

S2nd Sunday of Lent – Communion Sunday
March 1, 2026 – 10:30A

Order of Worship

The Community Gathers

Lighting of the Altar Candles

A Word of Greeting and Welcome/Centering Words – Minister 'Ainise Isama'u
If God lived next door, I'd drop off a loaf of bread. I'd use my moms best recipe. I'd wrap it in parchment paper and ribbon and place it on the front stoop. If God lived next door, I'd leave a note with my phone number. Call me anytime you need anything! I'm always happy to help. If God lived next door, I'd keep the sugar on the shelf, just in case He needed a cup. I'd put a picnic table in the front yard and begin taking my coffee there. Whenever God passed by with their gaggle of rescue dogs, I could say "Want to sit for a moment? Want to rest your legs?" I'd keep a jar of dog treats and water by the mailbox and change my doormat to one that says "All are welcome here". I'd invite God over for dinner. He'd bring the bread and juice. I'd host a block party, so that everyone could meet Him. I'd start a community garden so that the kids could run between rows of squash and tomatoes while we adults put our hands in the dirt. We'd share stories while we weeded, and eat harvest meals at the end of the season. If God lived next door, I'd want to build something beautiful. Then again, who says God doesn't?

(Please stand in body or in spirit as we sing the Opening Hymn...)

* Opening Hymn – Sanctuary, TFWS#2164, 4x (verses on screen)

***Giving God Glory As We Come to Worship**

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

Tam Kobayashi

L: *Tell me something good!*

P: God loves you more than you could imagine.

L: *Tell me something good!*

P: God loves all of creation more than you could imagine.

L: *Tell me something good!*

P: God's love meets us in this service of worship. We are not alone.

L: *This is good news indeed!*

P: Let us worship our compassionate God.

*Opening Prayer

Tam Kobayashi

Good news God, speak louder than the news updates. Speak louder than our mental distractions. Speak louder than our anger and louder than our fear. God, speak loudly to us today, because we long to hear your good news once more. With hope we pray, amen.

(Please be seated)

Message for the Children (In Us All)
(Dismiss Garden & Youth to Sunday School)

Minister 'Ainise Isama'u

The Word of God for the People of God

Scripture Lesson: Luke 7:36-50; Matthew 25:35-40

Tam Kobayashi

Luke 7:36-50

36 *One of the Pharisees invited Jesus to eat with him. After he entered the Pharisee's home, he took his place at the table. 37* *Meanwhile, a woman from the city, a sinner, discovered that Jesus was dining in the Pharisee's house. She brought perfumed oil in a vase made of alabaster. 38* *Standing behind him at his feet and crying, she began to wet his feet with her tears. She wiped them with her hair, kissed them, and poured the oil on them. 39* *When the Pharisee who had invited Jesus saw what was happening, he said to himself, If this man were a prophet, he would know what kind of woman is touching him. He would know that she is a sinner. 40* *Jesus replied, "Simon, I have something to say to you." "Teacher, speak," he said. 41* *"A certain lender had two debtors. One owed enough money to pay five hundred people for a day's work.[a] The other owed enough money for fifty. 42* *When they couldn't pay, the lender forgave the debts of them both. Which of them will love him more?" 43* *Simon replied, "I suppose the one who had the largest debt canceled." Jesus said, "You have judged correctly." 44* *Jesus turned to the woman and said to Simon, "Do you see this woman? When I entered your home, you didn't give me water for my feet, but she wet my feet with tears and wiped them with her hair. 45* *You didn't greet me with a kiss, but she hasn't stopped kissing my feet since I came in. 46* *You didn't anoint my head with oil, but she has poured perfumed oil on my feet. 47* *This is why I tell you that her many sins have been forgiven; so she has shown great love. The one who is forgiven little loves little." 48* *Then Jesus said to her, "Your sins are forgiven." 49* *The other table guests began to say among themselves, "Who is this person that even forgives sins?" 50* *Jesus said to the woman, "Your faith has saved you. Go in peace."*

Matthew 25:35-40

35 *I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. 36* *I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.' 37* *"Then those who are righteous will reply to him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? 38* *When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? 39* *When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' 40* *"Then the king will reply to them, 'I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.'*

Sermon – Tell Me Something Good: The Good News is...Great Love for God and Neighbor

Rev. Allison Mark

Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer

Rev. Allison Mark

We Respond to God's Grace

Celebration of Holy Communion

Clergy Team

Communion Hymns – *Blessings, arr. Keveren*

Choir and Band

Offering Our Gifts

Minister 'Ainise Isama'u

Offering – *Band*

*Doxology – *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow UMH#95*

*Prayer of Dedication

Tam Kobayashi

Jesus of Nazareth, your love for this world is so strong. It's like a jar of perfume broken in a crowded room – it permeates everything it touches. God, we long to love like that. We long to love you with the same extravagant abundance that the woman with the alabaster jar displayed. However, we often get in our own way. Holy God, today we pray: when it comes to our neighbors, give us eyes to see as you are. Give us hands to serve as you serve. Give us arms to hold. Give us feet to journey alongside. Give us hearts of compassion, just like yours. God, our love does not stop with our neighbor. We also long to love you. When we hear laughter, remind us there is good in this world. When music or birdsong move our souls, remind us that you are always present with us. In all of these moments, turn our hearts toward you. May we be the next ones to love boldly, to sing praise, to say thank you. May we be the next ones to love boldly, to sing praise, to say thank you. Amen.

(Please be seated)

Going Forth in God's Holy Name

Faith in Action – The Ministry of Faith UMC

Minister 'Ainise Isama'u

*Closing Hymn – *Shout to the Lord, TFWS#2074, v.1*

*Commission and Blessings

Rev. Allison Mark

*Passing of the Peace – Postlude