In Appreciation:

Greeters: Judy Fukuman, Maurine Huang
Ushers: Judy Fukuman, Tak Fukuman
Parking: Russ Hart
Sound System: Liam Wright
Zoom Moderator/Greeter: Lori Hart

Altar Flowers: Steve & Barbie (Matsuoka) Fujinaka, in memory of Jane Matsuoka



For Our Mothers



The Celebration of Worship

May 11, 2025 • Mother's Day

Pastor:

Worship Leader:

Pianist:

Choir Conductor:

Japanese Reader:

YES:

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Titus Toyama

Nancy Arata-Fong

Ben Pryor

Michael Wright

YES:

Jana Nakase-Lee, Lynn Yamamoto

Centering Prayer for Worship

O Divine Companion, You call us to this place where we feel loved and welcomed and call it home. You invite us into this place where we meet kindred spirits and call them friends. Here and now, help us to let go of worry and anxiety and open ourselves to your caring Spirit that will lead us to Your abundant life. God, our perfect Parent, we come home to you and gratefully offer ourselves to You in praise and service. Amen.

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.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

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^{*} Those who can, please stand

Call to Worship

Titus Toyama

Leader: Come home, home to God's embrace.

People: We have come home to worship, to hear of God's amazing grace, to find God's guidance, to feel God's warm acceptance, to respond to God's call.

Leader: Surrounded by springtime splendor, let's joyfully sing praises to our God!

All: We thank God, source of all beauty and goodness, as we worship our Risen Lord!

*Opening Hymn: For the Beauty of the Earth (#473)

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth, over and around us lies,

Refrain. Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,

Refrain.

For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight,

Refrain.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild,

Refrain.

For Thy church that evermore lifteth holy hands above, offering up on every shore her pure sacrifice of love,

Refrain.

*Sending Hymn: Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (#376)

Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down,

fix in us Thy humble dwelling; all Thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, Thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love Thou art; visit us with Thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast! Let us all in Thee inherit, let us find the promised rest; Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be; End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all Thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, nevermore thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as thy hosts above; pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

Finish then Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be; let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee; changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

*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

They were quietly worshipful—and then noisily grateful, calling out among themselves, "God is back, looking to the needs of God's people!" The news of Jesus spread all through the country.

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.

*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

Titus Toyama

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.

Invitation to Confession

Leader: God knows the brokenness of our lives. God listens with compassion when we share our longings and regrets. Trusting Christ's grace to hold us, let's draw near to God and tell God how it is with us.

Prayer of Confession

Titus Toyama

Leader: Dear Lord Jesus, Son of God and Son of Mary, you came into the world to heal the brokenness in the human family and throughout all creation.

People: But sometimes we're absent from each other, giving into pressures at work or distracted by challenges of daily life. We carry grudges and deep resentments that block the flow of your grace.

Leader: Forgive us. Restore our sense of belonging to each other. Heal our relationships and infuse our lives with grace and gratitude.

All: Restore us to a holy balance in our lives and an appreciation of Your gracious presence with us each moment. 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

Titus Toyama

Leader: God's love and forgiveness are powerful reminders of who God is. We are not alone on life's journey. We are God's beloved children. Believe the Good News of the Gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Forgiven, redeemed, and made whole, we are one family in faith. Thanks be to God! 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.

Choir Song

"A Gaelic Blessing" by John Rutter

Children's Message

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Children an youth may now leave for YES.

*Hymn of Reflection: Fairest Lord Jesus (#306)

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O Thou of God to earth come down, Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, Robed in the blooming garb of spring. Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer, Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine, fairer still the moonlight, And all the twinkling starry host. Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer, than all the angels heaven can boast.

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)

Michael Wright

Proverbs 1:8-9

Pay close attention, friend, to what your father tells you; never forget what you learned at your mother's knee. Wear their counsel like flowers in your hair, like rings on your fingers.

2nd Scripture Reading

Titus Toyama

James 1:26-27 The Message

Anyone who sets themself up as "religious" by talking a good game is self-deceived. This kind of religion is hot air and only hot air. Real religion, the kind that passes muster before God, is this: Reach out to the homeless and loveless in their plight, and guard against corruption from the godless world.

Sermon & 3rd Scripture Reading

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

"Life-Giver"

Luke 7:11-17

Soon afterwards Jesus went to a town called Nain, and his disciples and a large crowd went with him. As he approached the gate of the town, a man who had died was being carried out. He was his mother's only son, and she was a widow; and with her was a large crowd from the town. When the Lord saw her, he had compassion for her and said to her, 'Do not weep.' Then he came forward and touched the bier, and the bearers stood still. And he said, 'Young man, I say to you, rise!' The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. They all realized they were in a place of holy mystery, that God was at work among them.