

Postlude

Janet Hill

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: Maurine Huang, Sachiko Yoshikawa
Ushers: Diane Younglove, Gary Younglove
Parking: Tak Fukuman
Sound System: Cathy Nishizaki
Zoom Moderator/Greeter: Lori Hart
Altar Flowers: Jonathan & Haruko Sakakibara



The Celebration of Worship

October 12, 2025 • 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader: Haruko Sakakibara
Pianist: Janet Hill
Choir Conductor: Ben Pryor
Japanese Reader: Miko Kumagai
YES: Jana Nakase-Lee, Lynn Yamamoto

Centering Prayer for Worship

We offer a harvest of praise to you, Holy Spirit of joy and wonder. Lord Jesus, you pour out your Living Water of renewal upon us, so we might be energized to do what is right. You patiently sit down to teach us, taking time to listen to our lives so we might learn your ways of service, gratitude and humility. Help us trust you enough to listen to you each day, and grow in our ability to drink deeply from your wellsprings of grace. Amen.

- From a prayer by Thom Shuman

Prelude

Janet Hill

*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

Haruko Sakakibara

Leader: O God, thank You for this day of life.

People: For eyes to see the sky, for ears to hear the birds, for feet to walk by a river, 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.

All: Thank You God for Your Spirit which transform the will and makes the soul strong. Thank You God for another day to worship you. Amen.

- From a prayer by Marian Wright Edelman

*Opening Hymn: Morning Has Broken (#469)

Morning has broken like the first morning; Blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning, born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation, praise every morning, God's re-creation of the new day!

Invitation to Confession

Haruko Sakakibara

Leader: The One who places the sun in the brilliant autumn sky, and the golden moon in the heavens, is the same One who wraps mercy tight around us, who fills our lives with gifts.

Let's confess our sins to God who has promised to listen to our words, as well as our hearts.

Prayer of Confession

Haruko Sakakibara

Leader: God of Justice, God of Struggle, through the death and resurrection of Jesus you delivered humankind from the oppression of shame and hopelessness.

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 Thousand Tongues to Sing (#466)

O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace!

Jesus, the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'Tis life, and health, and peace.

Christ breaks the power of reigning sin, and sets the prisoner free;
Christ's blood can make the sinful clean, Christ's blood availed for me.

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of Thy name.

*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.)*

Back in the village she told the people, “Come see a man who knew all about the things I did, who knows me inside and out. Do you think this could be the Messiah?” And they went out to see for themselves. Many of the Samaritans from that village committed themselves to him because of the woman’s witness: “He knew all about the things I did. He knows me inside and out!” They asked him to stay on, so Jesus stayed two days. A lot more people entrusted their lives to him when they heard what he had to say. They said to the woman, “We’re no longer taking this on your say-so. We’ve heard it for ourselves and know it for sure. He’s the Savior of the world!”

Musical Interlude

Janet Hill

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

Haruko Sakakibara

Joys & Concerns

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

People: You invite all to new life, to freedom and joy, yet we are surrounded by institutions and groups that use violence to destroy the dignity of those they seek to rule by fear.

All: Strengthen us with Your Spirit to work for justice. Kindle Your fire of your courageous love in our hearts and in our world.

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

Haruko Sakakibara

Leader: Seeing our brokenness, God puts us back together; knowing our desire to be made whole, God loves us, God forgives us, God fills us with new life.

All: Thanks be to God for transformation, for healing of body and spirit, for wonder, and for grace. We believe the good news of the gospel! 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

Haruko 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.

Children’s Message

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Children and youth may now leave for YES.

***Hymn of Reflection:** As the Deer (#2025 black songbook)

Sing twice.

As the deer pants for the water, so my soul longs after you.
You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

You alone are my strength, my shield; to you alone may my spirit yield. You alone are my heart's desire, and I long to worship you.

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)

Miko Kumagai

Amos 5:24

The Lord God says, "Do you know what I want? I want justice-oceans of it. I want fairness- rivers of it. That's what I want. That's *all* I want."

2nd Scripture Reading

Haruko Sakakibara

John 4: 3-15 Jesus left the Judean countryside and went back to Galilee. To get there, he had to pass through Samaria. He came into Sychar, a Samaritan village that bordered the field Jacob had given his son Joseph. Jacob's well was still there. Jesus, worn out by the trip, sat down at the well. It was noon.

A woman, a Samaritan, came to draw water. Jesus said, "Would you give me a drink of water?" (His disciples had gone to the village to buy food for lunch.) The Samaritan woman, taken aback, asked, "How come you, a Jew, are asking me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" (Jews in those days wouldn't be caught dead talking to Samaritans.) Jesus answered, "If you knew the generosity of God and who I am, you would be asking me for a drink, and I would give you fresh, living water."

The woman said, "Sir, you don't even have a bucket to draw with, and this well is deep. So how are you going to get this 'living water'? Are you a better man than our ancestor Jacob, who dug this well and drank from it, he and his sons and livestock, and passed it down to us?" Jesus said, "Everyone who drinks this water will get thirsty again and again. Anyone who drinks the water I give will never thirst—not ever. The water I give will be an artesian spring within, gushing fountains of endless life." The woman said, "Sir, give me this water so I won't ever get thirsty, won't ever have to come back to this well again!"

3rd Scripture Reading & Sermon

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

The Next Conversation Series #5: "Wounds and Wells"

John 4:16-18, 23-30, 39-42

Jesus said to her, "Go call your husband and then come back." "I have no husband," she said. "That's nicely put: 'I have no husband.' You've had five husbands, and the man you're living with now isn't even your husband. You spoke the truth there, sure enough." ... "It's who you are and the way you live that count before God. Your worship must engage your spirit in the pursuit of truth. That's the kind of people the Father is out looking for: those who are simply and honestly themselves before him in their worship. God is sheer being itself—Spirit. Those who worship him must do it out of their very being, their spirits, their true selves, in adoration."

The woman said, "I don't know about that. I do know that the Messiah is coming. When he arrives, we'll get the whole story." "I am he," said Jesus. "You don't have to wait any longer or look any further." Just then his disciples came back. They were shocked. They couldn't believe he was talking with that kind of a woman. No one said what they were all thinking, but their faces showed it.

The woman took the hint and left. In her confusion she left her water pot.