

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:	Miko Kumagai, Haruko Sakakibara
Ushers:	Mieko Davis, Miko Kumagai
Parking:	Gary Younglove
Sound System:	Dave McGill
Zoom Moderator/Greeter:	Lois Van Beers
Altar Flowers:	Hach & Linda Yasumura



The Celebration of Worship

September 6, 2026 • Labor Day Weekend

Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave
Worship Leader:	Donna Komure-Toyama
Pianist:	Wade Tambara
Choir Conductor:	Ben Pryor
Japanese Reader:	Mieko Davis
Communion Elders:	Phillip Chew, Hach Yasumura

Centering Prayer for Worship

Holy God, how fortunate we are to enjoy the joy of Your presence and the gift of this new day. Your Son Jesus gave us a model for labor by sharing the tasks of everyday life. Empower us as we worship and work. Fill us with Your Spirit so that we're responsive to Your will- help us both to know it, and to do it. For we want to be Your people in the world, always living and working for Your glory. 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

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

** Those who can, please stand*

Call to Worship

Donna Komure-Toyama

Leader: Creator God, we come to worship You. By Your Spirit, draw us into Your magnificent presence, and refresh and renew us with Your gracious love.

People: We bless you, God of the covenant. You are present with us in Word and Sacrament, by Your eternal Holy Spirit.

All: We join with all Your works in praising Your great glory. We proclaim Your steadfast love and faithfulness with a song of joy.

*Opening Hymn: “God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand” (#262)

God of the ages, whose almighty hand leads forth in beauty all the starry band of shining worlds in splendor through the skies, our grateful songs before Thy throne arise.

Thy love divine has led us in the past. In this free land by Thee our lot is cast; Be Thou our ruler, guardian, guide, and stay; Thy word our law, Thy paths our chosen way.

From war’s alarms, from deadly pestilence, be Thy strong arm our ever sure defense; Thy true religion in our hearts increase; Thy bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.

Refresh thy people on their toilsome way, Lead us from night to never-ending day; Fill all our lives with love and grace divine, and glory, laud, and praise be ever Thine.

Invitation to Confession

Donna Komure-Toyama

Leader: If we’re all created in God’s image, what does that say about the destructive words we use, the harm we cause others and ourselves? Pray with me as we confess our faults and failings, our brokenness and bitterness to God, so that we may be made new.

*Prayer of Dedication

Donna Komure-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.

*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.*)

Holy Communion & Blessing of the Hands*

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

*If you would like to receive a blessing of your hands, please come forward to one of the two stations to the left and right of the communion table during 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 Confession

Donna Komure-Toyama

Leader: O God, You desire justice and wholeness for all creation. We confess that we've been more concerned with our egos and errands than with noticing Your work in our lives and in our world.

People: When we encounter people who are hateful and hurtful, help us respond to them with courage and love. For we are Your people, called to work to make a difference.

Leader: No matter how discouraged or weary we get from life's challenges and cruelties,

All: You encourage us to be patient, to rejoice, and to never stop praying. Because You see our struggles and the world's pain, and say, "A day is coming when all will be made right."

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

Donna Komure-Toyama

Leader: God knows us and forgives us, and empowers us to live as people of love and hope.

People: This is the good news for us. With steadfast love, God calls us each day to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord, so we might find new life and deep purpose in Him.

All: Thanks be to God! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

***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**

Donna Komure-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

“Come to the Banquet”

by Joseph M. Martin

Children’s Message

Rev. Dr. Sarah 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.

1st Scripture Reading (Japanese)

Mieko Davis

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

Ecclesiastes 9:10

“Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might.”

2nd Scripture Reading

Donna Komure-Toyama

Colossians 3:22-25

Servants, do what you’re told by your earthly masters. And don’t just do the minimum that will get you by. Do your best. Work from the heart for your real Master, for God, confident that you’ll get paid in full when you come into your inheritance. Keep in mind always that the ultimate Master you’re serving is Christ. The sullen servant who does shoddy work will be held responsible. Being a follower of Jesus doesn’t cover up bad work.

3rd Scripture Reading & Sermon

Rev. Dr. Sarah Nave

Fall Sermon Series: Adding Value “Faith at Work”

Mark 12:41-44

Jesus sat down opposite the Temple offering box and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then Jesus called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

Musical Interlude

Wade Tambara

***Communion Hymn: “Just as I Am, Without One Plea”**

(#370)

Just as I am, without one plea
but that thy blood was shed for me,
and that thou biddest me come to thee,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

Just as I am, thou tossed about
with many a conflict, many a doubt,
fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

Just as I am, thou wilt receive,
wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
because thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!

Just as I am, thy love unknown
has broken every barrier down;
now to be thine, yea, thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come; I come!