

Postlude

Haruko Sakakibara

“St. Anthony Chorale” by Franz Joseph Haydn (1732-1809)

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:** Betsy Eskridge, Luda Wright
- Ushers:** Aki Kumagai, Miko Kumagai
- Parking:** Russ Hart
- Sound System:** Lois Van Beers
- Zoom Moderator/Greeter:** Lori Hart
- Altar Flowers:** Ben Pryor & Kishwer Vikaas



The Celebration of Worship

September 28, 2025 • 16th Sunday of Pentecost

- Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
- Worship Leader:** Donna Komure-Toyama
- Pianist:** Haruko Sakakibara
- Choir Conductor:** Ben Pryor
- Japanese Reader:** Miyo Uchida
- YES:** Julie Chew, Cathy Nishizaki

Centering Prayer for Worship

*God of radiance and glory,
 You give life to all things and call us to life everlasting.
 Show us the treasure of Your grace so that we may take hold of the life
 that really is life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Prelude Haruko Sakakibara

***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

** Those who can, please stand*



Call to Worship

Donna Komure-Toyama

Leader: In the midst of war and division, we yearn for God:

People: In the midst of anxiety and uncertainty, we lean on God:

Leader: In the midst of the golden unfolding of brilliant Autumn days, we worship God and proclaim,

All: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, God's mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning. Great is Your faithfulness, O God!

(Lamentations 3:22-23)

*Opening Hymn: To God Be the Glory (#485)

To God be the glory, great things He has done! So loved He the world that He gave us His Son, who yielded His life an atonement for sin, and opened the lifegate that all may go in.

Refrain. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory: great things He has done!

Great things He has taught us, great things He has done, and great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son; but purer, and higher, and greater will be our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.

Refrain.

Invitation to Confession

Donna Komure-Toyama

Leader: Trusting in God's mercy, let's confess all we have done, and what we have not done, that God's grace may bridge the great chasm between God's holiness and our faults and failings.

Joys & Concerns

Donna Komure-Toyama

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: O for a World (#386)

O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways, where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved, where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise. Tell all who mourn; outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace, where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

*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.*)

Send Lazarus to dip his finger in water to cool my tongue. I'm in agony in this fire."

But Abraham said, "Child, remember that in your lifetime you got the good things and Lazarus the bad things. It's not like that here. Here he's consoled and you're tormented. Besides, in all these matters there is a huge chasm set between us so that no one can go from us to you even if he wanted to, nor can anyone cross over from you to us." The rich man said, "Then let me ask you, Father: Send him to the house of my father where I have five brothers, so he can tell them the score and warn them so they won't end up here in this place of torment."

Abraham answered, "They have Moses and the Prophets to tell them the score. Let them listen to them." "I know, Father Abraham," he said, "but they're not listening. If someone came back to them from the dead, they would change their ways." Abraham replied, "If they won't listen to Moses and the Prophets, they're not going to be convinced by someone who rises from the dead."

Musical Interlude Haruko Sakakibara
"Cantabile in Bflat Major" by Frederic Chopin (1810-1849)

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** Donna Komure-Toyama

Prayer of Confession Donna Komure-Toyama
Leader: We have sinned, O God, hoarding what we have, grasping for more, ignoring those in need because we feel overwhelmed and inadequate to meet their needs.

People: We want to enjoy life and be comfortable now, and later on, so we're willfully ignorant in the face of oppressive systems.

All: Forgive us. Transform us. Empower us to love as You love. Eagerly. Patiently. Non-judgmentally. Generously.

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 Donna Komure-Toyama
Leader: The Lord welcomes all who turn from lives of self-serving stinginess and complacency.

All: Thanks be to God! In Christ we find our way home to God's heart where we're forgiven, loved and renewed for service. 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** Donna Komure-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
"Make Me An Instrument of Your Peace" by Precious Craft

Children's Message

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Children and youth may now go to YES.

*Hymn of Reflection: Swing Low, Sweet Chariot (#825)

Refrain. Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.
Swing low, sweet chariot, coming for to carry me home.

I looked over Jordan, and what did I see coming for to carry me home? A band of angels coming after me, coming for to carry me home. O,

Refrain.

If you get there before I do, coming for to carry me home, tell all my friends I'm coming too, coming for to carry me home. O,

Refrain.

The brightest day that ever I saw, coming for to carry me home, when Jesus washed my sins away, coming for to carry me home. O,

Refrain.

I'm sometimes up and sometimes down, coming for to carry me home, But still my soul feels heavenly bound, coming for to carry me home. O,

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)

Miyo Uchida

Psalm 86:11-13

Teach me your way, Lord, that I may rely on your faithfulness; give me an undivided heart, that I may revere your name.

I will praise you, Lord my God, with all my heart; I will glorify your name forever. For great is your love toward me; you have delivered me from the depths, from the realm of the dead.

2nd Scripture Reading

Donna Komure-Toyama

Isaiah 58:6-12

“This is the kind of fast day I’m after”, says the Lord: “to break the chains of injustice, get rid of exploitation in the workplace, free the oppressed, cancel debts.

What I’m interested in seeing you do is: sharing your food with the hungry, inviting the homeless poor into your homes, putting clothes on the shivering ill-clad, being available to your own families. Do this and the lights will turn on, and your lives will turn around at once. Your righteousness will pave your way. The God of glory will secure your passage. Then when you pray, God will answer. You’ll call out for help and I’ll say, ‘Here I am.’”

3rd Scripture Reading & Sermon

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

“The Chasm of Our Choices”

Luke 16:19-31

There once was a rich man, expensively dressed in the latest fashions, wasting his days in conspicuous consumption. A poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, had been dumped on his doorstep. All he lived for was to get a meal from scraps off the rich man’s table. His best friends were the dogs who came and licked his sores. Then he died, this poor man, and was taken up by the angels to the lap of Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In hell and in torment, he looked up and saw Abraham in the distance and Lazarus in his lap. He called out, “Father Abraham, mercy! Have mercy!