

In Appreciation:

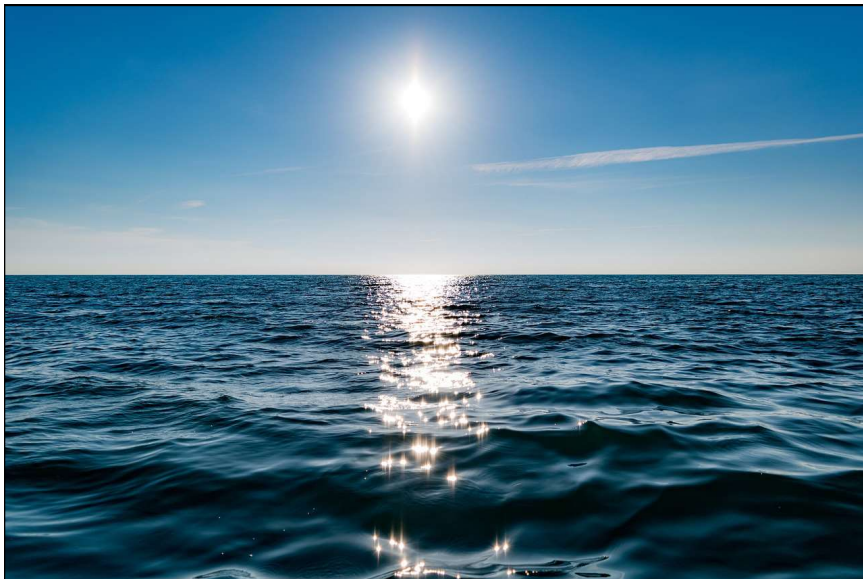
Greeters: Maurine Huang, Luyan Tang
 Ushers: Betsy Eskridge, William Yee
 Parking Barriers (Sat): Russ Hart
 Parking: Russ Hart
 Sound System: Jonathan Sakakibara
 Zoom Moderator/Greeter: Lori Hart
 Altar Flowers: Steve Hanway,
 in loving memory of Effie Komure-Hanway



The Celebration of Worship

January 26, 2025 • 3rd Sunday after Epiphany

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
 Worship Leader: Titus Toyama
 Pianist: Janet Hill
 Choir Conductor: Ben Pryor
 Japanese Reader: Miko Kumagai
 YES: Julie Chew, Cathy Nishizaki



Centering Prayer for Worship

*Loving God,
 Give us pure hearts that we may see you,
 humble hearts that we may hear you,
 hearts of love that we may serve you,
 hearts of faith that we may live for you,
 reverent hearts that we may worship you,
 here and in the world out there,
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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

Titus Toyama

Leader: Creative Spirit of God, on this day, may we step out of our fear to welcome the new life You give to us.

People: In the midst of our distracted lives, we pause to enter sacred space with You, so that our frozen souls may be inflamed by the warmth of Your compassionate Spirit.

Leader: Today and each day, may we speak of Your transforming love and the Spirit's peace for all.

All: So that people will find a community awaiting them, a beloved community that honors Almighty God and brings God's steadfast love and faithfulness to all creation.

*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.

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, sun, moon,
and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Refrain.

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

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.

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

Titus Toyama

Joys & Concerns

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

The Lord's Prayer

Congregation

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: Great Is Thy Faithfulness (#276)

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou changest not; Thy compassions they fail not; As Thou hast been thou forever will be.

Refrain. Great is thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning, new mercies I see.
All I have needed Thy hand has provided.
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!

Invitation to Confession

Titus Toyama

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

Prayer of Confession

Titus Toyama

Leader: God, you call us to build a culture of respect and working toward a better world, where everyone feels loved and at home.

People: We live in a world of constant blaming and fault-finding, and admit we pick up those unhealthy habits. It's hard to listen to voices of those we disagree with, to people who seem misguided or harmful.

All: Jesus, you call us to be reconciled to God and to each other. Forgive us for withholding kindness and respect from those who annoy or offend us. It's not easy to change, but in Your mercy, allow Your Spirit to deepen love, respect, and wholeness in us.

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

Titus Toyama

Leader: With an urgency born of our hope in Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to the work of mercy and unity God desires among all 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 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** Titus Toyama

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: Sue Goodwin

Children and youth may now leave for YES.

***Hymn of Reflection:** There's a Wideness in God's Mercy (#298)

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
There's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where's earth's sorrows are more felt than up
in heaven; There is no place where earth's failings have such
kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of the mind;
And the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's
Word; And our lives reflect thanksgiving for the goodness of
our Lord.

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.**

1st Scripture Reading (Japanese)

Miko Kumagai

Matthew 5:7

Jesus said, "Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy."

2nd Scripture Reading

Titus Toyama

Micah 6:8 from *The Message*

But God's already made it plain how to live, what to do, what God is looking for in men and women. It's quite simple: Do what is fair and just to your neighbor, be compassionate and loyal in your love, And don't take yourself too seriously—take God seriously.

Sermon & 3rd Scripture Reading

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Sermon The Wideness of God's Mercy for All- Jonah: "Nope"
Jonah 3:1-5, 10 and 4:11

The word of the Lord came to Jonah a second time, saying, "Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you." So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the Lord. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days' walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, and he cried out, "Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!" And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth... When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that God had said he would bring upon them, and God did not do it.

God said to Jonah, "And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

Musical Interlude

Janet Hill