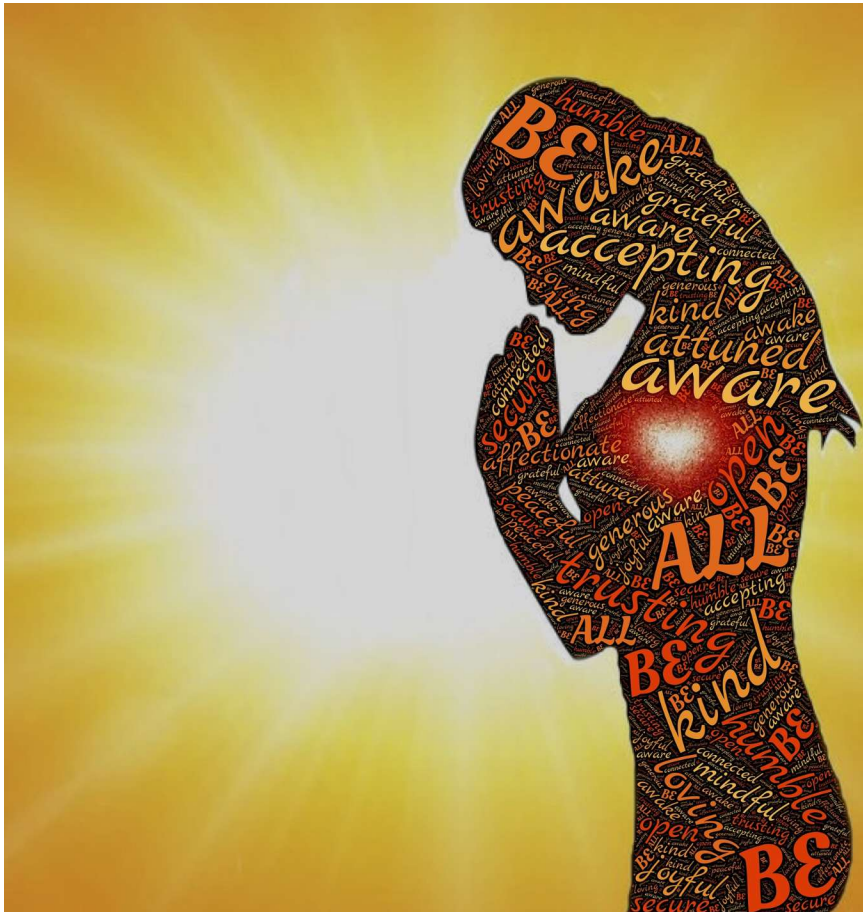


In Appreciation:

Greeters: Miko Kumagai, Diane Younglove
Ushers: Haruko Sakakibara, TBD
Parking: Phillip Chew
Sound System: Titus Toyama
Zoom Moderator/Greeter: Lois Van Beers
Altar Flowers: Edwin & Lisa Imura,
in loving memory of their son, Kevin
Coffee Time: Nancy Arata-Fong, Clifford Chow,
Maria Mar, Judy Yee



The Celebration of Worship

July 19, 2026 • 8th Sunday of Pentecost

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Co-Precacher:	Rev. Dwight Nave
Worship Leader:	Betsy Eskridge
Pianist:	Nancy Arata-Fong
Choir Conductor:	Ben Pryor
Japanese Reader:	Haruko Sakakibara

Centering Prayer for Worship

Refreshing God, we long for Your presence. Like a deer that longs for cool water in the heat of the day, we are seeking You. We want to praise You where Your people gather, singing with joy; for Your love is better than life itself. Guide our journey of faith, from the lonely wilderness to the crowded city, as we seek to be Your people in the world. Amen.

Adapted from Psalms 42, 43, and 63

Prelude	Nancy Arata-Fong
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*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
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** Those who can, please stand*

Call to Worship

Betsy Eskridge

Leader: Thank You, God, for this new day. As we worship You may we grow in faith and increase in love, so that we may bring joy to You and Your saving Word to all the world.

People: O God, when we seek justice for each other, when we love kindness more than recognition, we live as You desire.

Leader: When we walk hopefully through life, when we offer forgiveness to those who hurt us, we are the blessing You hope we will be.

All: God of power and grace, stir our hearts to sense You in every moment, and serve You at every opportunity. Amen.

*Opening Hymn: “When Morning Gilds the Skies” (#487)

When morning gilds the skies, my heart awakening cries:
may Jesus Christ be praised! Alike at work and prayer to Jesus
I repair: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Does sadness fill my mind? A solace here I find:
may Jesus Christ be praised! Or fades my earthly bliss?
My comfort still is this: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Let earth’s wide circle round in joyful notes resound:
may Jesus Christ be praised! Let air and sea and sky
from depth to height reply: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this while life is mine, my canticle divine:
may Jesus Christ be praised! Be this the eternal song
through all the ages long: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Invitation to Confession

Betsy Eskridge

Leader: Even when we have been too busy to notice, God has been constantly loving us and encouraging us to grow in the light of God’s love. We can trust God with our deepest confession.

*Sending Hymn: “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” (#369)

I’m gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I’m gonna live so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I’m gonna work so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I’m gonna pray so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I’m gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I’m gonna sing so God can use me anywhere, Lord, anytime!

*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.

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

Betsy Eskridge

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.

Prayer of Confession

Betsy Eskridge

Leader: Beloved One, You have shown us Your gracious heart and called us to be Your servants. But we've been too distracted and worried to notice. We're anxious about so many things we can't control.

People: We've forgotten to pray for patience, and have responded to others harshly and without grace. Forgive us for the harm we've done, and for the good we have failed to do.

All: We bring the imperfections and impatience of our lives to You, God of steadfast love, and rely on Your saving grace.

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

Betsy Eskridge

Leader: God never withholds grace from anyone who seeks God. When we confess our harmful thoughts, words, and actions to God, God delights in setting us free from guilt and regret.

People: God's grace is more than sufficient for our failings. God's grace is more powerful than our sin and shame.

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**

Betsy Eskridge

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. Dwight Nave

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.

***Hymn of Reflection:** "Sweet Hour of Prayer" (#478 Worship & Rejoice)

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, that calls me from a world of care, and bids me at my Father's throne make all my wants and wishes known. In seasons of distress and grief, my soul has often found relief, and oft escaped the tempter's snare by thy return, sweet hour of prayer!

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, the joys I feel, the bliss I share of those whose anxious spirits burn with strong desires for your return! With such I hasten to the place where God my Savior shows His face, and gladly take my station there, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer.

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, your wings shall my petition bear to Him whose truth and faithfulness engage the waiting soul to bless. And since God bids me seek His face, believe His Word, and trust His grace, I'll cast on God my every care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer.

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.

James 5:16

Make this your common practice: Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you can live together whole and healed. The prayer of a person living right with God is something powerful to be reckoned with.

2nd Scripture Reading

Betsy Eskridge

Matthew 6:5-6

And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

3rd Scripture Reading & Sermon

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave &

Rev. Dwight Nave

"Understanding Prayer: A Dialogue Sermon"

Matthew 6:7-13

When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father God knows what you need before you ask. Pray then in this way: Our Father 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 also have forgiven our debtors. And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

Musical Interlude

Nancy Arata-Fong