

Easter Service – March 31, 2024 – 9:00 am

Order of Worship

The Community Gathers

Lighting of Altar Candles

Prelude – *“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*

Faith Ensemble

A Word of Greeting and Welcome/Centering Words ~

Pastor Becky Hirata

Are you searching tombs and memories for Jesus Christ, the one who was crucified? Open your eyes to wonder. Our God is full of surprises.

Opening Hymn* - *“Christ the Lord is Risen Today” UMH 302*

Pastor Becky, Angela Gricar

Faith Ensemble

Giving God Glory As We Come To Worship

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

Jane Matsumoto

L: Yesterday we thought death had won. Yesterday we thought all was lost. Yesterday we thought Christ was gone.

P: But not today. Today we know that love has wone. Today we know that hope is real. Today we know that Christ is here.

L: We have a reason to hope.

P: We have a reason to sing!

L: Alleluia!

P: Alleluia!

L: Christ is risen today.

Opening Prayer

Jane Matsumoto

God, just as you raised Jesus from the dead, you offer us new and transformed lives in the risen Christ. We rejoice and give thanks for this good news, which has been handed down to us from generation to generation. May we, too, be witnesses of Jesus, who you anointed with the Holy Spirit to bring blessings of mercy and healing. May we be witnesses of Jesus' suffering and death, and how he meets us in the broken places of our lives. Most of all, may we be witnesses of the resurrection, sharing your promise of forgiveness and grace with all people. This is your doing, O God. It is marvelous in our eyes. Amen.

Special Music – “*Glory Hallelujah*”

Kodomo Handbells

Message for the Children (In Us All)

Rev. Allison Mark

The Word of God for the people of God

Congregational Hymn – “*In the Garden*” UMH 314

Pastor Becky, Angela Gricar,
& Faith Orchestra

Scripture Lesson: Luke 24:1-12

Jane Matsumoto

Very early in the morning on the first day of the week, the women went to the tomb, bringing the fragrant spices they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus. ⁴They didn't know what to make of this. Suddenly, two men were standing beside them in gleaming bright clothing. ⁵The women were frightened and bowed their faces toward the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? ⁶He isn't here, but has been raised. Remember what he told you while he was still in Galilee,⁷ that the Human One must be handed over to sinners, be crucified, and on the third day rise again.”⁸ Then they remembered his words. ⁹When they returned from the tomb, they reported all these things to the eleven and all the others. ¹⁰It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles. ¹¹Their words struck the apostles as nonsense, and they didn't believe the women. ¹²But Peter ran to the tomb. When he bent over to look inside, he saw only the linen cloth. Then he returned home, wondering what had happened.

L: The Word of God for all people

P: Thanks be to God

Special Music – “*Hallelujah, Resurrection Day*”

Faith Chancel Choir, Crossroads
& Faith Ensemble

Sermon: ~ “Wandering Heart: And I Hope”

Rev. Allison Mark & Pastor Becky Hirata

Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer

Rev. Allison Mark

We Respond to God's grace

Offering Our Gifts ~

Rev. Allison Mark

Doxology* “*Glory Be to the Father*”

Pastor Becky Hirata & Angela Gricar

***Offertory – Prayer of Dedication**

Jane Matsumoto

Holy God, thank you for your goodness and mercy, especially for the good news of the resurrection of Jesus Christ. May these offerings, and indeed our very lives, become a witness to all people of the salvation and grace, you bring into the world. Amen.

Going Forth in God's Holy Name

Faith In Action – The Ministry of Faith UMC –

Rev. Allison Mark

Closing Hymn* ~ *“The Day of Resurrection”*. Faith Chancel Choir, Crossroads & Faith Ensemble

Commission and Blessings * -

Rev. Allison Mark

Passing of the Peace* - Postlude