

Eden United Church of Christ
Order for Worship
Second Sunday of Easter
Sunday, April 23, 2017
10:00 a.m.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Eden United Church of Christ is an Open and Affirming congregation.

We believe that all people are children of God;

that persons of all ages, races and sexual orientations are part of our increasingly diverse culture.

We welcome all persons into the full life and ministry of this church.

Children's bulletins are available upon request from the ushers.

Thank you for muting your cell phone, pager, and PDA during worship.

*Thank you for bringing no food or beverages in the Sanctuary
other than sacramental elements and bottled water.*

PRELUDE Fanfare for a Resurrection Day Steven Scott

THE LIGHT ENTERS WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

ANNOUNCEMENTS The Rev. Pepper Swanson
(Thank you for your gift of presence and for completing a blue or peach worship card today)

INTROIT Yours Is the Glory, Resurrected One! (v.1) **NCH № 253**
Yours is the glo-ry, Res-ur-rect-ed One!
End-less is the vic-tory you o'er death have won.
An-gels clothed in ra-diance rolled the stone a-way;
con-quer-ed is the grave in which your bod-y lay.
Yours is the glo-ry, Res-ur-rect-ed One!
End-less is the vic-tory you o'er death have won.

* **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(All who are able may stand)* Dave Wallace

L: Sing a new song!

R: **A joyful melody of springtime glory and rebirth**

L: Sing praise to our Still-Laughing Easter God

R: **Who has rolled away the bindings of yesterday**

L: Immerse your anxiety and despair in the fountain of new birth.

R: **We place our visions and hopes on the table of wine and wheat.**

L: For God has taken ordinary things.

R: **And made them extraordinary.**

All: **Sing a new song!**

* HYMN

Alleluia! G

NCH № 257

* INVOCATION *(in unison)*

Dave

Holy God, as you have taken what we call an absurdity and turned it into possibility. From us, you have coaxed springtime alleluias where once there was a gray dawn. You have called us out of the tombs we inhabit into an undreamed of tomorrow. We praise you for this day! Come, Risen Christ, in newness and hope on this Eastertide day. Amen.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

L: The peace of God be with you all.

Dave

R: And also with you.

L: Let us greet our neighbors with a sign of peace.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

CHILDREN'S GATHERING

Pam Reuling

CHILDREN'S BLESSING Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us *(v.1)* NCH № 252

*Sav-ior, like a shep-herd lead us, much we need your ten-der care;
in your pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your folds pre-pare.
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have bought us, yours we are;
Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, you have bought us, yours we are.*

(Children in grade K-7 are excused to Church School. Grades 8-12 will remain in worship. Nursery care is available at any time during worship. Please see an usher for an escort to the nursery.)

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 16

Dave

(Today's scripture lesson can be found on pages 430 in the pew Bibles.)

SERMON

“A Joyful Choice”

The Rev. Pepper Swanson

* HYMN

My Shepherd Is the Living God

NCH № 247

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Joys and Concerns

Arlene

Pastoral Prayer

Jesus' Prayer *(in unison)*

Our God, in whom is heaven, blessed be your name. Your presence come, your will be done, both here and everywhere. May your realm of peace and freedom sustain our hopes and come on earth. May we be fed today with the bread that we need, and may forgiveness be ours in the same measure we give. In times of temptation, strengthen us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

Prayer Response Listen to Your Savior Call *(v.1)* **NCH № 250**
Lis-ten to your Sav-ior call,
“Do you love me most of all?”
Je-sus speaks, and speaks to you:
“Love me as I first loved you”

OFFERING & DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS

Invitation *(Thank you for placing your blue or peach worship card in the offering plate)* Dave

Offertory “Militaire” Polonaise in A Major Op.40 No.1 F. Chopin

* **Response** Come, Celebrate with Thanksgiving *(v.1)* **NCH № 246**
Come cel-e-brate with than ks-giv-ing, come and wor-ship God al-might-y
Who is cre-a-tor of all things, and the giv-er of good gifts;
Who came to be one a-mong us, e-ven dy-ing on a cross,
E-vil has been o-ver-come, and not deat has been de-destroyed.
Cel-e-brate that Christ is liv-ing and then wait for God’s great gift:
The di-vine and ho-ly Spir-it now may come in-to our hearts.
Come in-to our hearts.

* **Prayer of Dedication** Dave

* **HYMN** We Live by Faith and Not by Sight **NCH № 256**

* **BENEDICTION** Pepper

* **RESPONSE** Peace I Leave with You, My Friends *(v.1)* **NCH № 249**

Peace I leave with you, my friends, sha-lom my peace, in all you do,
Peace I leave with you, my friends. I give to you so you can give to oth-ers, too.
To share God’s love is why I came, to show God’s kind-ness with-out end.
Go now, my friends, and do the same, Until I come a-gain.
Peace I leave with you, my friends, sha-lom my peace, in all you do,
Peace I leave with you, my friends. I give to you so you can give to oth-ers, too.

* CHIMES & THE LIGHT DEPARTS WITH THE PEOPLE

* **POSTLUDE** Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals S. Karg-Elert

Worship Leaders

The Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, Senior Minister
The Rev. Pepper Swanson, Associate Minister
Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Organist & Music Director
Dave Wallace, Liturgist

Cindy Keune, Greeters
Cindy Keune, Pat Payne, Theresa Collier & TBD, Ushers
Angelina Collier & Kemy Gekara, Nursery Workers
Jan Bass & Rozetta Walth, K-7

Susie Newman, Fellowship Captain
Marv Beck & Susie Newman, Fellowship Hosts
Carol Roach & Sally Kusalo, Fellowship Helpers
Jim Fryer, Trustee on Duty
Dawn Coburn, Sunday Sexton

Welcome

Welcome to Eden United Church of Christ! If you are searching for a spiritual home, please consider becoming part of our congregation. Eden welcomes members who seek a deeper relationship with God in a caring community and who strive to make a difference in the lives of others. We will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism and the Rite of Church Membership four to five times yearly during morning worship. Please see one of our pastors or an usher, deacon, or member of the E-Team if you seek baptism for yourself or your child, or if you would like to be received into church membership. We will celebrate infant and adult baptism and receive new members several times each year.

Flower Dedication

The flowers were given by Keith Smith in memory of Todd Bove.

TODAY

There will be a **Strategic Plan Update today**, during our Fellowship time. Each of the three Teams will report on their progress to date. Come hear how each of our three planning teams are proceeding, participate in a small group planning process, and get a sneak peek at this year's budget conversation.

Pam Reuling will be available **today**, after worship, to supply donation/sponsorship forms and answer any questions about the **FESCO Shelter Shuffle**. Pam Reuling and Pat Payne will collect the forms/donations on Sunday, **Apr 30**. Are you ready?!☺

The **Stewardship Team** is meeting has been postponed from **today** to next Thursday, **Apr 27** at 6:30 pm in the Community Room.

PARENT-TEACHER GATHERING

Save the date for our semi-annual Parent-Teacher Gathering on Sunday, **Apr 30** after worship in the Norberg Room. We will be discussing summer camps and Eden's Christian Education program for the 2017-18 school year, including a proposal for a new Sunday evening youth program.

UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

Parenting & Gender Talk: Rick Oculito will address the topic "Parenting and Gender: Understanding the Gender Spectrum and Gender Identities" at the Danville Congregational Church, Saturday, **Apr 29**, 10 am to 12 noon. Oculito is Education Coordinator for Our Family Coalition, a nonprofit organization based in Oakland that advances equity for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer (LGBTQ) families with children through support, education, and advocacy. His presentation will cover topics such as: gender terminology, creating posi-

tive environments for all genders, reducing gender role stereotyping, and responding to challenging questions relating to gender. The event is free and open to the public. Childcare will be provided. For more information, contact Jacquie Guzzo or Faye Isaacson at srvpflag@gmail.com or go to: srvpflag.webs.com.

FESCO Shelter Shuffle: Help support the Family Emergency Shelter Coalition in its efforts to end family homelessness in Alameda County by joining us at our 20th Annual FESCO Shuffle Walkathon on Saturday, **May 6**. Come join the Eden Team, which already has a dozen members signed up to participate, in this family-friendly, dog-friendly event along the beautiful path at the San Leandro Marina. Check-in starts at 8:30 am at the Seagull Picnic Site and the walk begins at 10 am. You can walk from one to three miles, or even be a benchwarmer! The event offers morning refreshments, lunch, entertainment, and a raffle. If you are attending, you can sponsor yourself or get your families to sponsor you. A number of Eden members have also agreed to be sponsors. If you are unable to attend, please consider sponsoring a walker or making a direct financial contribution to FESCO. Your donations make it possible for FESCO to help homeless families gain stability and find permanent housing! Sign up to walk or to donate at www.firstgiving.com/21524/20th-annual-fesco-shuffle. For more information about the Eden Team, please contact Pam Reuling or Pat Payne.

Service Dog Announcement

Sunday, **May 7**, Shannon Whitney will attend worship with her new service dog. It is very important for the development of their working relationship that Shannon's dog have her complete attention and focus. We can help by respecting their new bond—which means ignoring the dog as much as possible. Shannon realizes ignoring the dog may be very difficult for animal lovers, but she promises to make time for all of us to greet her new dog when the time is right, later this year.

Mt. Eden HS Choir Returns to Eden

The Mt. Eden High School Chamber Singers and Choirs will return to Eden Church next month for two appearances. The Chamber Singers will sing for morning worship on Sunday, **May 7**. Worship begins at 10 am in the Sanctuary. The entire choir program will present their Spring Concert in the Sanctuary at Eden on Thursday, **May 18**, beginning at 7:30 pm. Tickets will be available in advance and at the door. For more information about Mt. Eden High School's award winning choir and for advance tickets go to: <https://www.mehschoirs.org>.

2017-2018 Budget Presentation

Eden Church Treasurer, the Rev. Rob Parrish, and members of the 2017-2018 Budget Committee will provide an overview of the proposed 2017-2018 Operating Budget on Sunday, **May 7**, and Sunday, **June 11**, from 11:30 am to 12 noon in the Norberg Room. The presentation will include an analysis of revenue sources and expenses for our worshipping congregation, outreach ministries, and campus community, and illustrate how the Budget Committee recommends aligning financial and human resources with the vision and goals articulated in the congregation's Strategic Plan, which was adopted on June 25, 2016.

Know Your Rights Workshop/Taller de Conozca sus Derechos

Our next immigration rights workshop will be held Friday, **May 12**, 6-8 pm in Oliver Hall. This event will include a free community meal, immigration law information, an opportunity to meet privately with an attorney to discuss a personal or family concern, professional childcare for children in grades K-6, and homework help and computer access for youth. This event is co-sponsored by Assembly Member Bill Quirk, HERA: Housing and Economic Rights Advocates, Centro Legal de la Raza, Padres Unidos de Cherryland, and Eden United Church of Christ.

Rowell Ranch Parade

Eden Church will participate again this year in Castro Valley's Rowell Ranch Rodeo Parade on Saturday, **May 13**. We will carry our Eden banner, give away Eden identity items, and have a great time spreading the Good News about what a fabulous open and affirming church we are. Mark your calendar now and plan to participate in both the parade (9 am start) and a post-parade lunch at Knudsen's Ice Creamery. For further information, contact Athena Malloy or Keith Smith, E-Team Co-chairs.

Bluegrass Sunday

A local bluegrass band called “Roanoke Revival,” featuring our very own Jesse Acker-Johnson on rhythm guitar, will be sure to liven up Eden’s annual Festival of the Christian Home celebration on Mother’s Day, **May 14**. Other bandmates include Daniel Price on banjo, and Sabrina Vasquez as vocalist. This worship service is the third in a series of four experimental services designed by Eden’s Worship Practices Team in fulfillment of our strategic plan, which was adopted on Jun 25, 2016. Worshippers will be asked to provide feedback on the service by completing a brief questionnaire that will be distributed by the ushers at the conclusion of the service.

SMALL GROUPS & ONGOING PROGRAMS

Member Attendance Pilot Project: In April and May, the Congregational Life Team will be piloting a new member attendance system. The goal of the project is to build awareness of members' names, presence, and unexpected absences as well reach out to visitors in a timely fashion. Members are encouraged to either check their name upon arrival or to confirm with the usher that their name has been checked. A monthly report will be provided to the Senior Pastor and Council. If you have questions or comments, speak to one of the members of the Congregational Life Team: Keith Smith, Jacob Smith, Thomas Tyner, Sabrina Bratt, Dianne Dorn, Julie Booher, Suzie Hasselkuss, or Pastor Pepper.

Bible Study is Awesome: Session dates are **Apr 24, and May 8 & May 22**. The daytime session is from 10 to 11 am in the Community Room. Evening session is from 7 to 8:30 pm in Fireside Room. For information, contact Pastor Pepper, Dianne Dorn, or Keith Smith.

Seekers Book Club: Eden's weekly book club is starting a new book for the Easter season, *The Book of Joy* by the Dalai Lama and the Rev. Desmond Tutu. Newcomers are always welcome on Wednesdays at 10 am.

Single Women’s Group: Single women meet for fellowship and lunch on the first Friday of every month. The next meeting is Friday, **May 5**. For information, contact Daniella Prym or Anne Duey.

Join the Choir: Come and join the Eden Choir! Dr. Jessie Lo will be leading and teaching music during rehearsals to be held on certain Sundays beginning at 11:30 am. See “Coming Attractions” in the Sunday bulletin for our upcoming rehearsal and performance schedule. In general, rehearsals will be the two Sundays preceding each performance in worship. Come join a fun-loving group and be a vital part of our Music Ministry.

Cherryland Computer Café: Need a computer for schoolwork? Need to complete or print a job application? All ages welcome and mentors available to help you succeed. Open hours for **Spring 2017** are scheduled for Mondays from 4 to 7 pm and Comida Wednesdays (2nd & 4th) from 1 to 4 pm. Hours may change; please call our Office at (510) 582-9533 to confirm availability.

Comida para Cherryland: Eden’s just-in-time food pantry, *Comida para Cherryland*, serves around 200 families per month. The *Comida* operates on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month, from 1:30—4:30 pm or until the food is gone. A contribution of \$4.50 buys one bag for a family of 4 to 7. For more information, contact our Compañeras/os Ministry Coordinator, Corina Vasare.

Flowers for Worship: The 2017 Flower Calendar is posted in the Church Office. Several Sundays are available for dedications. Stop by to sign up for a date to match your occasion. Flowers can be provided by: 1) Cut or purchase flowers and arrange them at home or church and place them on the communion table; 2) Make arrangements with Eden’s Flower Coordinator Mary Graw to provide flowers and she will arrange them; or 3) Order flowers delivered from a florist to the church on the Saturday prior to your date. Bulletin dedications are due to the Church Office by 12 noon on the Wednesday before your date. For information, contact Mary Graw at 510-581-5536.

JOYS

Over **160 people** attended our **Easter Worship and Easter Egg Hunt** on Apr 16.

Congratulations to **Debby Andrade** and **Stephanie Andrade** on their new full-time jobs!

BIG THANKS to our hardworking **Board of Trustees** for organizing and participating in a campus workday on Mar 29. The Tot Lot and landscaping between Pioneer Chapel and the Sanctuary look amazing!

We have two new members who joined us on Palm Sunday, Apr 9: **Rene Coleman** and **TJ Wilkerson**.

We were blessed to celebrate two baptisms on Palm Sunday, Apr 9: **Emiliano Gabriel Santos Chavez** and **Rosa Maria Angel Chavez**. Emiliano and Rosa are the children of **Martha Chavez Gonzalez**, who has been worshipping with us since Christmas.

Many thanks to **Eden members** who colored and installed last week's Coloring Lent Exhibit: **Julie Booher, Carol Roach, Sally Kusalo, Daniella Prym, Keith Smith, TJ Wilkerson, Jared Smith-Bove, Lauren Smith-Bove, Scott Swanson**, and many children in our **Church School** and **Compañeras Ministry**.

Congratulations to **Aubrey Freed**, daughter of **Rebecca Wiebe** and **Michael Freed**, who has been accepted into a two-week environmental studies program in Hong Kong, China this summer!

Thank you to our **Flower Coordinator Mary Graw** for organizing the Easter Lily purchase and distribution to our home-bound members and friends on Easter Sunday.

Eden Church hosted "**Help for the Helpers: An Immigration Law Clinic for Faith leaders and Helping Professionals**" on Mar 27. The event was attended by 32 leaders representing 13 faith groups, 11 nonprofit organizations, and 2 public entities. We also launched a "Help for the Helpers" Facebook page and webpage on the church website.

Congratulations and bon voyage to **Amy and Rachel Rios-Richardson**, who have hit the road and will be enjoying a belated honey moon celebration to Kauai, HI and visits with family in Southern California. We look forward to their return to Eden on May 21.

PRAYER CONCERNS

For families in our congregation and neighborhood need help finding affordable housing. If you have a lead on **a room, an apartment, or a house** to rent, please contact Pastor Arlene.

For **the Autenrieth family**, and **Emily's mother**, who has begun receiving hospice care.

For **Pat Ball**, who is at home recovering from a fall and hip surgery which occurred on Mar 11. Pat sends heartfelt thanks for the many calls, cards, and visitors she has received from Eden members and friends while convalescing at home from her broken hip. Your support has been greatly appreciated.

For **Rene Coleman's** mother, who is receiving hospice care.

For **Wesley Moniz**, Jenna, Willow, and Raven's father, who has been diagnosed with an incurable form of osteomyelitis, and who has begun receiving hospice care.

For **Ruth Schaap and family**, who are grieving the death of her son and brother, **Dick Schaap**, who died on Mar 30. Condolences may be sent to the family in care of John Schaap. Please contact the church office for the address if needed.

For **Gregory Roberts**, the Bove-Smith's cousin, who is receiving chemotherapy treatments.

For **Tatjana Waqa-Terejo** and **Armando Terejo**, Daniella Prym's daughter and son-in-law. Armando applied for renewal of his DACA status 4 months ago, but hasn't yet received his renewal and his work permit expires this week. Due to the government work backlog, he was told that he probably won't receive his renewed work permit for another 40 days, so he will be suspended from his job until his permit comes in.

This Week At-A-Glance

Sunday, April 23

10:00—11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:15—12:15 pm	Fellowship & Strategic Planning Check-In	Oliver Hall
11:30—12:30 pm	Sunday Counters	Library

Monday, April 24

10:00—11:30 am	Bible Study	Community Room
4:00— 7:00 pm	Cherryland Computer Café	Norberg Room
7:00— 8:30 pm	Bible Study	Fireside Room

Tuesday, April 25

10:00—11:00 am	Eden Stitches	Jensen Room
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Wednesday, April 26

10:00—11:00 am	Seekers	Community Room
1:00— 4:00 pm	Cherryland Computer Café	Norberg Room
1:30— 4:30 pm	Comida Para Cherryland	Oliver Hall
7:00— 9:00 pm	Budget Committee Meeting	Community Room

Thursday, April 27

7:00— 9:00 pm	EAF Board Meeting	Norberg Room
6:30—8:30 pm	Stewardship Team Meeting	Community Room

Sunday, April 30

10:00—11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:15—12:15 pm	Fellowship	Oliver Hall
11:30—12:30 pm	Sunday Counters	Library
11:30—12:30 pm	Parent Teacher Gathering	Norberg Room

Coming Attractions – Mark Your Calendars!

New or amended items are in italics.

Apr 24	Bible Study	May 13	E-vent: Rowell Ranch Parade
Apr 26	Comida para Cherryland (5 th Anniversary Celebration)	May 14	Festival of the Christian Home & Blue Grass Worship Service
Apr 27	Stewardship Meeting	May 21	Stewardship/Dedication of Pledges Sunday
Apr 27	EAF Board Meeting	May 22	Final Spring Bible Study
Apr 30	2017-18 Stewardship Pledge Drive Begins	May 24	Comida para Cherryland
Apr 30	Parent Teacher Meeting	May 29	Memorial Day/Campus Closed
May 6	FESCO Shelter Shuffle	Jun 4	<i>Confirmation Sunday/Bravo Sunday!</i>
May 7	2017-2018 Budget Presentation	Jun 11	2017-2018 Budget Presentation
	Confirmation Class	Jun 15-18	<i>NCNC UCC Annual Meeting</i>
May 8	Bible Study	Jun 18	<i>Faith of Our Fathers Worship</i>
May 10	Comida para Cherryland	Jun 25	<i>152nd Congregational Meeting</i>
May 12	Know Your Rights Workshop/ <i>Taller de Conozca sus Derechos</i>	Jul 4	<i>Independence Day/Campus Closed</i>