

Arise, your light has come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing, God's power will make us strong.

***Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Karen Sapio

***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

Wade Tambara

*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:	Ian Davis, Mieke Davis
Ushers:	Aki Kumagai, Miko Kumagai
Parking:	Phillip Chew
Sound System:	Dave McGill
Zoom Moderator/Greeter:	Judy Yee
Altar Flowers:	Titus & Donna (Komure) Toyama



The Celebration of Worship

May 25, 2025 • Memorial Candle Lighting

Guest Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Karen Sapio

Worship Leader:

Jonathan Sakakibara

Pianist:

Wade Tambara

Choir Conductor:

Ben Pryor

Japanese Reader:

Miyo Uchida

YES:

Julie Chew, Cathy Nishizaki

Centering Prayer for Worship

*Gracious God, we come before You with hearts open to Your presence. As
You have gathered Your people across generations, so now You gather us.
We rejoice in Your faithfulness and in the promise of Your kingdom.
Fill this space with Your Spirit, that we may worship You in spirit and in
truth. Amen.*

Prelude

Wade Tambara

*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. Karen Sapio

** Those who can, please stand*

Call to Worship

Jonathan Sakakibara

From Psalm 67

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us, and make His face shine upon us!

All: That God's ways may be known on earth, God's saving power among all nations.

Leader: Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You!

All: The earth has yielded its increase; God, our God, has blessed us.

Leader: May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere God.

*Opening Hymn: God is Here (#461)

God is here! As we your people
Meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure
What it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us,
All our varied skills and arts
Wait the coming of the Spirit
Into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us
Of our lifelong need of grace;
Here are table, font and pulpit;
Here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching,
Here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal,
God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome
In the Shepherd's flock and fold;
Here as bread and wine are taken,
Christ sustains us as of old.

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

Jonathan Sakakibara

Joys & Concerns

Rev. Dr. Karen Sapio

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: "Arise, Your Light Is Come" (#411).

Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey;
Show forth the glory of your God which shines on you today.

Arise, your light has come! Fling wide the prison door;
Proclaim the captives' liberty, Good tidings to the poor.

Arise, your light has come! All you in sorry born,
Bind up the brokenhearted ones and comfort those who mourn.

Sermon & 3rd Scripture Reading

Rev. Dr. Karen Sapio

Sermon: "New Directions"

Acts 16: 6-15

And they went through the region of Phry'gia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. And when they had come opposite My'sia, they attempted to go into Bithyn'ia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; so, passing by My'sia, they went down to Tro'as. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night: a man of Macedo'nia was standing beseeching him and saying, "Come over to Macedo'nia and help us." And when he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedo'nia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them.

Setting sail therefore from Tro'as, we made a direct voyage to Sam'othrace, and the following day to Ne-ap'olis, and from there to Philippi, which is the leading city of the district[a] of Macedo'nia, and a Roman colony. We remained in this city some days; and on the sabbath day we went outside the gate to the riverside, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had come together. One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyati'ra, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshiper of God. The Lord opened her heart to give heed to what was said by Paul. And when she was baptized, with her household, she besought us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.

Musical Interlude

Wade Tambara

Memorial Candle Lighting

Donna Komure-Toyama &

See insert.

Titus Toyama

Here the servants of the Servant
Seek in worship to explore
What it means in daily living
To believe and to adore.

Lord of all, of church and kingdom,
In an age of change and doubt,
Keep us faithful to the Gospel;
help us work your purpose out.
Here, in this day's dedication,
All we have to give, receive;
We, who cannot live without you,
We adore you! We believe!

Invitation to Confession

Leader: God of mercy, trusting in your love we step into your light that we may see ourselves clearly.

Prayer of Confession

Jonathan Sakakibara

Leader: Almighty and Everlasting God, You are the light that shines in the darkness, the One who dwells among Your people.

People: We praise You for the gift of Your Son, Jesus, the Lamb who is our light and our salvation. You have made Your home with us and promised us peace that the world cannot give.

Leader: Yet, Lord, we confess that we have often turned from Your ways.

People: We have failed to keep Your word, to love as You have loved, and to trust in Your promises. Forgive us, we pray.

All: Cleanse us by Your Spirit and restore us in Your mercy, that we may walk in the light of Christ, bringing glory to Your name. Spirit of God, search our hearts

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

Jonathan Sakakibara

Leader: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation: the old has gone, the new has come. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

***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

Jonathan Sakakibara

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. Karen Sapio

Children and youth may now leave for YES.

***Hymn of Reflection:** Holy Spirit, Truth Divine (#321)

Holy Spirit, truth divine,
Dawn upon this soul of mine;
Word of God and inward light,
Wake my spirit, clear my sight.

Holy Spirit, love divine,
Glow within this heart of mine;
Kindle every high desire;
Perish self in Thy pure fire.

Holy Spirit, power divine,
Fill and nerve this will of mine;
By Thee may I strongly live,
Bravely bear, and nobly strive.

Holy Spirit, right divine,
Make my conscience wholly Thine;
Be my law, and I shall be
Firmly bound, forever free.

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)

Miyo Uchida

John 14: 23-24

Jesus answered him, “If a man loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our home with him. He who does not love me does not keep my words; and the word which you hear is not mine but the Father's who sent me.

2nd Scripture Reading

Jonathan Sakakibara

John 14: 27-29

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, ‘I go away, and I will come to you.’ If you loved me, you would have rejoiced, because I go to the Father; for the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you before it takes place, so that when it does take place, you may believe.