

Love God, Serve Others, Embrace Community

Pastor Melissa MacKinnon

July 26, 2026

"Drafted"

Prelude

Kevin Su Fukagawa

Welcome

Call to Worship

Marilyn M.

Leader: Come, all who seek the presence of God.

People: We come longing to be renewed by the Spirit.

Leader: As You spoke truth and grace to Nicodemus,

People: Speak anew to us today.

Leader: Remind us that You did not send Your Son to condemn the world,

People: But that through Him the world might be saved.

Leaders: You draft us into the dynamic relationship of the Holy Trinity

All: May we choose to step into this dynamic relationship with you.

Amen.

Opening Prayer

Gracious and loving God,

We come before You with grateful hearts, thankful for the gift of this new day and for the opportunity to gather as Your people. Open our hearts and minds to the movement of Your Holy Spirit. As You spoke truth and grace to Nicodemus, speak anew to us today. Give us the courage to seek You honestly, the humility to be transformed by Your love, and the faith to trust in the new life You offer through Jesus Christ.

We ask all this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***Opening Hymn "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee", Hymnal #89**

Verse 1

Joyful joyful we adore Thee
God of glory Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee
Opening to the sun above
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day

Verse 2

All Thy works with joy surround Thee
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays
Stars and angels sing around Thee
Center of unbroken praise
Field and forest vale and mountain
Flowery meadow flashing sea
Chanting bird and flowing
fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee



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Verse 3

Thou art giving and forgiving
Ever blessing ever blest
Wellspring of the joy of living
Ocean depth of happy rest
Thou our Father Christ our Brother
All who live in love are Thine
Teach us how to love each other
Lift us to the joy divine

Verse 4

Mortals join the mighty chorus
Which the morning stars began
Father love is reigning o'er us
Brother love binds man to man
Ever singing march we onward
Victors in the midst of strife
Joyful music lifts us sunward
In the triumph song of life

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Ministry Message

Children's Message

Puppeteers - Tanya Blanck

By: Margaret W

Scripture - Romans 8:12-17

2 Therefore, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation—but it is not to the flesh, to live according to it. 13 For if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the misdeeds of the body, you will live. 14 For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. 15 The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, “Abba, Father.” 16 The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children. 17 Now if we are children, then we are heirs—heirs of God and co-heirs with Christ, if indeed we share in his sufferings in order that we may also share in his glory.

Jesus Teaches Nicodemus

1 Now there was a Pharisee, a man named Nicodemus who was a member of the Jewish ruling council. 2 He came to Jesus at night and said, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God. For no one could perform the signs you are doing if God were not with him.” 3 Jesus replied, “Very truly I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God unless they are born again.” 4 “How can someone be born when they are old?” Nicodemus asked. “Surely they cannot enter a second time into their mother’s womb to be born!” 5 Jesus answered, “Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit. 6 Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit. 7 You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ 8 The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone born of the Spirit.” 9 “How can this be?” Nicodemus asked. 10 “You are Israel’s teacher,” said Jesus, “and do you not understand these things? 11 Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony. 12 I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things? 13 No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man. 14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, 15 that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.” 16 For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that



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whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. 17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

Anthem “There Is A Balm In Gilead”, Jenn Li

There's a balm in Gilead
To make the wounded whole
There is a balm in Gilead
To heal the sin-sick soul

Sometimes I feel discouraged
And think my work's in vain
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again

There is a balm in Gilead
To make the wounded whole
There is a balm in Gilead

To heal the sin-sick soul

If you can preach like Peter
If you can pray like Paul
Go home and tell your neighbor
“ He died to save us all. “

There is a balm in Gilead
To make the wounded whole
There is a balm in Gilead
To heal the sin-sick soul
To heal the sin-sick s

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Sermon “Drafted” Pastor Melissa MacKinnon

Pastoral Prayer

Moving into a Spirit of Prayer

Covenant Prayers for Cal-Pac Churches

Estero Bay UMC - Pastor Steven Poteete-Marshall

First UMC of Paso Robles - Pastor Kathi McShane

Community Prayers

NEW REQUESTS

CONTINUE TO PRAY

Prayers for Shirley(Rob's mom) who is recovering from a fall and is in hospice care. Be with her and all of the family during this time.

Prayers for Sheila G. who had surgery to remove a tumor on her pituitary gland. Surgery was successful so we pray for continued healing.

Prayers for Marv who is recovering from surgery after a car accident. Prayers that he regains his mobility and has a full recovery.

Prayers for Bob M. who is home recovering from knee surgery. Prayers for a speedy recovery.

Prayers for Wendall as he faces a major decision in his ongoing cancer treatment.(Kathy M).

Prayers for Lynn (Janice M. sister) who is recovering from surgery and doing much better.

Prayers for Betty (Kathleen's sister). Prayers for healing and comfort from the pain of shingles.

Prayers for Jack's granddaughter who is in need of a kidney. Prayers that a match is found quickly.

CANCER TREATMENT

Linda (Robin G.), Barbara (Tanya I), Danny C, Kathleen (Tanya). Jennifer(Dr. Bob R.), Georgia(Forbes), Debbie, Ruby(Emmie S), Toni, Sylvia(Pam P), Frank (Taty V),



IN HOSPICE

Prayers for Nancy Rank. Surround her and Dave and their family with peace and comfort as she grows closer to going home to be with the Lord.

The Lord's Prayer

Moving Beyond a Spirit of Prayer

Invitation to Give our Blessings back to God

Offertory, "We Are More Than Conquerors", Jenn Li

We are more than conquerors,
We are more than conquerors,
We are more than conquerors
through Christ who loved us.
We are more than conquerors,
We are more than conquerors,
We are more than conquerors
through Christ who loved us so.

For I'm convinced that neither death,
nor life, nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything in creation will be
able to separate us from
the love of God in Christ!

Children, be strong in the Lord,
be strong in the strength of God's power.
For our struggle is not against flesh and blood,
but the rulers, and the powers,
and the darkness,
and the evil of this world

Therefore take up the full armor of God,
that you may be able to stand.
And having done everything,
lift up your head and then stand.
Now stand, stand, stand, now stand!

We are more than conquerors,
We are more than conquerors,
We are more than conquerors
through Christ who loved us.

We are more than conquerors,
We are more than conquerors,
We are more than conquerors
through Christ who loved us so.

We are more than conquerors,
We are more than conquerors,
We are more than conquerors
through Jesus
Amen

Praise God

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Doxology "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymnal #95

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Closing Hymn "Victory In Jesus",

Hymnal #370

Verse 1

I heard an old old story
How a Savior came from glory
How He gave His life on Calvary
To save a wretch like me
I heard about His groaning

Of His precious blood's atoning
Then I repented of my sins
And won the victory

Chorus

O victory in Jesus
My Savior forever



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He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood
He loved me ere I knew Him
And all my love is due Him
He plunged me to victory
Beneath the cleansing flood

Verse 2

I heard about His healing
Of His cleansing pow'r revealing
How He made the lame to walk again
And caused the blind to see
And then I cried dear Jesus
Come and heal my broken spirit
And somehow Jesus came and brought
To me the victory

Chorus

O victory in Jesus
My Savior forever
He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood
He loved me ere I knew Him
And all my love is due Him

He plunged me to victory
Beneath the cleansing flood

Verse 3

I heard about a mansion
He has built for me in glory
And I heard about the streets of gold
Beyond the crystal sea
About the angels singing
And the old redemption story
And some sweet day I'll sing up there
The song of victory

Chorus

O victory in Jesus
My Savior forever
He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood
He loved me ere I knew Him
And all my love is due Him
He plunged me to victory
Beneath the cleansing flood

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*Benediction

Pastor Melissa MacKinnon

Ministry and Life of the Church Announcements

Women's Study

The Temples of God

Lead by: Carol Vargeson

7-30 - Women's Study - Thursday at Carol's Home - 1:00pm

7-31 - Women's Study - Friday at the church - 10:00am in the Wesley Room

Altar Flowers: St. Matthew's

Fellowship Today: Maureen Oskey

Birthdays: 8-1 Bob Rich, 8-1 Kevin Knoedler,

Postlude

Kevin Su Fukagawa

Thank you

for leading us in worship

Pastor Melissa for the Sermon Message

Kevin Su Fukagawa, Jenn Li, and The St. Matthew's Choir for our music

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