

4th Sunday after the Epiphany – January 28, 2024 – 10:30am

Order of Worship

The Community Gathers

Lighting of Altar Candles

Prelude – *“Be Thou My Vision”*

Faith Ensemble

A Word of Greeting and Welcome/Centering Words ~

Rev. Allison Mark

What have you to do with me, Jesus of Nazareth? What have you to do with my joys and my hopes, with my hurts and my losses? Come with grace and mercy.

Opening Hymn* - *“All Creatures of Our God and King”* UMH 62

Angela Gricar

Giving God Glory As We Come To Worship

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

Tam Kobayashi

L: Fount of Life, Glorious One, your great works are full of honor and majesty:

P: the earth that we stand on, the trees that shade us, the birds that soar above us.

L: Ever-Living God, Generous One, your goodness and faithfulness endure forever:

P: the wisdom we learn, the justice we long and work for, the hope you offer.

L: Sheltering God, Healing One, you remember your covenant and its promises to us:

P: the grace and mercy you give, the healing you offer, the tenderness you show to us.

L: The works of your hands are faithful and just. Your teachings are trustworthy and true.

P: Your praise endures forever! Amen.

Opening Prayer

Tam Kobayashi

Faithful God, we stand in this congregation to give you thanks with our whole hearts, for your works are great. Your massive power upholds the universe, and yet it is so intimate, it upholds our lives, tiny in the scale of the galaxies. You provide food for us and for all your creatures, from goldfish to whales, hummingbirds to eagles, ants to elephants. You nurture life in the seas, yet watch over the deserts. Your work is full of honor and majesty. Thank you for being mindful of us all, remembering your promises. May your creative love and faithful power endure forever. Amen.

Message for the Children (In Us All)

Rev. Allison Mark

The Word of God for the people of God

Congregational Hymn – “*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*” UMH 127

Angela Gricar

Scripture Lesson: Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

Tam Kobayashi

There’s a season for everything and a time for every matter under the heavens: ²a time for giving birth and a time for dying, a time for planting and a time for uprooting what was planted, ³a time for killing and a time for healing, a time for tearing down and a time for building up, ⁴a time for crying and a time for laughing, a time for mourning and a time for dancing, ⁵a time for throwing stones and a time for gathering stones, a time for embracing and a time for avoiding embraces, ⁶a time for searching and a time for losing, a time for keeping and a time for throwing away, ⁷a time for tearing and a time for repairing, a time for keeping silent and a time for speaking, ⁸a time for loving and a time for hating, a time for war and a time for peace.

⁹What do workers gain from all their hard work? ¹⁰I have observed the task that God has given human beings. ¹¹God has made everything fitting in its time, but has also placed eternity in their hearts, without enabling them to discover what God has done from beginning to end.

¹²I know that there’s nothing better for them but to enjoy themselves and do what’s good while they live. ¹³Moreover, this is the gift of God: that all people should eat, drink, and enjoy the results of their hard work. ¹⁴I know that whatever God does will last forever; it’s impossible to add to it or take away from it. God has done this so that people are reverent before him. ¹⁵Whatever happens has already happened, and whatever will happen has already happened before. And God looks after what is driven away.

L: The Word of God for all people

P: Thanks be to God

Special Music – “*Great is the Lord*”

Faith Ensemble

Sermon: ~ “*Ordinary Time*”

Rev. Allison Mark

Pastoral Prayer/Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Allison Mark

We Respond to God’s grace

Offering Our Gifts ~

Tam Kobayashi

Doxology* “*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*”

Angela Gricar

***Offertory – Prayer of Dedication**

Tam Kobayashi

Holy One, Jesus of Nazareth, Spirit from on high, may our gifts reveal your grace and mercy far and wide. May others learn of your faithful love through the power of your works and through

the gifts we bring this day. May they also learn that you have everything to do with their lives.
Amen.

Going Forth in God's Holy Name

Faith In Action – The Ministry of Faith UMC –

Rev. Allison Mark

Closing Hymn* ~ *“Majesty, Worship His Majesty” UMH 176*

Angela Gricar

Commission and Blessings * -

Rev. Allison Mark

Passing of the Peace* - Postlude