

In Appreciation:

Greeters: Miko Kumagai, Sachiko Yoshikawa
Ushers: Terri Bowman, Miko Kumagai
Parking: Tak Fukuman
Sound System: Dave McGill
Zoom Moderator/Greeter: Judy Yee
Altar Flowers: Bill & Linda Nagata



The Celebration of Worship

April 26, 2026 • CROP Walk Sunday



CROP Walk is Today!!

Join fellow walkers after worship service at the front of the church to walk around Southside Park to help end hunger. Check the weekly email on how to donate.



Guest Preacher: Rev. Don Strongman
Worship Leader: Jack Nordman
Pianist: Wade Tambara
Choir Conductor: Ben Pryor
Japanese Reader: Haruko Sakakibara
YES: Cathy Nishizaki

Centering Prayer for Worship

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prelude

Wade Tambara

*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

Jack Nordman

** Those who can, please stand*

Call to Worship

Jack Nordman

Leader: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me: your rod and your staff—they comfort me.

People: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies: you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Leader: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life.

People: And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Leader: Let us worship God!

*Opening Hymn: “Thine Is the Glory” (#122)

Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o’er death has won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded graveclothes where thy body lay.

Refrain. Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son;
endless is the victory thou o’er death has won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing
for the Lord now liveth; death has lost its sting.

Refrain.

No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is nought without Thee; aid us in our strife. Make us more than conquerors through Thy deathless love; bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above.

Refrain.

*Sending Hymn: “Now Thank We All Our God” (#555)

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices.
who, from our mother’s arms, has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our lives be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in God’s grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
To Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

*Benediction

Rev. Don Strongman

*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.

Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

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

Jack Nordman

Joys & Concerns

Judy Yee

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.

Invitation to Confession

Jack Nordman

Leader: Let us draw near to God with sincerity of heart and full assurance of faith, our guilty hearts sprinkled clean, our bodies washed with pure water. Let’s confess our sin before God and one another.

Prayer of Confession

Jack Nordman

Leader: Eternal God, our Judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from You, for we have done wrong.

People: We have lived for ourselves, and apart from You. We have turned from our neighbors, and refused to bear the burdens of others.

Leader: We have ignored the pain of the world, and passed by the hungry, the poor and the oppressed.

All: In Your great mercy forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose Your will and obey Your commandments; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

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

Jack Nordman

Leader: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. May the God of mercy, who forgives all your sins, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All: Thanks be to God, in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. 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**

Jack Nordman

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. Don Strongman

Children and youth may now go to YES.

***Hymn of Reflection: “My Shepherd Will Supply My Need” (#172)**

My shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is His name:
In pastures fresh He makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back, when I forsake His ways;
And leads me, for His mercy’s sake, in paths of truth and grace.
When I walk through the shades of death Your presence is my stay;
One word of Your supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows, Your oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may Your House be my abode, and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
No more a stranger, or a guest, but like a child at home.

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)

Haruko Sakakibara

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 10:11

Jesus said to them, “I am the good shepherd; the good shepherd lays down His life for the sheep.”

2nd Scripture Reading

Jack Nordman

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.
He leads me in right paths for his name’s sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil,
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

3rd Scripture Reading & Sermon

Rev. Don Strongman

“Sheep and Shepherds” John 10:1-10

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate.