

19th Sunday after Pentecost – October 11, 2020 – 8:30am & 10:30am (ONE SERVICE)

Order of Worship

The Community Gathers

Lighting of Altar Candles

- Ushers

Gathering Music – “Here I am to Worship”

Devotion Band

A Word of Greeting and Welcome ~

Rev. Allison Mark, Senior Pastor

Centering Words -

Pastor Ki Choi, Associate Pastor

The church is more than a building. The church was built on a vision of the kin-dom of heaven. The church has grown because of a strong foundation based on the love of God. This church continues to build upon its foundational cornerstone, being the church of yesterday, today, and tomorrow. Our church IS God’s people.

Opening Hymn* - “The Church of One Foundation”

Pastor Becky Hirata & Amy Higa, organist

Giving God Glory As We Come To Worship

Call to Worship (L: Leader P: People)-

Clergy, Charter Members, Faith Staff

Pastor Ki: Almighty God, we give you thanks for the work you have done in this place. We give you thanks for your love and faithfulness.

Minister Eric: When we called on your name, you made your presence known to us.

Ainise Isama’u: When we prayed, you heard us. When we preached your Word and administered your Sacraments, you were in our midst.

Pastor Becky: You have accepted our humble sacrifices of praise and thanksgiving.

Rev. Allison: You have listened to our confessions and forgiven our sins. And you have sent your Holy Spirit to heal and comfort our hurts, our sorrows, our infirmities, and our losses.

Bishop Hagiya: Continue to empower us with your Spirit, O Lord, that we might proclaim your Gospel to all people.

Charter Members & All Present: We dedicate our lives to your service.

DS Nakagawa: Help us to witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ in all that we do and say.

All: We dedicate our lives to your service.

Pastor Ki: Show us how we might give care and support to the needy, love and mercy to the broken and forlorn.

All: We dedicate our lives to your service.

Minister Eric: Show us new ways of loving one another and those around us.

All: We dedicate our lives to your service.

Ainise: Break down those prejudices and barriers which divide us, and make us all one in your Son, Jesus Christ.

All: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Pastor Becky: Renew us by the Spirit, given at our baptisms, so that we might be challenged to move beyond our ruts, our apathy, and our anxieties of inadequacy.

All: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Rev. Allison: Grant that we may continually grow in the Spirit and in the ministry that you give us as members of your royal priesthood, the priesthood of all believers, so that we may carry out our mission of service and love.

All: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Bishop Hagiya: Continue to comfort, heal, and lift up the broken and afflicted among us, our shut-ins, those suffering from COVID or other illnesses or struggles, friends of our congregation and all those we name in our hearts before you. *(Pause)* By the promise of your presence, bring us your healing love.

All: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

DS Nakagawa: Bring us at last to the joy of your eternal kingdom, where, with Rick, Leona, Helen, Hobert, and all your saints, we may evermore praise your name.

All: Hear our prayer, O Lord.

Pastor Ki: Blessed Lord, draw our hearts to you, guide our minds, fill our imaginations, control our wills and make us wholly yours. Use us as you will, to the glory of your holy name and the welfare of your people; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

All: Amen

Opening Prayer

Rev. Mark Nakagawa
West District Superintendent

Let us bow our heads. Beloved God, we gather in the shelter of your love, grateful for the banquet of worship you have prepared for us. Focus our hearts and our minds on the beauty of this time, the blessings of our lives, and the fullness of your marriage. Strengthen our call to fulfill our role as our partners in ministry to the world. Amen.

Message for the Children (In Us All)

Minister Eric Iki
Pastoral Care & Covid Response Coordinator

Litany of Dedication – For the Etched Glass Windows, North Gardena UMC Cornerstone, and Charter & Clergy Legacy Walls
Bishop Hagiya, DS Nakagawa, Clergy, Charter Members

Video: Walk thru of Dedication from the Sanctuary to the Narthex

Sue Watanabe: We present the Etched Glass Windows, North Gardena UMC Cornerstone, and Charter, Clergy, and Nichigobu Clergy Legacy Walls to be consecrated to the glory of almighty God and for service in this church.

Rev. Allison: We accept these gifts as a sacred trust and will guard and use them reverently in loving memory of our saints, both past and present.

Bishop Hagiya: In the name of the Creator, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, in the name of the holy and triune God, we consecrate the following to the Glory of God:

DS Nakagawa: Faith United Methodist is dedicating on their 60th Anniversary:

- Etched Glass Windows in both their entry way and the welcoming doors of their sanctuary
- The Charter, Nichigobu and Clergy Legacy Walls
- The North Gardena Methodist Church Cornerstone
 - Gifts of the Cliff and Charlotte Mekaru Fund
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Bishop Hagiya: Lord of Light, in the beginning You separated the light from the darkness, and said it was good.

Charter Members & those Present (All): **The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.**

DS Nakagawa: When Moses and the children of Israel escaped in darkness,

All: **You sent a pillar of flame to light the way.**

Bishop Hagiya: When in our sin we turned away and called for darkness to surround us, You pursued us.

All: **Even the darkness is not dark to You, O Lord, the night is bright as the day.**

DS Nakagawa: In a stable dark, Your light was born in human form.

All: **The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.**

Bishop Hagiya: So may the light that shines through these windows be a blessing to us and remind us of Your true light. These windows have been openings for Your light of creation to break into this space

and vistas for others to see Your presence shining forth from this place. Bless these windows now that Your light may continue to shine forth through them.

All: That as we look at and through them, we are reminded of the past legacy, our present day mission and ministries, and tomorrow's story that truly is the life of this church.

DS Nakagawa: This church was built on multiple foundations bringing together Christ's churches. Together, we join the cornerstone of the First Methodist Episcopal cornerstone of Gardena First dedicated in 1925, with the cornerstone of North Gardena Methodist Church in 1960. It is through our Connection that we merge into one house of God.

All: Christ has always been our cornerstone, like the living stones being built up as a spiritual house. We remember those who built the foundations for us to live into fruitful ministries of Christ.

Bishop Hagiya: We thank You for all the saints in faith who in this place tended the wonder of Your light through Jesus Christ. For the Charter members who are our church saints gone before us, and our saints amongst us today.

All: We remember our friends, the laughter, the fellowship, and our growth together. May we remember them so that they may live eternal life in Christ. And our pastors, both past and present, the gifts of shepherding, and pastoring, of teaching, and learning, of comfort and of healing. May their ministry in Jesus' name live on in us.

DS Nakagawa: Especially today we give thanks for the generous gifts that made the installation of these windows, the placement of the North Gardena United Methodist Church cornerstone and creation of our Charter & Clergy & Nichigobu Legacy Walls possible.

All: Thank You for all the saints who have gone before us in this place. For the generous givers who have been forward thinkers always reminded of the generations ahead of them.

Bishop Hagiya: Bless now ourselves, stewards of this church, for a day and an age, that we may remember that we walk where others have tread.

All: Lord, keep us mindful of the innumerable treasures that have been handed to us from generations before. Give us humility to serve as we've been served. May the love of You which our ancestors in faith testified about, live on in us so that ongoing generations of Your disciples know the wonder of Your love, the power of Your grace, and the certainty of Your hope. May Your light that has shown through these windows, shine through us. Amen.

Anthem – "Family of Faith"

Faith Choir

The Word of God for the people of God

Scripture Lesson: Isaiah 28:16-17

Darrell Mark, Director of Youth Ministries

¹⁶ therefore thus says the Lord God, See, I am laying in Zion a foundation stone, a tested stone, a precious cornerstone, a sure foundation: “One who trusts will not panic.” ¹⁷ And I will make justice the line, and righteousness the plummet; hail will sweep away the refuge of lies, and waters will overwhelm the shelter.

Ephesians 2:19-22

Ainise Isama’u, CST Seminary Intern

¹⁹ So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰ built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹ In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²² in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

L: The Word of God for ALL the People

P: Thanks be to God

Sermon: ~ “Living Stones”

Bishop Grant Hagiya & Rev. Allison Mark
Resident Bishop of the Cal-Pac Annual Conference

Video Greetings from Former Faith Pastors

Pastoral Prayer/Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Allison Mark

We Respond to God’s grace

Offering Our Gifts ~

Pastor Ki Choi

***Offertory – Prayer of Dedication**

Let us bow our heads. Gracious God, thank you for your abundant love and your nourishing grace. Thank you for the gifts we return to you now. Bless these gifts, that they may become for others signs of your abundant love and vessels of your nourishing grace. Amen.

Going Forth in God’s Holy Name

Faith In Action – The Ministry of Faith UMC –

Rev. Allison Mark

Commission and Blessings * -

Bishop Grant Hagiya

Closing Hymn* ~ “In the Garden”

Faith Choir

Passing of the Peace* - Postlude – 60th Anniversary Greeting

