

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine, but saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.

Not throned afar, remotely high, untouched, unmoved by human pains, but daily, in the midst of life, our Savior in the Godhead reigns

In every insult, rift, and war where color, scorn, or wealth divide, Christ suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, where even hope has died.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

***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: Miko Kumagai, Jack Nordman
Ushers: Bill Grissom, Herning Grissom
Parking: Dave McGill
Sound System: Titus Toyama
Zoom Moderator/Greeter: Aki Kumagai
Altar Flowers: Bill & Herning Grissom



The Celebration of Worship

April 12, 2026 • First Sunday in Eastertide

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader: Judy Fukuman
Pianist: Nancy Arata-Fong
Choir Conductor: Ben Pryor
Japanese Reader: Miko Kumagai
YES: Kris Sasaki, Lynn Yamamoto

Centering Prayer for Worship

Holy God, Creator of all, the risen Christ taught us in scripture of His death, resurrection, and ascension into Your glorious presence. May the living Lord breathe His peace on us, that our eyes may be opened to recognize Him in breaking bread, and to follow wherever He leads. Fill Your church with the power that flows from Christ's resurrection, that in the midst of a broken world, it may signal the beginning of a renewed humanity, risen to new life with Christ. Amen.

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.

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

** Those who can, please stand*

Call to Worship

Judy Fukuman

Leader: As we join in worship this Sunday after Easter, we might feel like the disciples, overwhelmed by grief. After all, the world is filled with violence and suffering.

People: But our risen Lord invites us to worship, saying, "Peace be with you."

Leader: When there is so much to fear in the world, we can find peace in Christ's presence. As we worship, Jesus breathes the Holy Spirit on us. Christ's peace is with us. We don't need to be afraid.

All: O Christ, the heavens and the earth rejoice in Your resurrection. We join in praising God as we worship our risen Lord!

*Opening Hymn: "Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!" (#104)

Sing to the tune of "Joyful, Joyful"

Christ is risen! Shout Hosanna! Celebrate this day of days!

Christ is risen! Hush in wonder: all creation is amazed.

In the desert all surrounding, see, a spreading tree has grown.
Healing leaves of grace abounding bring a taste of love unknown.

Christ is risen! Raise your spirits from the caverns of despair.
Walk with gladness in the morning. See what love can do and dare.
Drink the wine of resurrection, not a servant, but a friend. Jesus is our strong companion. Joy and peace shall never end.

Christ is risen! Earth and heaven nevermore shall be the same. Break the bread of new creation where the world is still in pain.

Tell its grim, demonic chorus: "Christ is risen! Get you gone!"

God the First and Last is with us. Sing Hosanna everyone!

Invitation to Confession

Judy Fukuman

Leader: Let's declare our intention to live for God through the transforming power of our risen Lord. Let's bring our hurts and grudges, our faults and failings to God who hears and helps us.

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

Judy Fukuman

Joys & Concerns

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our Creator, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

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: "Christ Is Alive!" (#108)

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.

All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming, here, in joy,
we keep the feast. We that once were lost and scattered
in communion's love have stood. Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing, here, in peace,
we have been led. Blest are those who from this table live their lives
in gratitude. Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God
is good.

Holy Communion

Invitation to the Lord's Table

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

- from the Iona Community

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving
Words of Institution
Receiving the Elements
Prayer after Communion

Prayer of Confession

Judy Fukuman

Leader: O God, through Jesus, You long to fill us with Your comfort and peace. When we're too ashamed to seek community, please transform us as we reveal our brokenness to You.

People: When we run away and turn our backs on love, when we seek immediate relief and not long-term healing, help us. When we've been selfish, when we've been mean, when we've closed our hearts to the suffering of others, forgive us.

Leader: Give us the courage, strength and hope to trust Your love and accept Your grace.

All: Living God, for whom no door is closed, no heart is locked, draw us beyond our doubts, until we see Christ and touch His wounds where they bleed in others.

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

Judy Fukuman

Leader: We are healed, to bring healing to our world; we are strengthened in faith, to bring God's grace and kindness to others.

All: Thanks be to God! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and set free to become God's faithful servants. 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

Judy Fukuman

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 go to YES.

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

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

John 3:16-17

"This is how much God loved the world: God gave his Son, his one and only Son. And this is why: so that no one need be destroyed; by believing in Jesus, anyone can have a whole and lasting life. God didn't go to all the trouble of sending his Son merely to point an accusing finger, telling the world how bad it was. Jesus came to help, to put the world right again."

2nd Scripture Reading

Judy Fukuman

1 Peter 1:3-9

What a God we have! And how fortunate we are to have God, this Father of our Lord Jesus! Because Jesus was raised from the dead, we've been given a brand-new life and have everything to live for, including a future in heaven—and the future starts now! God is keeping careful watch over us and the future. The Day is coming when you'll have it all—life healed and whole.

I know how great this makes you feel, even though you have to put up with every kind of aggravation in the meantime. Pure gold put in the fire comes out of it proved pure; genuine faith put through this suffering comes out proved genuine. When Jesus wraps this all up, it's your faith, not your gold, that God will have on display as evidence of his victory. You never saw him, yet you love him. You still don't see him, yet you trust him—with laughter and singing. Because you kept on believing, you'll get what you're looking forward to: total salvation.

3rd Scripture Reading & Sermon

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

"Through Locked Doors and Closed Hearts"

John 20:19-29

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Musical Interlude

Nancy Arata-Fong

*Communion Hymn: "All Who Hunger"

(#2126 black songbook)

All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wandering, here, in truth, we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.