

***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:	Gary Younglove, TBD
Ushers:	Betsy Eskridge, Carla Hart
Parking:	Dave McGill
Parking Barriers (Sat):	Dave McGill
Sound System:	Kaz Nozue
Zoom Moderator/Greeter:	Lois Van Beers
Altar Flowers:	Carla Hart, in loving memory of Loy Hart



The Celebration of Worship

October 22, 2023 • 21st Sunday after Pentecost

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

Centering Prayer for Worship

*Gracious God, our Divine Companion, You call us: open our souls that
we may long for Your presence, open our hearts so we may follow and obey
You. O Lord Jesus, as we worship, let us hear again Your call, “Follow
Me.” We are prone to wander, to take shortcuts and get lost, to give up.
Come, we pray, and make Your way clear to us. 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.**

** Those who can, please stand*

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Call to Worship

Judy Fukuman

Leader: In the sanctuary, the Holy One whose glory fills the whole earth, calls us.

People: Beside the sea, along the sidewalk, in our daily work, God calls us.

Leader: Listen for the promise of God's steadfast love and faithfulness. God calls us and fulfills divine purposes for our lives.

All: We long to encounter the Holy One. We are listening for God's call in our lives as we give thanks and sing God's praise.

*Opening Hymn: For the Beauty of the Earth (#473)

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth, over and around us lies,

Refrain. Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,

Refrain.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight,

Refrain.

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: The Summons (#2130 Black Songbook)

Sing verses 1, 2, 4, and 5

“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let My love be shown, will you let My name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in Me?”

“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let Me answer prayer in you and you in Me?”

“Will you love the ‘you’ you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world
around, through My sight and touch and sound in you and you
in Me?”

Lord, your summons echoes true when You but call my name.
Let me turn and follow You and never be the same. In Your
company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show. Thus I'll
move and live and grow in You and You in me.

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

“What Are We Called to Do? Follow Him”

Matthew 16:24-26

Then Jesus said to His disciples, “Anyone who intends to come with Me has to let Me lead. You’re not in the driver’s seat; I am. Don’t run from suffering; embrace it. Follow Me and I’ll show you how. Self-help is no help at all. Self-sacrifice is the way, My way, to finding yourself, your true self. What kind of deal is it to get everything you want but lose yourself? What could you ever trade your soul for?”

Musical Interlude

Janet Hill

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

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild,

Refrain.

For Thy church that evermore lifteth holy hands above, offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love,

Refrain.

Invitation to Confession

Judy Fukuman

Leader:

Jesus said: “Are you tired? Worn out? Come to me. Get away with me and you’ll recover your life. Walk with me and work with me-watch how I do it.” (Matthew 11:28, *The Message*)

Let’s come now to Jesus with all the worries that are weighing us down and ask Him to bless us with hope and grace enough to share with the world.

Prayer of Confession

Judy Fukuman

Leader: Gracious God, You meet us where we live and invite us to be part of Your redeeming work on earth. Forgive us when our lives don't reflect Your glory and the purposes You intend.

People: Loving Lord, if we're going to follow You, we have to start right where we are. Help us to see those around us in new ways, and seek their flourishing.

Leader: Free us from fear of unworthiness and from critical attitudes that judge others or ourselves too harshly.

All: We long to experience Your grace and glory, and become those who make Jesus' life visible in our world. Amen.

Time for silent reflection and confession to God

Assurance of God's Grace

Judy Fukuman

Leader: This is good news: as God dresses creation in wonder, so you will be clothed in grace; as God pours out abundance upon the earth, so you will be blessed with peace and joy.

All: We don't say it often enough - thanks be to God for life, for healing, for gifts, for grace. We are truly blessed, for in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.

***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**

Judy Fukuman

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

All: And also with you.

Children's Message

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Choir Song

"I am the Light of Nations" arr. Hal H. Hopson

Children and youth may now leave for YES.

***Hymn of Reflection: I Have Decided to Follow Jesus (#2129 Black songbook)**

I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus - no turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me, the world behind me, the cross before me, the world behind me, the cross before me - no turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, still I will follow, though none go with me, still I will follow, though none go with me, still I will follow - no turning back, no turning back.

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 8:12

Michael Wright

Then Jesus spoke again to the people, He said, "I am the Light of the world; whoever follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life."

1st Scripture Reading: Matthew 4:18-22

Judy Fukuman

Walking along the beach of Lake Galilee, Jesus saw two brothers: Simon (later called Peter) and Andrew. They were fishing, throwing their nets into the lake. It 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 perch and bass." They didn't ask questions, but simply dropped their nets and followed. A short distance down the beach they came upon another pair of brothers, James and John, Zebedee's sons. These two were sitting in a boat with their father, Zebedee, mending their fishnets. Jesus made the same offer to them, and they were just as quick to follow, abandoning boat and father. (*From the Message*)