

**Eden United Church of Christ**  
**Order for Worship**  
**Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 16, 2017**  
**10:00 a.m.**

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**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.*

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**PRELUDE**      Psalm 19 The Heavens Declare The Glory Of God      B. Marcello  
*(Nursery care is available at any time during worship.)*

**THE LIGHT ENTERS WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

**GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS**      The Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring  
*(Thank you for your gift of presence and for completing a blue worship card today)*

**INTROIT**      Let Us with a Joyful Mind (v.1)      **NCH № 16**  
*Let us with a joy-ful mind praise our God for-ev-er kind,  
Rich with mer-cies that en-dure, ev-er faith-ful, ev-er sure.*

\* **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(All who are able may stand)*      Lauren Smith-Bove

**L:** You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it;  
the river of God is full of water;

**R:** you provide the people with grain,  
for you have prepared it.

**L:** You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges,  
softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

**R:** You crown the year with your bounty;  
your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

**L:** The pastures of the wilderness overflow,  
the hills gird themselves with joy,

**R:** the meadows clothe themselves with flocks,  
the valleys deck themselves with grain,  
they shout and sing together for joy.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Psalm 65:9-13

\* **HYMN** Praise Our God Above **NCH № 424**

\* **INVOCATION** *(in unison)* Lauren

**O Divine Creator, you plant your holy word in our hearts just as good seed is planted in fertile soil. So nurture our faith, we pray, that we may grow in love and service with you and be a blessing to our neighbors. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

\* **PASSING OF THE PEACE** Lauren

L: The peace of God be with you all.

**R: And also with you.**

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

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE** Lauren

L: Worship will continue with the ministry of music.

**CHILDREN'S GATHERING** Jared Smith-Bove

**CHILDREN'S BLESSING** God Made You, God Made Me

*Thank Him, thank Him, all the lit - tle chil - dren; God made you, God made me!*

*Thank Him, thank Him, all the lit - tle chil - dren; God made you, God made me!*

*(Children in grades K-5 are excused for Summer Celebration.*

*Nursery care is available at any time during worship. Please see an usher for an escort to the nursery.)*

**SCRIPTURE READING** Matthew 13:1-9 & 18-23 Lauren

*(Today's scripture lesson can be found on page 794 in the pew Bibles)*

**SERMON** "Preparing the Soil" The Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring

\***HYMN** Come to Tend God's Garden **NCH № 586**

**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**      Jesus --- The Very Thought to Me (v.5)      **NCH № 507**  
*Je-sus, our joy, our great-est bliss, and you our prize will be;  
Our glo-ry here and now is this, and through e-ter-ni-ty.*

## OFFERING & DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS

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

**Offertory**      I Love Thee      E. Grieg

\* **Response**      Thank You, God (v. 1)      **NCH № 559**  
*Thank you, God, for wa-ter, soil, and air, large gifts sup-port-ing ev-ery-thing that lives.  
For-give our spoil-ing and a-buse of them. Help us re-new the face of the earth.*

\* **Prayer of Dedication**      Keith

\* **HYMN**      For the Fruit of All Creation      **NCH № 425**

\* **BENEDICTION**      Arlene

\* **RESPONSE**      Part in Peace (v. 3)      **NCH № 78**  
*Part in peace! our voic-es rais-ing, in God's pres-ence al-ways be.  
This the wor-ship and the prais-ing, bring-ing peace to you and me.*

\* **CHIMES AND THE LIGHT DEPARTS WITH THE PEOPLE**

\* **POSTLUDE**      Prelude in G Major BWV860      J.S. Bach

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### Today's Worship Leaders

The Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, Senior Minister  
The Rev. Pepper Swanson, Associate Minister  
Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Organist & Music Director  
Lauren Smith-Bove & Keith Smith, Liturgists  
Jared Smith-Bove, Children's Gathering  
Julie Booher, Greeters  
Julie Booher, Theresa Collier, Stephanie Spencer, and T J Wilkerson, Ushers  
Theresa Collier & Yoselin Penado, Nursery Workers  
Suzie Hasselkuss & Rozetta Walth, Church School Teachers  
Julie Booher, Fellowship Captain  
Michael Stuber and Suzie Hasselkuss, Fellowship Hosts  
Suzie Hasselkuss, T J Wilkerson & Lauren Smith-Bove, Fellowship Helpers  
Dave Wallace & Sally Kusalo, Counters  
Bob Turner, 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 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 Jared Smith-Bove.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Cherryland Friendship Lunch & Driving Tour:** Next Sunday, **Jul 23**, Eden's Compañeras Ministry will host an all-church y'all-come community lunch and driving tour. This cross-cultural fellowship and education event will provide congregants, community members, and Comida supporters an opportunity to get better acquainted and learn more about our local setting. Lunch will be provided by *Padres Unidos de Cherryland* and begin immediately following worship in Oliver Hall. A free-will offering will be received for the *Padres Unidos Emergency Fund*. Food will be served family style at each table by Padres Unidos leaders. Members of the ChYLI Class of 2017 are preparing story boards describing the immigration histories of current Cherryland residents. The ChYLI's will also serve as co-hosts at the tables and help facilitate introductions, a table game, and carpooling. A driving tour will follow lunch, and include the following points of interest: Meek Estate, Cherryland Park, Cherryland Elementary School, and the Sunset Campus (site of the New Cherryland School funded by Measure L.) RSVP by email [tania@edenucc.com](mailto:tania@edenucc.com) or phone (510) 582-9533 to Tania Martinez.

**Eden Night Live:** Celebrate summer with music, local food & vendors, and outdoor recreation with the return of Eden Night Live. In July, this family-friendly evening event will be held from 6 to 9 pm, Friday, **July 28** at 16640 E 14th Street in Ashland. For more information as well as upcoming Aug-Oct dates, check out the Eden Night Live website (<http://edennightlive.com>).

**Emergency Shelter Re-Dedicated:** The Family Emergency Shelter Coalition (FESCO) invites the community to join in dedicating the remodeled Les Marquis House, a 21-bed emergency shelter that provides housing and resources for up to 8 families of all configurations. The dedication will be held Thursday, **Jul 20**, 3 to 4 pm at 1276 C Street in Hayward. Please *RSVP* to Cheryl O'Connor ([coconnor@homeaidnc.org](mailto:coconnor@homeaidnc.org)) if you plan to attend.

**Cherryland Backpack Drive:** Eden Church and our friends in Delta Kappa Gamma are collecting backpacks and school supplies to give away to children in Grades K-12 at the Comida para Cherryland on Wednesday, Aug 9. We are collecting new backpacks, pencils, pens, color pencils, color markers, crayons, erasers, glue stick, binders, spiral notebooks, binder paper, highlighters, pencil boxes/pouches, pencil sharpeners, and binder divider pages with tabs. Help give the kids a great start to the 2017-18 school year and continue to support our school community! Please bring donations to the church office by Sunday, **Aug 6**. If you have any questions or would like to help sort the donations, please see Corina Vasare.

**Kayaking Adventure:** Eden's Church School is going kayaking! As part of our Summer Celebration's focus on the environment, a 2-hour kayak tour has been arranged at Lake Chabot on Sunday, **Aug 6**. A kayaking lesson, a history of Lake Chabot, and an introduction to Lake Chabot wildlife, including a nesting bald eagle, will be provided. We will depart after the Children's Gathering and will return to Eden UCC at 12:45 pm. Cost \$25 per child. Children under 12 must be accompanied by a parent; cost for adults \$45. To sign up, please contact Pepper and provide payment by Sunday, **Jul 30**.

**Marina Walk Excursion:** Come explore a short segment of the Bay Trail from the San Leandro Marina to the Malloy family home on Saturday, **Aug 12**. This short 1.75 mile paved walk will depart from the south end of the Marina (i.e., the bridge by the dog park) at 3 pm and break for a shared picnic at the Malloys around 4:15. When refreshed, walkers will return to the Marina for a total walk of 3.5 miles or can be shuttled back to their cars. Bring picnic food to share—drinks and paper goods will be provided. To sign up or to inquire about bringing your dog, contact Athena Malloy at ([athena.malloy@yahoo.com](mailto:athena.malloy@yahoo.com)).

### **SMALL GROUPS**

**Seekers Book Club:** Last week, Seekers began reading and discussing *Aging as a Spiritual Practice: A Contemplative Guide to Growing Older and Wiser* by Lewis Richmond. *Aging as a Spiritual Practice* is a wise, compassionate book that guides readers through the four key stages of aging—such as “Lightning Strikes” (the moment we wake up to our aging)—as well as the processes of adapting to change, embracing who we are, and appreciating our unique life chapters. Unlike many philosophical works on aging this one incorporates illuminating facts from scientific researchers, doctors, and psychologists as well as contemplative practices and guided meditations. Seekers meet **Wednesdays** at 10 am in the Community Room. Newcomers are always welcome.

**Bible Study:** Bible Study will resume in September. For information, contact Dianne Dorn or Keith Smith.

**Short Excursions:** Are you interested in short excursions with other members and friends of Eden? Two excursions have been scheduled for this summer:

**Jul 23** Cherryland Friendship Lunch & Driving Tour (Compañeras Ministry/Padre Unidos)

**Aug 12** Marina Walk Excursion (Hosted by Athena & Chris Malloy)

Have an idea for a short excursion? Willing to host the event and help with publicity and arrangements? Contact Pastor Pepper for more information.

**Eden Stitchers:** Quilters and others with sewing projects are invited to join the Eden Stitchers on Tuesdays at 10 am in the Jensen Room. Contact Suzie Hasselkuss or Shannon Whitney for the date of the next meeting.

**Single Women’s Group:** Single women meet for fellowship and lunch on the first Friday of every month. The next meeting is Friday, **Aug 4**. For information, contact Daniella Prym.

**Join the Choir:** Eden’s music program provides a wide variety of musical styles and welcomes one and all to serve in the Ministry of Music. Interested in singing? Join the Eden choir! Interested in playing instrumental music? You are welcome to sign up with Dr. Jessie Lo to coordinate repertoire and schedule. If you'd like to be a part of the music making process for certain services but have little prior knowledge of music? Please contact Dr. Lo and she will work with you to create a tailored musical role.

### **ONGOING PROGRAMS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Cherryland Computer Café Summer Hours:** Need a computer for schoolwork, apartment hunting, or online bill pay? Need to prepare a resume, conduct a job search, or apply for a job online? All ages welcome and mentors available to help you succeed. The Café will be open **Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday** from **1 to 3:30pm**, July 10 to Aug 9. The Café will be closed the week of August 14.

**Eden Church Childcare Policy:** Eden Church makes a reasonable attempt to provide childcare during Sunday worship, congregational meetings, and Taste & See Gatherings without a special request. The church also makes a reasonable attempt to provide childcare for church-sponsored meetings/events. To request childcare for your family or for a church meeting/event, contact Pastor Pepper at [pepper@edenucc.com](mailto:pepper@edenucc.com).

## **This Week At-A-Glance**

### **Sunday, July 16**

9:00—9:45 am	Music Rehearsal	Sanctuary
10:00—11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:15—12:30 pm	Fellowship	Oliver Hall
12:30—1:30 pm	Sunday Counters	Library

### **Monday, July 17**

7:30—6:00 pm	ChYLI Field Trip	Sacramento
1:00—3:30 pm	Cherryland Computer Café	Norberg Room

### **Tuesday, July 18**

10:00—12:00 pm	Stitchers	Jensen Room
1:00— 3:30 pm	Cherryland Computer Café	Norberg Room

### **Wednesday, July 19**

10:00—12:00 pm	Padres Unidos	Norberg Room
10:00—11:30 am	Seekers	Community Room
1:00—3:30 pm	Cherryland Computer Café	Norberg Room
3:30—5:30 pm	ChYLI Field Trip	HAHS
5:30—7:30 pm	Immigration/Adaptation Program	Oliver Hall

### **Sunday, July 23**

9:00—9:45 am	Music Rehearsal	Sanctuary
10:00—11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:15—12:30 pm	Fellowship Friendship Lunch	Oliver Hall
12:30—1:30 pm	Sunday Counters	Library
12:30—2:00 pm	Cherryland Friendship Tour	Offsite

## **Coming Attractions – Mark Your Calendars!**

*New or amended items are in italics*

**Jul 23** Cherryland Friendship Lunch & Driving Tour

**Jul 26** Comida para Cherryland

**Jul 27** EAF Board Meeting

**Jul 30** Worship Practices Team

**Aug 1** Church Council Meeting

**Aug 9** Comida para Cherryland

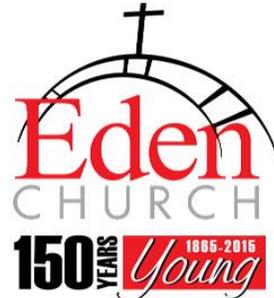
**Aug 11** ChYLI Fiesta

**Aug 12** Marina Walk Excursion

**Aug 23** Comida para Cherryland

FIRST ANNUAL

**Cherryland  
Friendship  
Lunch & Tour**



**SUNDAY, JULY 23RD**  
11:30 AM — 1:00 PM

**EDEN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**  
(OLIVER HALL)  
21455 BIRCH STREET, HAYWARD, CA



**PADRES UNIDOS  
DE CHERRYLAND**

*Freewill Offering:  
all proceeds benefit  
**Padres Unidos**  
Emergency Fund*

**FOR MORE INFO**  
(ENGLISH/SPANISH)  
510-582-9533 + edenucc.com  
FB: Eden United Church of Christ