

***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

Haruko Sakakibara

Sonata in D Minor K.32

by Domenico Scarlatti (1685-1757)

*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, Mieko Davis

Ushers:

Terri Bowman, Julie Chew

Parking:

Tak Fukuman

Sound System:

Titus Toyama

Zoom Moderator/Greeter:

Lori Hart

Altar Flowers:

Jerry & Maurine Huang,
in celebration of family



The Celebration of Worship

August 31, 2025 • Labor Day Sunday

Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Worship Leader:

Carla Hart

Pianist:

Haruko Sakakibara

Choir Conductor:

Ben Pryor

Japanese Reader:

Mieko Davis

Centering Prayer for Worship

God our Creator, you are alive:

*in the singing of geese flying overhead, in the leaves gently stirring in the
breeze, in the stars that dance at night.*

Jesus our Brother, you are present with us:

*in the lap of a grandmother, in the twilight song of crickets,
in the stillness of dawn.*

Spirit of God, you make all our lives holy:

*the kitchens where we make breakfast, the classrooms where we fidget and
do math, the sidewalks where we meet neighbors.*

Holy One, make us aware of your presence in every moment. Amen.

- Thom Shuman

Prelude

Haruko Sakakibara

** Those who can, please stand*

***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

Call to Worship

Carla Hart

Leader: Creator God, we sing for joy at the work of Your hands.

People: Sing the song of Your love deep within us.

Leader: Holy Spirit, the depth of our hearts is Your dwelling place.

All: Loving Lord Jesus, as we gather in Your presence, let our lives reflect Your glory, our words reveal Your goodness, and our actions shine with Your grace. Amen.

***Opening Hymn: God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand (#262)**

God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

Thy love divine has led us in the past. In this free land by Thee our lot is cast; Be Thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay; Thy word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence, be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense; Thy true religion in our hearts increase; Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh thy people on their toilsome way, Lead us from night to never-ending day; Fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

***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**

Carla Hart

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'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me (#369)**

I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

***Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Offering the Work of Our Hands to God

Carla Hart

Leader: As we live in community with God and each other,

People: May our hands be instruments of peace and love.

Leader: For those who are hungry and thirsty and sick,

People: May our hands provide what is needed most.

Leader: When a guest is in our midst

People: May our hands offer a welcome.

Leader: For the teaching and transformation of people and society,

People: May our hands and minds be in God's Word.

Leader: When injustice is in the world and in our communities,

People: May our hands join with others to work for justice and peace.

Leader: In times of sorrow, illness, and great suffering,

People: May our hands embrace the broken and offer prayers.

Leader: Whatever the need, large or small, God is at work in our hands.

People: May we serve God and others generously, lovingly, and faithfully.

Blessing of the Hands

Carla Hart & Donna Komure-Toyama

You are now invited to come forward to receive a blessing of your hands.

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.

Invitation to Confession

Carla Hart

Leader: Even when we're too busy to notice, God is constantly loving us and encouraging us to grow in grace and faith. We can trust God with our deep brokenness and regrets. Let's invite God's Spirit to lead us in reflection and repentance as we pray together.

Prayer of Confession

Carla Hart

Leader: God, You long to weave us into one world family, tearing down all the hostility and barriers between us.

People: Even when we encounter people who are mean, dishonest, and hateful, we're called to respond with loving wisdom and courage.

Leader: No matter how weary we become from our activities and activism, our struggles and service,

People: God challenges us to be patient, to rejoice, and to never stop praying.

All: Because we are God's people, called to keep doing God's work in the world, and make a difference!

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

Carla Hart

Leader: This is good news for us, and for all who turn to God. God knows us and forgives us, so we can be filled with hope and peace.

All: Thanks be to God! We will live each day as God's people: forgiven to serve, blessed to share, loved with an everlasting love.

***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** Carla Hart

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

It All Depends on Whose Hand It's In

***Hymn of Reflection:** We Shall Overcome (#379 Glory to God hymnal)

We shall overcome; we shall overcome;
we shall overcome someday.

Refrain. O, deep in my heart I do believe we shall overcome someday!

We'll walk hand in hand; we'll walk hand in hand;
we'll walk hand in hand someday.

Refrain.

We shall live in peace; we shall live in peace;
we shall live in peace someday.

Refrain.

We are not afraid; we are not afraid; we are not afraid today.

Refrain.

God will see us through; God will see us through;
God will see us through today.

Refrain.

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

Ecclesiastes 9:10

Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.

2nd Scripture Reading Carla Hart

Ephesians 4:28

Anyone who has been stealing must steal no longer, but must work, doing something useful with their own hands, that they may have something to share with those in need.

3rd Scripture Reading & Sermon Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

"Our Life in God's Hands"

Psalm 90:14-17

Lord God, satisfy us in the morning with Your steadfast love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days. Make up for the bad times with some good times; we've seen enough evil to last a lifetime. Let Your servants see what you're best at—the ways you guide and bless Your children. Let the loveliness of our Lord, our God, rest on us, confirming the work of our hands; Yes, confirm the work of our hands.

Musical Interlude Haruko Sakakibara

Tranquil and Expressive Op.62, No.8
by Theodor Kirchner (1823-1903)