



5. Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King;  
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen!

...TO PRAY

Sharing of Prayer Requests and Answers to Prayer  
(email requests/answers to: shamlynlee@gmail.com)

Prayer Chorus

#2195

(to be sung both before the Pastoral Prayer and after The Lord's Prayer)

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God, do not be afraid. Lift up you voices, the Lord is near,  
lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

Pastoral Prayer

The Rev. Tevita Vaikona

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

...TO HEAR THE WORD

JEREMIAH 31:31-34

<sup>31</sup> The time is coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and Judah. <sup>32</sup> It won't be like the covenant I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant with me even though I was their husband, declares the Lord. <sup>33</sup> No, this is the covenant that I will make with the people of Israel after that time, declares the Lord. I will put my Instructions within them and engrave them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. <sup>34</sup> They will no longer need to teach each other to say, "Know the Lord!" because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord; for I will forgive their wrongdoing and never again remember their sins.

JOHN 15:1-8

15 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vineyard keeper. <sup>2</sup>He removes any of my branches that don’t produce fruit, and he trims any branch that produces fruit so that it will produce even more fruit. <sup>3</sup>You are already trimmed because of the word I have spoken to you. <sup>4</sup>Remain in me, and I will remain in you. A branch can’t produce fruit by itself, but must remain in the vine. Likewise, you can’t produce fruit unless you remain in me.

<sup>5</sup>I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, then you will produce much fruit. Without me, you can’t do anything. <sup>6</sup>If you don’t remain in me, you will be like a branch that is thrown out and dries up. Those branches are gathered up, thrown into a fire, and burned.

<sup>7</sup>If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. <sup>8</sup>My Father is glorified when you produce much fruit and in this way prove that you are my disciples.

\*Hymn *All Praise to Our Redeeming Lord* #554

1. All praise to our redeeming Lord, who joins us by his grace,  
and bids us, each to each restored, together seek his face.
2. He bids us build each other up; and, gathered into one,  
to our high calling’s glorious hope we hand in hand go on.
5. We all partake the joy of one; the common peace we feel,  
a peace to sensual minds unknown, a joy unspeakable.
6. And if our fellowship below in Jesus be so sweet,  
what height of rapture shall we know when round his throne we  
meet!

Sermon

*Abide in Me*

The Rev. David Niu

...TO GIVE OF OUR TIME, TALENTS, AND TREASURES

God Sightings

Invitation for the Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings along with Our  
Commitments for 2022

Offertory *Open Our Eyes to the Breadth of Your Love* see screen

1. Open our eyes to the breadth of your love.  
Help us to see as you do from above.  
One human family ‘cross so many lands.  
called to shared effort: we live out your plans.

2. We are one body, unified by Christ,  
Through many structures we pursue what's right.  
We thank John Wesley, Methodism's head,  
grace first, through ordered means, by thee we're led.
3. Midst many levels, we find gifts employed,  
led by your Spirit, each to each alloyed;  
we conf'ence, then in churches reinvest  
new aims and efforts, offering our best.
4. Through prayers and presence, witness, service too,  
all these are gifts we bring to honor you.  
Lord, amplify our efforts and them bless,  
as daily we your loving care confess.

\*Doxology

Praise God the Source of Life and Birth;  
praise God the Word who came to earth;  
praise God the Spirit, Holy flame:  
all honor, glory to God's Name. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Confirmation of Youth see screen

Departing Hymn *God, Bless Your Church with Strength* see screen  
(sing to tune *Crown Him with Many Crowns*)

1. God, bless your church with strength! Wherever we may be,  
upbuild your servants as we work in common ministry.  
Urge us from fledgling faith to venture and to soar  
through open skies, to sing the praise of Christ whom we adore.
2. God, bless your church with life! May all our branches thrive,  
unblemished, wholesome, bearing fruit, abundantly alive.  
From you, one holy vine, in freedom may we grow;  
sustain us in our mission, Lord, your love and peace to show.
3. God, bless your church with hope! Despite chaotic days,  
may we in chaos shine to light a pathway through life's maze.  
May justice be our aim, and kindness ours to share,  
in humbleness O may we walk, assured our God is there!



# Announcements

If you have prayer requests or answers to prayer at any time during the week, please send them to Sham Lee Sealey: [shamlynlee@gmail.com](mailto:shamlynlee@gmail.com) She will send them to our email prayer partners and also collect them for next Sunday's worship. You can also submit prayer requests to our website: go to the "Connect" tab at [www.holycrossumc.us](http://www.holycrossumc.us).

IF YOU NEED A COPY OF THE *Focusing Our Faithfulness* materials for our commitment service this morning, please go to the entry desk. You will be invited to bring the completed form to the front of the sanctuary during our offering time this morning.

FOLLOWING WORSHIP THIS MORNING we will join in a congregational feast celebrating the confirmation of our youth and the commitment of our resources for Holy Cross's ongoing ministry. Please join us!

THIS WEEK WE WILL CONCLUDE our special offering to be presented at our Annual Conference gathering in Sacramento next week. This special offering will support students working under the temporary protection of the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). Currently DACA applications must be renewed every year. The cost to apply for renewal is \$495, plus additional legal fees to process applications through the immigration system. Your support will help these young people meet these financial challenges. You may write a check to Holy Cross UMC, memo: ACS offering, or go to the designated Annual Conference Offering fund on our website: [www.holycrossumc.us](http://www.holycrossumc.us).

THERE WILL BE NO in-person worship service next Sunday, October 31. Our 10:30 A.M. worship will be online only, and followed at 11:15 by the closing worship from the Annual Conference Session in Sacramento.

CIRCUIT CHURCH: Please pray for Central United Methodist Church here in Stockton this week, and the leadership of their new pastor, Mark Cordes.

AFFECTED NATION: Please pray this week for the nation of Brunei. In dealing with the COVID-19 crisis, they have reported a total of 11,047 cases, with 76 reported deaths.

Each Thursday from 1 – 4 P.M., Tracy Tennies will be on hand on the patio to receive your donations of non-perishable food for the Emergency Food Bank, personal-sized toiletries for Bags of Grace, and clothing for St. Mary's.

## *Preparing for Sunday Worship*

OCTOBER 31, 2021

Next Sunday our worship will focus on the subject of reformation, as the 31<sup>st</sup> will be the 504<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the Protestant Reformation. As you read these selections, consider what might need reforming in your life and in the life of our church.

*Monday, October 2*

Read Psalm 46:1-3

How has God been your refuge and strength when it seems that everything else is against you?

*Tuesday, October 26*

Read Psalm 46:4-7

Try to envision the blessed city where all live protected by God. Work to see yourself in complete safety with its resultant peace.

*Wednesday, October 27*

Read Psalm 46:8-11

Verse 10 is often rendered, "Be still, and know that I am God." Spend a few moments being still and listening for assuring words from the LORD.

*Thursday, October 28*

Read Ephesians 2:1-3

Do these words ring true for you? Reflect upon and confess times when you have been disobedient to God's will and way.

*Friday, October 29*

Read Ephesians 2:4-10

Have you accepted the saving grace of Christ? If so, how has God directed you to do good things that demonstrate that grace to others?

*Saturday, October 30*

Read Mark 12:28-34

It all comes down to *love God, love others*. Write down four ways you can show such love to God and others in the way you live today, then spend the day accomplishing them.

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Liturgist..... Germaine Burke  
Ministers..... Everyone  
Bishop..... Minerva G. Carcaño  
District Superintendent..... David Niu  
Lead Pastor..... Gary Pope-Sears  
Associate Pastor for Islander Ministries..... Tevita Vaikona  
Church Office Administrator..... Temple Gallagher  
Director of Music Ministry..... Wayne Mock  
Lay Leader..... Tracy Tennes  
Nursery Attendant..... Chanphaeng Plavong  
Custodian/Groundskeeper..... Shaunda Cartwright  
AV Operators..... Ryan Dahl/ Andrew Osborn