

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; but purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain.

***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

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:	Betsy Eskridge, Judy Yee
Ushers:	Betsy Eskridge, Miko Kumagai
Parking:	David McGill
Parking Barriers (Sat):	David McGill
Sound System:	Jonathan Sakakibara
Zoom Moderator/Greeter:	Lori Hart
Altar Flowers:	Russ & Lori Hart
Coffee Time:	Terri Bowman, Sue Goodwin, Donna Komure-Toyama



The Celebration of Worship

June 16, 2024 • Father’s Day

That man is a success who has lived well, laughed often, and loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent men and the love of children; who has filled his niche and accomplished his task; who leaves the world better than he found it, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul, who never lacked appreciation of Earth’s beauty, or failed to express it; who looked for the best in others and gave the best he had; his memory is a benediction. - Robert Louis Stevenson

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader:	Sue Goodwin
Pianist:	Janet Hill
Choir Conductor:	Ben Pryor
Japanese Reader:	Miko Kumagai

Centering Prayer for Worship

God, who created the fields of Eden, takes delight in all things, including us! Christ, who walked the streets of our world, gives hope to all people, including us! God’s Spirit, who stays in our hearts, brings truth and peace to us! God of glory, God of grace, Your love surrounds our every moment.

- Thom Shumann

** Those who can, please stand*

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.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Call to Worship

Sue Goodwin

Leader: On this Father's Day, we acknowledge that our relationships with our fathers are complicated. We are shaped by the relationship or lack of relationship with our fathers.

People: For some of us, our father's love is like God's love -- too deep, too long, too wide, too strong to measure.

Leader: Some of our dads are here; some were never here.

People: For some of us, God's love fills in the empty spaces our fathers left behind.

All: On this day as we remember what it means to have a father, or be a father, we honor the fathers among us so that they will manifest God's love in all they do. We offer our worship to the God of glory, to bring joy to God's gracious heart.

*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.

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

Sue Goodwin

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: To God Be the Glory (#485)

To God be the glory, great things He has done!
So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

Refrain. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
and give Him the glory: great things He has done!

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

“The Prodigal Father”

Luke 15:20-32

“When the younger son was still a long way off, his father saw him. His heart pounding, he ran out, embraced him, and kissed him. The son started his speech: ‘Father, I’ve sinned against God, I’ve sinned before you; I don’t deserve to be called your son ever again.’ “But the father wasn’t listening. He was calling to the servants, ‘Quick. Bring a clean set of clothes and dress him. Put the family ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Then get a prize-winning heifer and roast it. We’re going to feast! We’re going to have a wonderful time! My son is here—given up for dead and now alive! Given up for lost and now found!’ And they began to have a wonderful time.

“All this time his older son was out in the field. When the day’s work was done he came in. As he approached the house, he heard the music and dancing. Calling over one of the houseboys, he asked what was going on. He told him, ‘Your brother came home. Your father has ordered a feast—barbecued beef!—because he has him home safe and sound.’ “The older brother stomped off in an angry sulk and refused to join in. His father came out and tried to talk to him, but he wouldn’t listen. The son said, ‘Look how many years I’ve stayed here serving you, never giving you one moment of grief, but have you ever thrown a party for me and my friends? Then this son of yours who has thrown away your money on prostitutes shows up and you go all out with a feast!’

“His father said, ‘Son, you don’t understand. You’re with me all the time, and everything that is mine is yours—but this is a wonderful time, and we had to celebrate. This brother of yours was dead, and he’s alive! He was lost, and he’s found!’”

Musical Interlude

Janet Hill

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.

Invitation to Confession

Leader: Created as stewards of all creation, we know how often we have sunk to depths of faithless living. We lack the stamina to follow Christ through the Kingdom, and ignore the Spirit’s calls to justice. Yet, God looks into our souls and sees the delight of God’s heart. Let’s join in prayer to the One who loves us with an everlasting love.

Prayer of Confession

Sue Goodwin

Leader: Guiding God, we’re grateful that You aren’t a God Who bullies us to enforce Your will, but, despite our failings, You love us with self-sacrificing love. You see us just as we are, and yet You give us the first and best of all Your gifts, the Spirit who makes us Your children.

People: Gracious God, we believe that You have our best interests at heart. Yet, when You call to us, often we don’t listen. We turn from You to go our own way. Forgive us, and return us to our rightful home in You. Guide us in our lives and teach us how to walk in Your ways.

All: Help us be kind to one another, tenderhearted, earthly reminders of Your love. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

A Time for Contemplation

This time of quiet is offered to encourage you to share your personal thoughts with God as well as listen to God through the presence of the Holy Spirit.

Assurance of God's Grace

Sue Goodwin

All: Jesus Christ, Gateway to grace: You make right what we have messed up; You build Your kingdom on the foundation of our faltering faith; You stand with us in the midst of suffering. We thank You, we adore You. 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 Glory to God)

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

Sue Goodwin

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

All: And also with you.

Children's Message

Sue Goodwin

*Hymn of Reflection: This Is My Father's World (#293)

This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres. This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world: Oh, let me ne'er forget that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet. This is my Father's world: the battle is not done; Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.

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 103:8-13

Miko Kumagai

God is sheer mercy and grace; not easily angered, God is rich in love. God doesn't endlessly nag and scold, nor hold grudges forever... As high as heaven is over the earth, so strong is God's love to those who honor God. As parents feel concern for their children, so God has compassion on those who revere God.

1st Scripture Reading: Luke 15:11-19

Sue Goodwin

Then Jesus said, "There was once a man who had two sons. The younger said to his father, 'Father, I want right now what's coming to me.' "So the father divided the property between them. It wasn't long before the younger son packed his bags and left for a distant country. There, undisciplined and dissipated, he wasted everything he had. After he had gone through all his money, there was a bad famine all through that country and he began to feel it. He signed on with a citizen there who assigned him to his fields to slop the pigs. He was so hungry he would have eaten the corn-cobs in the pig slop, but no one would give him any. That brought him to his senses. He said, 'All those farmhands working for my father sit down to three meals a day, and here I am starving to death. I'm going back to my father. I'll say to him, Father, I've sinned against God, I've sinned before you; I don't deserve to be called your son. Take me on as a hired hand.' He got right up and went home to his father.