

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.

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

Nancy Arata-Fong

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:	Carla Hart, Lynn Yamamoto
Ushers:	Judy Fukuman, Maurine Huang
Parking:	Phillip Chew
Parking Barriers (Sat):	Neil Matsuoka
Sound System:	Jonathan Sakakibara
Zoom Moderator/Greeter:	Lori Hart
Altar Flowers:	Dave McGill



The Celebration of Worship

March 10, 2024 • 4th Sunday in Lent

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader:	Dave McGill
Pianist:	Nancy Arata-Fong
Choir Conductor:	Ben Pryor
Japanese Reader:	Miko Kumagai
YES & Toddler Time:	Jana Nakase-Lee, Lynn Yamamoto

Centering Prayer for Lenten Worship

Gracious God,

We thank You for the gift of Your Son, Jesus Christ, whose life and ministry guides us through this Lenten season and in every season of life. In His suffering and death, He knows full well the troubles and pains we face in this earthly life. In His resurrection is the hope of our own. We thank You, O God: You are making all things new.

-From Feasting on the Word

Prelude

Nancy Arata-Fong

*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

Dave McGill

Leader: Eternal God, You adorn the earth with the beauty of each season;

People: Awaken us to Your loving care for all creation as You lift up our hearts with color and new life.

Leader: Lord of heaven and earth, great and wonderful are Your works!

All: With reverent adoration we proclaim Your glory and sing Your praise.

*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

Dave McGill

Leader: We know our faults – the impatient way we have treated others, our distance from God, our discouragement that turns into despair. We will not hide our sins or remain silent, but will confess them to the One who surrounds us with steadfast love.

*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

Dave McGill

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: 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.

Jesus had not yet entered the town but was still at the place where Martha had met him. When her sympathizing Jewish friends saw Mary run off, they followed her, thinking she was on her way to the tomb to weep there. Mary came to where Jesus was waiting and fell at his feet, saying, "Master, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her sobbing and the Jews with her sobbing, a deep anger welled up within him. He said, "Where did you put him?" Master, come and see," they said. Now Jesus wept. The Jews said, "Look how deeply he loved him." Others among them said, "Well, if he loved him so much, why didn't he do something to keep him from dying? After all, he opened the eyes of a blind man." Then Jesus, the anger again welling up within him, arrived at the tomb. It was a simple cave in the hillside with a slab of stone laid against it. Jesus said, "Remove the stone." The sister of the dead man, Martha, said, "Master, by this time there's a stench. He's been dead four days!"

Jesus looked her in the eye. "Didn't I tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" Then, to the others, "Go ahead, take away the stone." They removed the stone. Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and prayed, "Father, I'm grateful that you have listened to me. I know you always do listen, but on account of this crowd standing here I've spoken so that they might believe that you sent me." Then he shouted, "Lazarus, come out!" And he came out, a cadaver, wrapped from head to toe, and with a kerchief over his face. Jesus told them, "Unwrap him and let him loose."

Musical Interlude

Nancy Arata-Fong

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.

Prayer of Confession

Dave McGill

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

- *The Book of Common Prayer*

Time for silent reflection and confession to God

Assurance of God's Grace

Dave McGill

Leader: God's grace is more powerful than our sin and shame.
People: God delights in setting us free from guilt and regret.

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 (#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

Dave McGill

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: O How He Loves You and Me
(#2108 black songbook)**

O how he loves you and me! O how he loves you and me!
He gave his life. What more could he give? O how he loves you;
O how he loves me; O how he loves you and me!

Jesus to Calv'ry did go; his love for sinners to show.
What he did there brought hope from despair. O how he loves
you; O how he loves me; O how he loves you and 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: James 5:16

Miko Kumagai

“Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that
you may be healed.”

1st Scripture Reading: John 11:1-16

Dave McGill

A man was sick, Lazarus of Bethany, the town of Mary and her
sister Martha. This was the same Mary who massaged the
Lord's feet with aromatic oils and then wiped them with her
hair. It was her brother Lazarus who was sick. So the sisters
sent word to Jesus, “Master, the one you love so very much is
sick.”

When Jesus got the message, he said, “This sickness is not fatal.
It will become an occasion to show God's glory by glorifying
God's Son.” Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, but
oddly, when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed on where
he was for two more days. After the two days, he said to his
disciples, “Let's go back to Judea.” They said, “Rabbi, you can't
do that. The Jews are out to kill you, and you're going back?”

Jesus announced, “Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep. I'm
going to wake him up.” The disciples said, “Master, if he's gone
to sleep, he'll get a good rest and wake up feeling fine.” Jesus
was talking about death, while his disciples thought he was
talking about taking a nap.

Then Jesus became explicit: “Lazarus died. And I am glad for
your sakes that I wasn't there. You're about to be given new
grounds for believing. Now let's go to him.” That's when
Thomas, the one called the Twin, said to his companions,
“Come along. We might as well die with him.”

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Lenten Series: Ladder to the Light #4 - “The Rung of Truth”
“Tomb Talk”

John 11:17-45 When Jesus finally got there, he found Lazarus
already four days dead. Bethany was near Jerusalem, only a
couple of miles away, and many of the Jews were visiting
Martha and Mary, sympathizing with them over their brother.
Martha heard Jesus was coming and went out to meet him.
Mary remained in the house.

Martha said, “Master, if you'd been here, my brother wouldn't
have died. Even now, I know that whatever you ask God he will
give you.” Jesus said, “Your brother will be raised up.” Martha
replied, “I know that he will be raised up in the resurrection at
the end of time.”

“You don't have to wait for the End. I am, right now,
Resurrection and Life. The one who believes in me, even
though he or she dies, will live. And everyone who lives
believing in me does not ultimately die at all. Do you believe
this?”

“Yes, Master. All along I have believed that you are the Messiah,
the Son of God who comes into the world.” After saying this,
she went to her sister Mary and whispered in her ear, “The
Teacher is here and is asking for you.” The moment she heard
that, she jumped up and ran out to him.