



The Celebration of Worship

August 24, 2025 • Aloha Sunday



The Aloha spirit welcomes everyone as family.
Please join us in the social hall right after worship
for a delicious, festive Aloha potluck.

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader:	Steve Hanway
Pianist:	Nancy Arata-Fong
Choir Conductor:	Ben Pryor
Japanese Reader:	Haruko Sakakibara

Centering Prayer for Worship

O God, thank You for this day of life.

For eyes to see the sky, for ears to hear the birds, for feet to walk amidst the trees, for a mind to think about and appreciate the magic of everyday miracles, for a spirit to swell in joy at Your mighty presence everywhere.

Thank You God for Your Spirit which grows the will and makes the soul strong. Thank You God for everything. Amen.

- Adapted from a prayer by Marian Wright Edelman

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.

** Those who can, please stand*

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Call to Worship

Steve Hanway

Leader: Eternal God, Your touch makes this world holy.

People: Open our eyes to see Your hand at work in the splendor of creation, and in the beauty of human life.

Leader: Help us to cherish the gifts that surround us, and share Your blessings with all who accompany us on this life's journey.

All: May we reflect Christ's glory, confident of His presence, empowered by His grace.

*Opening Hymn: Let All Things Now Living (#37)

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God our Creator triumphantly raise; who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, by guiding us on to the end of our days.

God's banners are o'er us; pure light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night: till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished, as forward we travel from light into light.

By law God enforces, the stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.

We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing
with glad adoration, a song let us raise:
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving,
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

Invitation to Confession

Steve Hanway

Leader: If we want to live as God's children, to walk in the Light and grow in hope, we must admit our failings and harmful ways. Let's open our lives to God's guidance, correction, and healing mercy. Let's pray to God together.

There's not a plant or flower below but makes Thy glories known; And clouds arise, and tempests blow, by order from Thy throne; While all that borrows life from Thee is ever in Thy care, and everywhere that we can be, Thou, God, art present there.

*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

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: Pattie Hashimoto, Haruko Sakakibara

Ushers: Terri Bowman, Carla Hart

Parking: Dave McGill

Sound System: Jonathan Sakakibara

Zoom Moderator/Greeter: Judy Yee

Altar Flowers: Jerry & Maurine Huang

Coffee Time: Julie Chew, Cathy Nishizaki, Lynn Yamamoto,
and all the volunteers who made the potluck happen

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

Steve Hanway

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: I Sing the Mighty Power of God (#288)

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise;
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God's command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord who filled the earth with food;
God formed the creatures with a word, and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how Thy wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eyes;
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the skies!

Prayer of Confession

Steve Hanway

Leader: Holy God, Source of patience and strength, we become frustrated and exhausted so easily. We are distracted by the demands and details of life, bruised by interactions, and overwhelmed by info-overload.

People: We pray for grace to recognize our faults when we dishonor You, and hurt each other, and for humility to ask for forgiveness.

All: Help us not give in to anxious fears and gloomy negativity, but to trust that You are working in our lives to transform us. You are empowering us to live a life worthy of your calling.

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

Steve Hanway

Leader: God's love is steadfast and true, always providing a way out, a way through, a way back to God.

All: With gratitude for God's faithful mercy, we receive God's amazing grace. Thanks be to God! 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

Steve Hanway

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

Pattie Hashimoto

***Hymn of Reflection:** I've Got Peace Like a River
(#623 Glory to God hymnal)

I've got peace like a river; I've got peace like a river; I've got peace like a river, in my soul. I've got peace like a river; I've got peace like a river; I've got peace like a river, in my soul.

I've got joy like a fountain; I've got joy like a fountain; I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul. I've got joy like a fountain; I've got joy like a fountain; I've got joy like a fountain, in my soul.

I've got love like an ocean; I've got love like an ocean; I've got love like an ocean, in my soul. I've got love like an ocean; I've got love like an ocean; I've got love like an ocean, in my soul.

I've got peace, joy, love like a river; I've got peace, joy, love like a fountain; I've got peace, joy, love like an ocean, in my soul. I've got peace, joy, love like a river; I've got peace, joy, love like a fountain; I've got peace, joy, love like an ocean, in my soul.

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)

Haruko Sakakibara

Psalms 24:1-2

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; for God has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

2nd Scripture Reading

Steve Hanway

1 Chronicles 16:8-11

Give thanks to the Lord, call upon God's name, make known God's deeds among the peoples!

Sing to God, sing praises to God, tell of all God's wondrous works! Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice! Seek the Lord and his strength, seek God's presence continually!

3rd Scripture Reading & Sermon

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

"Godwinks"

Genesis 28:10-17

Jacob left Beersheba and went to Haran. He came to a certain place and camped for the night since the sun had set. He took one of the stones there, set it under his head and lay down to sleep. And he dreamed: A stairway was set on the ground and it reached all the way to the sky; angels of God were going up and going down on it.

Then God was right before him, saying, "I am God, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac. I'm giving the ground on which you are sleeping to you and to your descendants. All the families of the Earth will bless themselves in you and your descendants. Yes. I'll stay with you, I'll protect you wherever you go, and I'll bring you back to this very ground. I'll stick with you until I've done everything I promised you."

Jacob woke up from his sleep. He said, "God is in this place—truly. And I didn't even know it!" He was terrified. He whispered in awe, "Incredible. Wonderful. Holy. This is God's House. This is the Gate of Heaven."

Musical Interlude

Nancy Arata-Fong