

15<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – September 1, 2024 – 10:30am

## **Order of Worship**

### **The Community Gathers**

Lighting of Altar Candles

Prelude -

A Word of Greeting and Welcome/Centering Words ~ Minister Ainise Isama'u

My heart longs to be close to you, O God. May my life and my deeds honor you.

Opening Hymn\* - *"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"* UMH 140 Angela Gricar

### **Giving God Glory As We Come To Worship**

**Call to Worship (L: Leader P: People)-** Miki Hayashida

L: Creator, you bless us with the heavenly lights –

**P: the moon that waxes and wanes,**

L: the planets that whirl around the sun,

**P: the galaxies that wink from afar.**

L: In the darkness you call out, "Let there be light."

**P: and the universe is filled with heavenly light.**

L: You are our creator, too,

**P: the One who formed us and who forms us still.**

L: May your word of truth ring out today with your call to new life!

**P: Amen.**

### **Opening Prayer**

Miki Hayashida

Creator of the heavenly lights, there is no shadow in your divine light. It remains unchanging across the eons, even as the stars come and go. You are our faithful creator, the Gardener of our lives. You plant your truth within us and inspire lives of caring and love. We honor and worship you. Amen.

Message for the Children (In Us All)

Minister Ainise Isama'u

## **The Word of God for the people of God**

**Scripture Lesson:** John 21:15-23

Miki Hayashida

<sup>15</sup> When they finished eating, Jesus asked Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?”

Simon replied, “Yes, Lord, you know I love you.”

Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.” <sup>16</sup> Jesus asked a second time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Simon replied, “Yes, Lord, you know I love you.”

Jesus said to him, “Take care of my sheep.” <sup>17</sup> He asked a third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?”

Peter was sad that Jesus asked him a third time, “Do you love me?” He replied, “Lord, you know everything; you know I love you.”

Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. <sup>18</sup> I assure you that when you were younger you tied your own belt and walked around wherever you wanted. When you grow old, you will stretch out your hands and another will tie your belt and lead you where you don’t want to go.” <sup>19</sup> He said this to show the kind of death by which Peter would glorify God. After saying this, Jesus said to Peter, “Follow me.”

## **Jesus and the disciple whom he loved**

<sup>20</sup> Peter turned around and saw the disciple whom Jesus loved following them. This was the one who had leaned against Jesus at the meal and asked him, “Lord, who is going to betray you?” <sup>21</sup> When Peter saw this disciple, he said to Jesus, “Lord, what about him?”

<sup>22</sup> Jesus replied, “If I want him to remain until I come, what difference does that make to you? You must follow me.” <sup>23</sup> Therefore, the word spread among the brothers and sisters that this disciple wouldn’t die. However, Jesus didn’t say he wouldn’t die, but only, “If I want him to remain until I come, what difference does that make to you?”

L: The Word of God for all people

**P: Thanks be to God**

Special Music *“Come Thou Fount”*

Whitney Nakayama

Sermon: ~ “If Ever I Loved Thee, My Jesus Tis Now”

Rev. Ken Suhr

Pastoral Prayer/Lord’s Prayer

Minister Ainise Isama’u

## **We Respond to God’s grace**

Celebration of Holy Communion

Clergy Team

Offering Our Gifts ~

Minister Ainise Isama’u

Doxology\* *“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow” UMH 95”*

Angela Gricar

**\*Offertory – Prayer of Dedication**

Miki Hayashida

God of every good gift, bless the gifts of our resources, our prayers, and our lives. Bless these gifts for the good of others and to the honor of your name. Amen.

**Going Forth in God's Holy Name**

Faith In Action – The Ministry of Faith UMC –

Minister Ainise Isama’u

Closing Hymn\* ~ *“My Jesus, I Love Thee” UMH 172*

Angela Gricar

Commission and Blessings \* -

Rev. Ken Suhr

Passing of the Peace\* - Postlude