

***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

Haruko Sakakibara

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.

“Invention Allegro tranquillo” by Bach (1685-1720)

In Appreciation:

Greeters:	Pattie Hashimoto, Luyan Tang
Ushers:	Mieko Davis, Judy Fukuman
Parking:	Phillip Chew
Sound System:	Cathy Nishizaki
Zoom Moderator/Greeter:	Lois Van Beers
Altar Flowers:	Lynn Yamamoto

May is Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month



The Celebration of Worship

May 3, 2026 • 4th Sunday of Eastertide

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader:	Jonathan Sakakibara
Pianist:	Haruko Sakakibara
Choir Conductor:	Ben Pryor
Japanese Reader:	Mieko Davis
Communion Elders:	Irene Uno, Gary Younglove
YES:	Ben Pryor, Kishwer Vikaas

Centering Prayer for Worship

*Magnificent Creator of us all,
In every journey, on every road; in every heart, in every moment of life;
we receive the love and support we need from You.
By Christ’s Spirit at work in us, help us bear Your Word, and do it.
You created us for companionship, O God. Use us to bring Your healing
love to broken bodies, lonely souls, and imperiled communities. May our
worship, and our lives, be a blessing to You. 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.

** Those who can, please stand*

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Call to Worship

Jonathan Sakakibara

Leader: God cradles the depths of the earth and causes the sun to rise on all creation.

People: Stunned by springtime splendor, we respond with worship.

Leader: We give thanks to the Risen Lord and welcome the gift of new life in us and around us.

All: We joyfully sing Eastertide praises and proclaim God's glory!

*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

Jonathan Sakakibara

Leader: Let's prepare ourselves to receive God's cleansing grace as, in words and silence, we tell God the truth about the broken edges of our lives, and the broken edges of the world.

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: "Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ" (#514)

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy: bread is broken; the wine is poured; Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Refrain. Jesus lives again; earth can breathe again; pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Christ is able to make us one; at the table he sets the tone, teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express.

Refrain.

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!

Refrain.

*Benediction

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

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

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

Jonathan Sakakibara

Joys & Concerns

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Prayer of Confession

Jonathan Sakakibara

Leader: Loving God, You long for us to be faithful and kind, to live as role models of trust and love in a world desperate for both.

People: But we know the mistakes we have made, the harsh words we have spoken, the trouble we have stirred up by our bad tempers and unforgiving hearts.

Leader: Every day we do things that break Your heart, and our brokenness leads us to neglect others and harm the planet.

All: Forgive us. Pour out Your healing Spirit on us, and on our world, we pray. 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

Jonathan Sakakibara

Leader: Our Lord leads us to that place where God's Table is spread with forgiveness and overflowing with grace. It is God's great mercy through the resurrection of Jesus which gives us the hope that lives within us.

All: Thanks be to God! We will live each day as God's people: forgiven to serve, blessed to share, loved with an everlasting love. 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

Jonathan 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: Gratitude Moments
Rev. Rola Al Ashkar and Haruko Sakakibara

Choir Song
"Come, Taste the Joy of the Lord" by David Bailes
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) 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.
(Backstory: On Easter afternoon, Jesus appears to two believers traveling on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus.)
Luke 24:27
Then beginning with Moses and with all the prophets, Jesus explained to them the things concerning himself in all the scriptures.

2nd Scripture Reading Jonathan Sakakibara
2 Timothy 3:16-17
Every part of Scripture is God-breathed and useful one way or another - showing us truth, exposing our rebellion, correcting our mistakes, training us to live God's way. Through God's Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.

3rd Scripture Reading & Sermon Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
"Two Kinds of Scripture Study"
John 5:39-40
Jesus said, "You do pore over the scriptures, because you think that it is in them that you have Life- and it is true that these scriptures are bearing witness to me. But the big problem is this: You refuse to come to me to receive this Life."

Musical Interlude Haruko Sakakibara
"Interlude" by Phillip Keveren (1961-)

***Communion Hymn: "Break Thou the Bread of Life" (#329)**
Break Thou the bread of life, dear Lord, to me,
as Thou did break the loaves beside the sea;
Beyond the sacred page I seek Thee, Lord;
My spirit pants for Thee, O living Word!
Bless Thou the truth, dear Lord, now unto me,
As Thou didst bless the bread by Galilee;
Then shall all bondage cease, all fetters fall;
And I shall find my peace, my all in all.

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