handiwork of God.

All: May our prayers and praise, our singing and study proclaim the love of God. We join with Christians around the world, and with Christians across time, to worship God!

***Opening Hymn: "I Sing the Mighty Power of God" (#288)**

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise; that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies. I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day; The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food; God formed the creatures with a word, and then pronounced them good. Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eyes; if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the skies!

There's not a plant or flower below but makes Thy glories known; And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from Thy throne; While all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care, and everywhere that we can be, Thou, God, art present there.

Invitation to Confession

Christine Umeda

Leader: We are invited to bring our faults and foolishness, our brokenness and bitterness to our God, confessing our sins, so we might be forgiven and made new. Let's pray together.

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: "Here I Am, Lord" (#525)**

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

Chorus. Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard You calling in the night I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, they turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send?

Chorus.

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give My life to them.
Whom shall I send?

Chorus.

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

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

Christine Umeda

Prayer of Confession

Christine Umeda

Leader: O God, you desire justice and wholeness for all creation.

People: We confess that we have been more concerned with our to-do lists than with Your commands. We seek approval from others, and work to accumulate possessions to keep us comfortable, forgetting to trust Your constant care. Forgive us.

Leader: No matter how weary we become from our loneliness, our struggles, our uncertainty, You challenge us to be patient, to rejoice, and to never stop praying.

All: Purify our hearts so that our lives bring You glory. Because we are Your people, called to lives which make a difference! Amen.

Time for silent reflection and confession to God

Assurance of God's Grace

Christine Umeda

Leader: Hear the Good News! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.

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

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

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

Christine Umeda

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

All: And also with you.

The Gospel in Story

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

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 90:17

Haruko Sakakibara

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us and prosper for us the work of our hands. O prosper the work of our hands!

1st Scripture Reading: Mark 1:16-20

Christine Umeda

Passing along the beach by the Sea of Galilee, Jesus saw Simon and his brother Andrew net-fishing. Fishing was their regular work. Jesus said to them, "Come with me. I'll make a new kind of fisherman out of you. I'll show you how to catch men and women instead of fish." They didn't ask questions. They dropped their nets and followed.

A dozen yards or so down the beach, He saw the brothers James and John, Zebedee's sons. They were in the boat, mending their fishnets. Right off, He made the same offer. Immediately, they left their father Zebedee, the boat, and the hired hands, and followed.

Sermon & 2nd Scripture Reading

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

The Spirituality of Working
1 Corinthians 12:4-11

God's various gifts are handed out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various ministries are carried out everywhere; but they all originate in God's Spirit. God's various expressions of power are in action everywhere; but God is behind it all. Each person is given something to do that shows who God is: Everyone gets in on it, everyone benefits.

All kinds of things are handed out by the Spirit, and to all kinds of people!

The variety is wonderful: wise counsel – clear understanding – simple trust – healing the sick – miraculous acts – proclamation distinguishing of spirits – tongues – interpretation of tongues. All these gifts have a common origin, but are handed out one by one by the Spirit of God. God decides who gets what, and when.

Musical Offering

Haruko Sakakibara

"Prelude for Organ" by Goroh Sumi published in 1977

Time for silent reflection

*Communion Hymn: "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" (#514)

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy: bread is broken; the wine is poured; Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain. Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again, pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one, at the table He sets the tone, teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.

Refrain.

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!

Refrain.