

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
save in the death of Christ my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See, from His head, His hands, His feet,  
sorrow and love flow mingled down;  
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,  
or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
that were a present far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
demands my soul, my life, my all.

**\*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**

Wade Tambara

*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, Megan Toyama
Ushers:	Aki Kumagai, Maria Mar
Parking:	Gary Younglove
Sound System:	Cathy Nishizaki
Zoom Moderator/Greeter:	Judy Yee
Altar Flowers:	Dave McGill



## The Celebration of Worship

March 29, 2026 • Palm Sunday

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader:	Titus Toyama
Pianist:	Wade Tambara
Choir Conductor:	Ben Pryor
Japanese Reader:	Aki Kumagai

### Centering Prayer for Worship

*O Holy One, on this Palm Sunday, we are too distressed to notice that You join us in the parade. We are too deeply grieved to be aware that You walk with us, You sit beside us. We are too busy fretting. We are too busy talking. We have insisted upon our own answers about why bad things happen, about why the world feels so broken.*

*But this world is in Your hands. Our lives are in Your hands.*

*As we worship, please speak to us. Fill our aching, angry hearts. Comfort us with Your compassion so that we may find Your peace. Save us, Holy Lord Jesus, with your steadfast love. Amen.*

*Amen.*

### Prelude

Wade Tambara

### Choir Song

"Processional"

Buryl Red

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*\* 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

Titus Toyama

Leader: Lent began in the wilderness; it concludes in Jerusalem. We come to experience the holiest of weeks. We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips; We will travel through betrayal and death, cradling hope deep in our hearts.

**People: Jesus leads us through this week, and we will follow Him, for He is the life we long for, He is the Savior who sustains us.**

Leader: We wave palm branches in celebration, we lay our love and gratitude before Him, to cushion His steps.

**People: Setting aside all glory, honor and power, Jesus comes: modeling the transforming strength of humility and unwavering love.**

Leader: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

**All: Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!**

### \*Opening Hymn: “Hosanna, Loud Hosanna” (#89)

Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang; to Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to His breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

From Olivet they followed ‘mid an exultant crowd, the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud; the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state, nor scorned that little children should on His bidding wait.

### Musical Interlude

Wade Tambara

### 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

Titus Toyama

### 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: “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” (#101)

When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.

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

Titus Toyama

Revelation 7:9-10

After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb. They were wearing white robes and were holding palm branches in their hands; and they cry out with a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb."

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

Rev. Dwight Nave

"Rock Concert"

Matthew 21:1-11

When they neared Jerusalem, having arrived at Bethphage on Mount Olives, Jesus sent two disciples with these instructions: "Go over to the village across from you. You'll find a donkey tethered there, her colt with her. Untie her and bring them to me. If anyone asks what you're doing, say, 'The Master needs them!' He will send them with you."

This is the full story of what was written earlier by the prophet: Tell Zion's daughter,

"Look, your king's on his way, poised and ready, mounted On a donkey, on a colt, foal of a donkey."

The disciples went and did exactly what Jesus told them to do. They led the donkey and colt out, laid some of their clothes on them, and Jesus mounted. Nearly all the people in the crowd threw their garments down on the road, giving him a royal welcome. Others cut branches from the trees and threw them down as a welcome mat. Crowds went ahead and crowds followed, all of them calling out, "Hosanna to David's son!" "Blessed is he who comes in God's name!" "Hosanna in highest heaven!"

As he made his entrance into Jerusalem, the whole city was shaken. Unnerved, people were asking, "What's going on here? Who is this?" The parade crowd answered, "This is the prophet Jesus, the one from Nazareth in Galilee."

"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer, the Lord of heaven, our King. O may we ever praise Him with heart and life and voice, and in His blissful presence eternally rejoice.

## Invitation to Confession

Titus Toyama

Leader: We turn our hearts to Jerusalem- to the life, death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. As we enter this Holy Week, may God strengthen us to move beyond the festive parade of palms and to follow Jesus in the way of the cross. As we begin our Holy Week journey, let's tell God the truth about our lives as we pray to God together.

## Prayer of Confession

Titus Toyama

Leader: The radiance of God's presence shines brightly against the gathering shadows of the week to come. Merciful God, as we join Jesus in this Holy Week, we're aware of our failings and lack of loyalty; we admit our doubts and shame and betrayals.

**People: May we find Your grace stronger than our doubt and deeper than our fears. Set us free from all that makes us mean and mistrusting.**

Leader: Loving Lord Jesus, help us learn humility and wholehearted service by Your example. For although You are equal with God, You came to us to share human life and suffering.

**All: Gracious Redeemer, please come and bring healing for our brokenness, and peace to our troubled world. By Your Spirit, guide us as we journey in Your steps. Amen.**

*A Time for Silent 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

Titus Toyama

Leader: The radiance of God's presence shines brightly against the gathering shadows of the week to come. Merciful God, as we join Jesus in this Holy Week, we're aware of our failings and lack of loyalty; we admit our doubts and shame and betrayals.

**People: May we find Your grace stronger than our doubt and deeper than our fears. Set us free from all that makes us mean and mistrusting.**

Leader: Loving Lord Jesus, help us learn humility and wholehearted service by Your example. For although You are equal with God, You came to us to share human life and suffering.

**All: Gracious Redeemer, please come and bring healing for our brokenness, and peace to our troubled world. By Your Spirit, guide us as we journey in Your steps. 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

Titus 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

"Acclamation"

Robert Ray

### Children's Message

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

### \*Hymn of Reflection: "All Glory, Laud and Honor" (#88)

*Refrain.* All glory, laud and honor to Thee, Redeemer, King!  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.

Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David's royal Son, who in the Lord's name comest, the King and blessed One.

*Refrain.*

The people of the Hebrews with palms before Thee went; our praise and prayers and anthems before Thee we present.

*Refrain.*

To Thee, before Thy passion, they sang their hymns of praise; to Thee, now high exalted, our melody we raise.

*Refrain.*

Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring, Who in all good delightest, Thou good and gracious King!

*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.**

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

Aki Kumagai

*This first reading is recited in Japanese to honor our church founders, who established this church in 1912 in the original Japantown of Sacramento.*

Zechariah 9:9

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! See, your kind comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.