

19th Sunday after Pentecost – September 29, 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

Salt the world with peace and flavor the world with love.

Opening Hymn* - *"To God Be the Glory" UMH 98 (v. 1 & 2)*

Angela Gricar

Giving God Glory As We Come To Worship

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

Donna Iki

L: We gather to pray.

P: We gather to praise.

L: May our prayers extend beyond ourselves.

P: May our praise rise to the heavens.

L: May our lives be salty with love.

P: May our prayers be reflections of peace.

Opening Prayer

Donna Iki

Faithful God, inspire us to be faithful to one another. Open our hearts to meet the needs in our midst and in the wider world. Open our minds to notice the beauty and gift of your creation. Open our mouths to sing your blessings, joyfully and gratefully. Open our lives to welcome the stranger, seek the lost, and create peace in a troubled world. Amen.

Message for the Children (In Us All)

Minister Ainise Isama'u

The Word of God for the people of God

Congregational Hymn – *"Spirit Song" UMH 347 (v. 1 & 2)*

Angela Gricar

Scripture Lesson: Esther 4:14, 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Donna Iki

¹⁴ In fact, if you don't speak up at this very important time, relief and rescue will appear for the Jews from another place, but you and your family will die. But who knows? Maybe it was for a moment like this that you came to be part of the royal family."

When the king and Haman came in for the banquet with Queen Esther, ² the king said to her, “This is the second day we’ve met for wine. What is your wish, Queen Esther? I’ll give it to you. And what do you want? I’ll do anything—even give you half the kingdom.”

³ Queen Esther answered, “If I please the king, and if the king wishes, give me my life—that’s my wish—and the lives of my people too. That’s my desire. ⁴ We have been sold—I and my people—to be wiped out, killed, and destroyed. If we simply had been sold as male and female slaves, I would have said nothing. But no enemy can compensate the king for this kind of damage.”

⁵ King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is this person, and where is he? Who would dare do such a thing?”

⁶ Esther replied, “A man who hates, an enemy—this wicked Haman!” Haman was overcome with terror in the presence of the king and queen.

⁹ Harbona, one of the eunuchs serving the king, said, “Sir, look! There’s the stake that Haman made for Mordecai, the man who spoke up and did something good for the king. It’s standing at Haman’s house—seventy-five feet high.”

“Impale him on it!” the king ordered. ¹⁰ So they impaled Haman on the very pole that he had set up for Mordecai, and the king’s anger went away.

²⁰ Mordecai wrote these things down and sent letters to all the Jews in all the provinces, both near and far, of King Ahasuerus. ²¹ He made it a rule that Jews keep the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the month of Adar as special days each and every year. ²² They are the days on which the Jews finally put to rest the troubles with their enemies. The month is the one when everything turned around for them from sadness to joy, and from sad, loud crying to a holiday. They are to make them days of feasts and joyous events, days to send food gifts to each other and money gifts to the poor.

L: The Word of God for all people

P: Thanks be to God

Special Music – *“The Face of God”*

Faith Chancel Choir & Crossroads

Sermon: ~ *“For Such a Time as This”*

Rev. Israel Alvaran

Pastoral Prayer/Lord’s Prayer

Minister Ainise Isama’u

We Respond to God’s grace

Offering Our Gifts ~

Minister Ainise Isama’u

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

Angela Gricar

***Offertory – Prayer of Dedication**

Donna Iki

As you have blessed us, gracious God, bless the gifts we return to you now. May our tithes and offerings bless your world with love and salt your world with peace. Amen.

Going Forth in God's Holy Name

Faith In Action – The Ministry of Faith UMC –

Minister Ainise Isama’u

Closing Hymn* ~ *“Trust and Obey” UMH 467 (v. 1 & 4)*

Angela Gricar

Commission and Blessings * -

Rev. Israel Alvaran

Passing of the Peace* - Postlude