



The Celebration of Worship

September 1, 2024 • Labor Day Weekend "Faith at Work"

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader:	Christine Umeda
Pianist:	Haruko Sakakibara
Choir Conductor:	Ben Pryor
Japanese Reader:	Haruko Sakakibara

Centering Prayer for Worship

Holy God, how fortunate we are to enjoy the gift of this new day. Your Son Jesus gave us a model for labor by sharing the tasks of everyday life. Empower us as we worship and work to be responsive to Your will. For we want to be Your people in the world, living and working for Your glory. Amen.

Prelude	Haruko Sakakibara
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*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
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** Those who can, please stand*



Call to Worship

Christine Umeda

Leader: Creator God, we come to worship You. Draw us into Your presence, renew and refresh us with Your gracious love.

People: In worship and at work, now and in every moment, Jesus' Spirit is among us: loving us, teaching us, and longing to lead us into life.

All: Almighty God, deepen our commitment to You, and make our lives a part of the work of Your kingdom.

*Opening Hymn: Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty (#482)

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth! Hast
thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what
He ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before
Him! Let the amen sound from His people again; gladly for aye
we adore Him.

Invitation to Confession

Christine Umeda

Leader: If we are all created in God's image, what does that say about the harmful words we speak, the hurt we cause to others, and ourselves? We are invited to confess our faults and foolishness, our brokenness and bitterness to our God, so we may be made new. Please join me, as we pray.

*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" by Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

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, Carla Hart
Parking:	Gary Younglove
Parking Barriers (Sat):	Russ Hart
Sound System:	Tom Tambara
Zoom Moderator/Greeter:	Judy Yee
Altar Flowers:	Stan & Christine Umeda

***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

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: I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me (#369)**

I’m gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I’m gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I’m gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I’m gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I’m gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

***Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Prayer of Confession

Christine Umeda

Leader: God seeks to weave us into one family, tearing down all the barriers between us.

People: Even when we run across people who are mean, dishonest, and hateful, we are called to respond with courage and love.

Leader: No matter how weary we become from our service to others and our struggles,

People: God challenges us to be patient, to rejoice, and to never stop praying. Why should we do all things?

All: Because we are God's people, called to keep working to make a difference!

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

Christine Umeda

Leader: This is the good news for us, and for all who turn to God. God knows us, and forgives us, so we can be filled with renewed energy and empowered with hope.

All: Thanks be to God! We will live each day as God's people: forgiven to serve, blessed to share, loved with an everlasting love. Amen.

***Response to God’s Forgiveness: Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me (#582 Glory to God hymnal)**

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: As the forgiven and redeemed people of God, let us share our peace and joy with one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Children's Message

Titus Toyama

***Hymn of Reflection:** Called as Partners in Christ's Service (#343)

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace, We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace. May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend, Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth, let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth. Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old, blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense, Help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence. Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care, bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife. Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase, messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

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: 1 Corinthians 3:9 Haruko Sakakibara
For we are God's coworkers, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

1st Scripture Reading: Ecclesiastes 3:12-13 Christine Umeda
I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their work.

Special Worship Presentation: "Faith at Work"

Facilitator: Titus Toyama

Panelists: Dave McGill, Megan Toyama, Kishwer Vikaas

2nd Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:23-24 Titus Toyama
Servants, do what you're told by your earthly masters. And don't just do the minimum that will get you by. Do your best. Work from the heart for your real Master, for God, confident that you'll get paid in full when you come into your inheritance. Keep in mind always that the ultimate Master you're serving is Christ. The sullen servant who does shoddy work will be held responsible. Being a follower of Jesus doesn't cover up bad work.

Musical Interlude

Haruko Sakakibara

"Here Am I, Send Me" by John Purifoy

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.