

***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.**

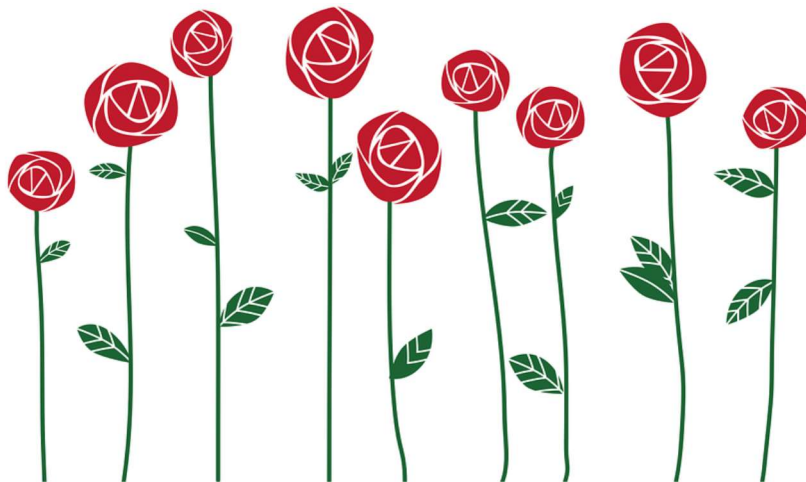
*(Peace, peace, until we meet again. Peace, peace, abundantly, abundantly,
abundantly.)*

Postlude

Janet Hill

In Appreciation:

Greeters:	Betsy Eskridge, Gary Younglove
Ushers:	Betsy Eskridge, Lynn Yamamoto
Parking:	Tak Fukuman
Sound System:	Jonathan Sakakibara
Zoom Moderator/Greeter:	Lois Van Beers
Altar Flowers:	Bill & Linda Nagata



The Celebration of Worship

April 27, 2025 • First Sunday of Eastertide

Guest Pastor:

Rev. Sheri Edwards

Worship Leader:

Dave McGill

Pianist:

Janet Hill

Choir Conductor:

Ben Pryor

Japanese Reader:

Mieko Davis

YES:

Cathy Nishizaki

Centering Prayer for Worship

Glory to you, Risen Lord, in this season of Eastertide, we proclaim that you are alive and we praise you with our lives. Worthy were you when the angels rolled away the stone, and you came forth from the tomb, trampling down death and restoring life to all. God of mercy, give us a spirit of generosity so that we freely share Your love, joy, and encouragement with all those we encounter. Holy Spirit, fill us with faith overflowing, that as we know Christ more deeply, we may share in Christ's suffering, and in the power of His resurrection. 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.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

** Those who can, please stand*

Call to Worship

Dave McGill

Leader: God of endless life, in the light of this new day we see the dawning of Your creation.

People: Gracious God, thank You for the blessing of this day.

Leader: God's artistry coats spiderwebs, grass and flowers with glistening dew.

People: We praise You, O God, for You bring beauty and goodness into every moment.

All: We give thanks for our Risen Lord, and welcome the gift of new life in us and around us. Let our lives be proof of God's good news: Christ is risen! The Lord is risen indeed!

*Opening Hymn: Lift High the Cross (#371)

Refrain. Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore His sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where our Savior trod, the Lamb victorious, Christ, the Son of God.

Refrain.

All newborn servants of the Cru-ci-fied bear on their brow the seal of Christ who died.

Refrain.

O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, Your death has brought us life eternally.

Refrain.

So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Cru-ci-fied for victory.

Refrain.

*Prayer of Dedication

Dave McGill

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: Thine Is the Glory (#122)

Refrain. Thine is the glory, Risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory Thou o'er death has won. Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded graveclothes where Thy body lay.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb; lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom. Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for the Lord now liveth; death has lost its sting.

Refrain.

No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is nought without Thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than conquerors through Thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above.

Refrain.

*Benediction

Rev. Sheri Edwards

And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Sermon & 3rd Scripture Reading

Rev. Sheri Edwards

“Marked for Life” John 20:19-25

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

Musical Interlude

Janet Hill

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.

Invitation to Confession

Leader: It’s the Sunday after Easter; the lilies are wilting. Easter is past, and sometimes it feels like we are alone with our faith. Thomas said: "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." (John 20:25b NRSV) On this Sunday after Easter, may God help us grow into the faith that we celebrated last week. Let’s bring our joys and doubts, our faults and failings, to God in prayer.

Prayer of Confession

Dave McGill

Leader: Jesus said: “Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am now sending you.” He believes in us. The hurting world awaits our compassion.

People: God believes in us.

Leader: Sometimes we will give our best yet fail.

People: God believes in us.

Leader: At other times we will succeed in spite of our stumbling.

People: God believes in us.

Leader: So live boldly, daring to succeed or fail to the glory of God.

All: With Christ’s own Spirit within us, may our words and actions radiate God’s care and compassion to all; and our lives bear witness to God’s amazing grace and resurrection power. For the sake of our living 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

Dave McGill

Leader: By the power of the Holy Spirit, may God grant us the trust to believe the Gospel, not because we see it but because we have been seen by it, and transformed through it.

All: Thanks be to God! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and transformed, to live to the glory of God. Amen.

- adapted from Stephen M. Fearing,
as posted on *Wild and Precious Life*

***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

Dave McGill

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

Rev. Sheri Edwards

***Hymn of Reflection:** When I Survey the Wondrous Cross
(#101)

When I survey the wondrous cross
on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

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)

Mieko Davis

Colossians 3:1-2

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

2nd Scripture Reading

Dave McGill

Colossians 3:12-17

Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.