*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 Wade Tambara

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: Miyo Uchida, Diane Youglove Ushers: Luda Wright, William Yee Phillip Chew Parking: William Yee Parking Barriers (Sat): Sound System: Tom Tambara Zoom Moderator/Greeter: Aki Kumagai Pattie Hashimoto Altar Flowers: Coffee Time: Ben Pryor, Kishwer Vikaas



The Celebration of Worship

January 21, 2024 • 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor:

Worship Leader:

Pianist:

Choir Conductor:

Japanese Reader:

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Betsy Eskridge

Wade Tambara

Ben Pryor

Miyo Uchida

Centering Prayer

We give you thanks and praise, O Lord; You have created us in Your image. You have claimed us as Your beloved people. You have called us to be a blessing for others. Speak to us as we worship, O God, with the voice of Your Holy Spirit. Empower us so that we use the gifts of Your good creation and open our hands and our lives to our neighbors in need. Holy God, by Your Word and Spirit, come and transform Your church to be a living sign of Your love for the world. Through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Prelude Wade Tambara

*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

Betsy Eskridge

Leader: Creative Spirit of God, as we worship, may we step out of our fears to receive the new life You give us as a gift.

People: Here, O God, in the midst of our distracted lives, we pause to enter sacred space with You, so our numbed souls may be set ablaze by justice's Spirit.

Leader: Today and each day, may we tell of God's love and the Spirit's peace for all.

All: So that people will find a warm welcome awaiting them, a beloved community that brings God's joy to all creation.

*Opening Hymn: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (#464)

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love! Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away. Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee; earth and heaven reflect Thy rays; stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea, chanting bird and flowing fountain, call us to rejoice in Thee.

Mortals, join the happy chorus which the morning stars began. Love divine is reigning o'er us, joining all in heaven's plan. Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife. Joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

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: Arise, Your Light Is Come! (#411)

Arise, your light is come! The Spirit's call obey; show forth the glory of Your God, which shines on you today.

Arise, your light is come! Fling wide the prison door; proclaim the captives' liberty, good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light is come! All you in sorrow born, bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come! The mountains burst in song! Rise up like eagles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

Sung Benediction

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

"We've Come This Far by Faith" (#656 GtoG) We've come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord, trusting in the holy Word; God's never failed us yet. O, can't turn around, we've come this far by faith. We've come this far by faith.

Benediction

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

I'll attach sinews to you, put meat on your bones, cover you with skin, and breathe life into you. You'll come alive and you'll realize that I am God!"

I prophesied just as I'd been commanded. As I prophesied, there was a sound and, oh, rustling! The bones moved and came together, bone to bone. I kept watching. Sinews formed, then muscles on the bones, then skin stretched over them. But they had no breath in them. God said to me, "Prophesy to the breath. Prophesy, son of man. Tell the breath, 'God says, Come from the four winds. Come, breath. Breathe on these slain bodies. Breathe life!" So I prophesied, just as God commanded me. The breath entered them and they came alive! They stood up on their feet, a huge army.

Musical Interlude

Wade Tambara

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

Betsy Eskridge

Joys & Concerns

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Invitation to Confession

Betsy Eskridge

Leader: Something most of us can agree on is that we often feel wrung-out and anxious, filled with doubts and fears. We can contribute to the healing of ourselves and our world by letting go of anxiety and asking God's Spirit to fill us with love and gratitude.

Prayer of Confession

Betsy Eskridge

Leader: God, You call us to be a community of respect and love where everyone feels welcomed and at home.

People: We live in a world of constant blaming and faultfinding, and admit we pick up those unhealthy habits. Forgive us.

Leader: Jesus, you call us to be reconciled to God and to each other. Forgive us for writing people off, for canceling those who disagree with us.

All: God, it's painful to change, but please give us grace to allow Your Spirit heal us and fill us with patience, respect and wholeness.

Time for silent reflection and confession to God

Assurance of God's Grace

Betsy Eskridge

Leader: With an urgency born of our hope in Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to the work of unity God desires among all people.

People: We rejoice in God's willingness to transform our hearts and minds and make us like Jesus in every possible way.

All: Thanks be to God! We believe the Good News of the Gospel. 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

Betsy Eskridge

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

All: And also with you.

Children's Message

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

*Hymn of Reflection: The Summons (#2130 black songbook)

Sing verses 1, 2, 4, 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.

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: Genesis 1:1-2

Miyo Uchida

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was formless, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.

1st Scripture Reading: Luke 11:11-13

Betsy Eskridge

From The Message Bible

"Don't bargain with God. Be direct. Ask for what you need. This is not a cat-and-mouse, hide-and-seek game we're in. If your little boy asks for a serving of fish, do you scare him with a live snake on his plate? If your little girl asks for an egg, do you trick her with a spider? As bad as you are, you wouldn't think of such a thing—you're at least decent to your own children. And don't you think the Father who conceived you in love will give the Holy Spirit when you ask God?"

Sermon Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave Sermon Series: Making All Things New "The Gift God Gives"

Ezekiel 37:1-10 The Message Bible

God grabbed me. God's Spirit took me up and set me down in the middle of an open plain strewn with bones. He led me around and among them—a lot of bones! There were bones all over the plain—dry bones, bleached by the sun. God said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" I said, "Master God, only you know that." God said to me, "Prophesy over these bones: 'Dry bones, listen to the Message of God!" God told the dry bones, "Watch this: I'm bringing the breath of life to you and you'll come to life.