

PSR COMMUNITY CHAPEL

*Coloring with Love of Ancient Wisdoms for our Contemporary Time:
Faithfulness & Community*

Tuesday, April 7, 2026 – 11:10 am

Prelude	“Wellspring of Wisdom”	Patrick Sturgis
Congregational Invocation	<i>Chalice #596</i>	
Welcome & Land Acknowledgment		Nadia Neil
Video Selection	“Vijana Watatu (Shadrack, Meshack na Abednego)” <i>Zirwani SDA Choir Mombasa</i>	
Prayer (Malagasy)		Mami Brunah Aro Sandaniaina
Scripture Reading (English)	Daniel 3:13 - 27	Rev. Katheren Campbell Hudson
Reflection		Louis Carlos Knox, JD
Scripture Reading (Tongan)	Judges 9:50 - 55	Rev. Falamao Samate
Reflection		Teresa Allen-Rowe
Invitation to Response: Movement or Journaling		Dwain Sparling
Scripture: Isaiah 2: 2 – 5 (<i>New Jewish Publication Society of America Tanakh</i>)		
Question for journaling / response:		
What sword — a belief, text, way of reading, or something else — are you being invited to transform into something that gives life?		
Song of Meditation – “Plowshare Prayer” by Spencer LaJoye		
Community Prayer (Fijian)		Mesake Joji
Work of the People/Community Announcements		Isa’ako Moeone
Sending Song		“Profetiza, Pueblo Mio” (<i>insert</i>)
Benediction		Colby Knox

Video Postlude

“Shadrack”

Louis Armstrong with the Sy Oliver Choir
and the All Stars

Gratitude to all who participated in leading today’s Worship, including:

Professor Brody and the HB / OT: Social & Religious Transformations class; the PSR Chapel Planning Committee; Our Chapel musician, Patrick Sturgis, Barbara Murray, altar design; Chapel Student Assistant, Danny Samiu, Power Point & AV support; Matthew Robinson for AV/Tech Supervision, Josue Carballo-Huertas and Jacob Perez for graphic support, and Operations Manager, Joseph Junsay and facilities staff for Bade setup.



NEXT WEEK’S COMMUNITY CHAPEL:

UMC Students Convening with Guest Preacher,
Bishop Sandy Olewine,
Bishop of the California-Nevada Conference of the UMC

**DO YOU HAVE MUSICAL GIFTS
YOU’D LIKE TO SHARE WITH THE COMMUNITY
ESPECIALLY AS WE’RE APPROACHING COMMENCEMENT?**

Please contact our **Chapel Music Director, Patrick Sturgis**, at psturgis@psr.edu

You can also show up for weekly rehearsals at 10 am here in the Bade !

**FINALLY, IF YOU HAVE ANNOUNCEMENTS YOU’D LIKE TO SHARE
WITH THE COMMUNITY – PLEASE SEND THEM (with graphics) TO REV.
ANN JEFFERSON BY FRIDAY OF EACH WEEK – ajefferson@psr.edu**



MELANIN: The Good... The Bad... and the Sacred



Bishop Tonyia Rawls

The 19th Annual CLGS John E. Boswell Lecture
Thursday, **16 April 2026** @ 4pm (Pacific Time) | **ONLINE**

You're invited to
PSR PROM 2026
"Get on Board
the Love Train"

Friday, April 24th
7 – 11 pm

Tickets: **\$30/person**
(\$15 for 12 and under)

sponsored by PSR's
Community Life Council



Great Food , DJ
& Photo Booth
1798 Scenic Avenue
Berkeley, CA 94709



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PSR COMMUNITY CHAPEL

*“Coloring with the Love of
Ancient Wisdoms for our
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Image:

*Possible image of the Ark of the Covenant. Red chest
from the tomb of Tutankhamun, equipped with carrying
poles, shown with poles extended. Burton photograph
1557. From Malek, Tutankhamun.*

Tuesday, April 7, 2026

PRAYERS & READINGS

Prayer (Malagasy)

(General translation in English)

God of boundless love,

We thank You for the grace that allows us to come before You, to listen and to speak to You, and to rest in Your presence.

Whether gathered in person or connected online, whether worshiping in this moment or joining later through a recording, we praise You that You are never limited by time, by space, by language, or by any human category. Your reach is infinite, and Your welcome is unending.

Open our hearts and our souls, we pray

Prepare us to receive Your word of wisdom, written long ago, read across generations, and preached faithfully through the centuries.

Let that same word speak with power and clarity to us today.

May it shape us, guide us, and draw us ever closer to You. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Daniel 3: 13 – 27

Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought in, so they brought those men before the king. Nebuchadnezzar said to them, “Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods and you do not worship the golden statue that I have set up? Now if you are ready, when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, you should fall down and worship the statue that I have made. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire, and who is the god who will deliver you out of my hands?”

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to present a defense to you in this matter. If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up.”

Then Nebuchadnezzar was so filled with rage against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face was distorted. He ordered the furnace heated up seven times more than was

customary and ordered some of the strongest guards in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and to throw them into the furnace of blazing fire. So the men were bound, still wearing their tunics, their trousers, their hats, and their other garments, and they were thrown into the furnace of blazing fire. Because the king's command was urgent and the furnace was so overheated, the raging flames killed the men who lifted Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. But the three men, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, fell down, bound, into the furnace of blazing fire.

Then King Nebuchadnezzar was astonished and rose up quickly. He said to his counselors, "Was it not three men that we threw bound into the fire?" They answered the king, "True, O king." He replied, "But I see four men unbound, walking in the middle of the fire, and they are not hurt, and the fourth has the appearance of a god." Nebuchadnezzar then approached the door of the furnace of blazing fire and said, "Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, servants of the Most High God, come out! Come here!" So Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego came out from the fire. And the satraps, the prefects, the governors, and the king's counselors gathered together and saw that the fire had not had any power over the bodies of those men; the hair of their heads was not singed, their tunics [e] were not scorched, and not even the smell of fire came from them.

Scripture Reading (Tongan)

Judges 9:50-55 (NRSVUE)

"Then Abimelech went to Thebez and encamped against Thebez and took it. But there was a strong tower within the city, and all the men and women and all the lords of the city fled to it and shut themselves in, and they went to the roof of the tower. Abimelech came to the tower and fought against it and came near to the entrance of the tower to burn it with fire. But a certain woman threw an upper millstone on Abimelech's head and crushed his skull. Immediately he called to the young man who carried his armor and said to him, "Draw your sword and kill me, so people will not say about me, 'A woman killed him.'" So the young man thrust him through, and he died. When the Israelites saw that Abimelech was dead, they all went home."

Isaiah 2:2-5

[New Jewish Publication Society of America Tanakh (NJPS)]

In the days to come,
The Mount of the Lord's House
Shall stand firm above the mountains

And tower above the hills;
And all the nations
Shall gaze on it with joy.
And the many peoples shall go and say:
“Come,
Let us go up to the Mount of the Lord,
To the House of the God of Jacob;
That He may instruct us in His ways,
And that we may walk in His paths.”
For instruction shall come forth from Zion,
The word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

Thus He will judge among the nations
And arbitrate for the many peoples,
And they shall beat their swords into plow points
And their spears into pruning hooks:
Nation shall not take up
Sword against nation;
They shall never again know war.

O House of Jacob!
Come, let us walk
By the light of the Lord.

Community Prayer (Fijian)

Loving and Eternal God, we come before You today as a community—as students, faculty, staff, and all who are part of the life of Pacific School of Religion. Color our lives, O God, with the beauty of timeless wisdom and the power of Your love for this present moment.

In a world filled with confusion, ground us in Your truth. In a world marked by pain and brokenness, shape us into people of deep compassion. In a world divided by fear and difference, make us instruments of Your peace.

Teach us, Lord, to honor the wisdom of those who came before us— the voices, stories, and traditions that have carried faith through generations.

And give us courage to carry that same eternal truth into the challenges of today— with grace in our words, with boldness in our witness, and with faith in our calling.

As a learning community, form us not only in knowledge, but in love...not only in understanding, but in justice... not only in study, but in faithful action.

May our lives—individually and together—reflect Your love, Your wisdom, and Your light for this generation... and for the generations yet to come. We offer ourselves to You, O God, as vessels of Your hope in the world.

In the name of Jesus Christ, who is our wisdom, our peace, and our life — Amen