

be Thou still my strength and shield, be Thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside; death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side; Songs of praises, songs of praises I will ever give to Thee, I will ever give to Thee.

**\*Responsive Benediction** Rev. Sheri Edwards

Leader: May God both enlighten and endarken us,

**People: with a heightened awareness of God's constant presence and abiding love.**

Leader: May we remember, especially in times of darkness, that we are called by name-sought after- by the One who promises to be with us always.

**\*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** 1

*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:** Julie Chew, Luyan Tang  
**Ushers:** Terri Bowman, Julie Chew  
**Parking:** Gary Younglove  
**Sound System:** L.C. Wright  
**Zoom Moderator/Greeter:** Lois Van Beers  
**Altar Flowers:** Betsy Eskridge & Lois Van Beers



## The Celebration of Worship

August 3, 2025 • 8<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave  
Worship Leader: Christine Umeda  
Pianist: Janet Hill  
Choir Conductor: Ben Pryor  
Japanese Reader: Michael Wright

### Centering Prayer for Worship

*Jesus seems to prefer working with broken people, with broken dreams, in a broken world. If someone hands him a whole loaf, he will take it, bless it, break it, and give it, and he will do the same thing with his own flesh and blood, because that is the way of life God has shown him to show the rest of us: to take what we have been given, whether we like it or not, and to bless it-to say thank you for it- whether it is the sweet, satisfying bread of success or the tear-soaked bread of sorrow. To say thank you and to break it, and to hand it around, not to eat it all by ourselves but to find someone to eat it with, so that the broken loaf may bring all of us broken ones together into one body, where we may recognize the risen Lord in our midst.*

- Barbara Brown Taylor in *Gospel Medicine*

### \*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.**

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*\* Those who can, please stand*

## Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

### Call to Worship

Christine Umeda

Leader: Bless the Lord for the earth God has made, the seas and skies, forests and fields, birds and animals, fish and insects.

**People: All show Your goodness and glory, awesome Creator. How majestic is Your handiwork in all the earth.**

Leader: Here and now God is among us, beside us, inside us, empowering us for the purposes of heaven.

**All: Not denying the world, but delighting in it, not condemning the world, but redeeming it through Jesus Christ. Receive our grateful praise, Lord of all the earth!**

**\*Opening Hymn:** All Creatures of Our God and King (#455)  
*Sing verses 1, 2, 4, and 5.*

All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice and with us sing, Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
Ye clouds that sail in heaven along, O sing ye! Alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
Ye lights of evening, find a voice!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou fertile earth, that day by day  
Unfoldest blessings on your way, O sing ye! Alleluia!  
The flowers and fruits that in thee grow,  
Let them God's glory also show!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And everyone of tender heart,  
Forgiving others, take your part. O sing ye! Alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and on God cast your care!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Prayer of Thanksgiving  
Words of Institution  
Receiving the Elements  
Prayer after Communion

### 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

Christine Umeda

### Joys & Concerns

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

### Pastoral Prayer & 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:** Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (#281)

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy powerful hand; Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more, feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream does flow; let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through; Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,

**\*Communion Hymn:** “All Who Hunger” (#2126 in Black songbook)

All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.  
Come from wilderness and wandering, here, in truth, we will be fed. You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food. Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.  
Come from restlessness and roaming, here, in joy,  
we keep the feast. We that once were lost and scattered  
in communion’s love have stood.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.  
Come from loneliness and longing, here, in peace,  
we have been led. Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.  
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

## Holy Communion

### Invitation to the Lord’s Table

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

*This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.*

- from the Iona Community

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

## Invitation to Confession

Christine Umeda

Leader: All too often, we tell God we will do better, and be better, and then just go on living the same way we always have. Let’s tell God our failures and faithlessness, so we can be forgiven, and go to work bringing God’s grace and hope to all.

## Prayer of Confession

Christine Umeda

Leader: Holy and merciful God, You alone know the whole truth about our lives. In Your presence we confess our shortcomings and our offenses against You and others.

**People: You know how often we have failed in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your loving provision. Forgive us. Deliver us from self-centeredness that causes us to mope and wallow in negativity when life doesn’t go the way we want.**

**All: Fill us with Your Spirit and deepen us in faith, hope and love, so that we can bring Your light to the world. 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

Christine Umeda

Leader: It is God's great mercy through the resurrection of Jesus Christ which sustains us and gives us hope.

**People: Our Lord leads us to that place where God's Table is spread with forgiveness and overflowing with grace.**

**All: As God’s beloved children, we will live as God's people: forgiven to serve, blessed to share and care for all the world. 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**

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**

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

### **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.**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Scripture Reading (Japanese)**

Michael Wright

Matthew 6:9-11

Jesus said, "Pray, then, this way:

Our Father who is 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."

### **2<sup>nd</sup> Scripture Reading**

Christine Umeda

Exodus 16: 2-4, 11-15

The whole company of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron there in the wilderness. The Israelites said, "Why didn't God let us die in comfort in Egypt where we had lamb stew and all the bread we could eat? You've brought us out into this wilderness to starve us to death, the whole company of Israel!" God said to Moses, "I'm going to rain bread down from the skies for you. The people will go out and gather each day's ration. I'm going to test them to see if they'll live according to my Teaching or not. "I've listened to the complaints of the Israelites. Now tell them: 'At dusk you will eat meat and at dawn you'll eat your fill of bread; and you'll realize that I am God, your God.'" That evening quail flew in and covered the camp and in the morning there was a layer of dew all over the camp. When the layer of dew had lifted, there on the wilderness ground was a fine flaky something, fine as frost on the ground.

The Israelites took one look and said to one another, *man-hu* (What is it?). They had no idea what it was. So Moses told them, "It's the bread God has given you to eat."

### **3<sup>rd</sup> Scripture Reading & Sermon**

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

"Broken Bread of Life" John 6:24-35

So when the crowd realized he was gone and wasn't coming back, they piled into the Tiberias boats and headed for Capernaum, looking for Jesus. When they found him on the other side of the sea, they said, "Rabbi, when in the world did you get here?" Jesus answered, "You've come looking for me not because you saw God in my actions but because you got a good meal, for free- and were very pleased with that. Yes, work hard, but not for the food that spoils so quickly but for the food that stays with you for so long- food that stays with you clear into lasting Life, the food the Son of Man himself will give you. You see it is on this person that God the Father has set his seal of approval." So they said to him, "What should we be doing, then, so that we are actually doing God's works?"

Jesus said, "This is the work of God: that you trust the One that God sent." So they said to him, "Why don't you give us a sign so we can see it and trust you? Come on, what are you going to do? Moses fed our ancestors with bread in the desert. It says so in the Bible: 'Bread right out of heaven is what he gave them to eat.'" So Jesus responded, "It was not Moses who gave you the bread out of heaven. Oh no! It is my Father who is presently giving you the real bread right out of heaven. You see, the Bread of God is the One coming down out of heaven and giving Life to the whole world." They jumped at that: "Lord, please always give us this bread." Jesus said to them, "I Am the Bread of Life. The person simply coming to me will never go hungry, and the person simply trusting me will never go thirsty-ever."

### **Musical Interlude**

Janet Hill