

* **HYMN** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling **NCH № 43**

* **INVOCATION** *(in unison)* Debby

Holy God, in times of crises, you remind us that we must both define the moral high ground and practice awareness of our own shortcomings. As we discern the challenges facing our country, keep us alive to the idea that that your love and forgiveness is universal and bring us gently into conversation with those who need the Good News most. Amen.

* **PASSING OF THE PEACE** Debby

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 Debby

L: Worship will continue with the Children's Gathering.

CHILDREN'S GATHERING Pepper

CHILDREN'S BLESSING You've Got Love Like an Ocean *(v.3)* **NCH № 478**

*You've got love like an o-cean, You've got love like an o-cean,
You've got love like an o-cean in your soul. (Repeat)*

*(Children are excused to Summer Celebration. Youth may assist in Summer Celebration or remain in worship.
Nursery care is available at any time during worship. Please see an usher for an escort to the nursery.)*

SCRIPTURE READING Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32 Debby

(Today's scripture lesson can be found on pages 921-922 in the pew Bibles)

SERMON "All Means All" The Rev. Pepper Swanson

* **HYMN** Take My Life, God, Let It Be **NCH № 448**

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Joys and Concerns Pepper

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 Debby
(Thank you for placing your blue worship card in the offering plate)

Offertory Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing arr. B. Mayo

* **Response** Thank You, God *(v.5)* **NCH № 559**
Thank you, God, for mak-ing plan-et earth a home for us and a-ges yet un-born.
Help us to share, con-sid-er, save, and store. Come re-new the face of the earth.

* **Prayer of Dedication** Debby

* **HYMN** Lord, I Want to Be a Christian **NCH № 454**

* **BENEDICTION** Pepper

* **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** The Power of Your Love arr J. Holstein

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
Debby Andrade, Liturgist

Jana Aloo & Rozetta Walth, Summer Celebration Teachers
Julie Booher & Keith Smith, Greeters
Julie Booher, Theresa Collier, Michael Stuber, and Lia Swanson, Ushers
Kemy Gekara & Narayah Aloo, Nursery Workers

Pat Payne, Fellowship Captain
Pat Payne, Fellowship Hosts
Suzie Hasselkuss & Lauren Smith-Bove, Fellowship Helpers
Dave Wallace & Sally Kusalo, Counters
Jared Smith-Bove & Daniella Prym, Trustee on Duty
Dawn Coburn, Sunday Sexton

Flower Dedication

The flowers were given by Susan MacDonald, in honor of Chris and Charles MacDonald's Birthday.

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.

Senior Minister's Vacation Schedule

Pastor Arlene and Stephanie are on vacation in Mexico this week. Pastor Pepper is on-call for pastoral emergencies. Please contact the church office if you or someone dear to you is in need of pastoral care.

UPCOMING EVENTS

ESLO Meeting: The ESLO Committee will meet Sunday, **Aug 27** to discuss this year's Open House Sunday, as well as our Fall event calendar. Committee chairs should plan to attend and everyone interesting in planning activities and events is invited to participate. Contact Suzie Hasselkuss or Jennifer Vetrovec for information.

Rise Up! Join us for a *small group excursion* to the Gay Asian Pacific Alliance (GAPA) Men's Chorus' *Rise Up* concert at 7:30 pm Saturday evening, **Sept 9** at Hamilton Hall at the First Unitarian Church of Oakland. Featuring songs of love and resistance and special guest performance of the World Harmony Ensemble and Likha, a Pilipino dance and song, the Men's Chorus will share a multilingual selection of songs expressing the universal fight for love and against tyranny. To purchase your tickets, visit GAPA's ticket website (<http://gapamc.bpt.me>). For information about carpooling and dinner before the concert, contact Pastor Arlene.

First Aid/CPR: If you have signed up for First Aid/CPR, please remember to mark your calendars for Saturday, **Sept 16**, 10:30 am to 1:30 pm. The class is currently full but to be placed on a waiting list, please contact Pastor Pepper.

Open House Sunday: On Sunday, **Sept 17**, Eden Church will throw open the doors to a new program year. Join us for bluegrass music during worship, performed by *Roanoke Revival*, lunch, an information fair, kids activities, and ice-breakers. Worship and bluegrass music begin at 10 am, followed by food and activities at 11:15 am in Oliver Hall. For more information, contact Pastor Pepper.

Roanoke Revival is a local three-piece bluegrass band, featuring Daniel Price on banjo, Sabrina Vasquez singing, and Jesse Acker-Johnson on rhythm guitar. Please invite your friends to join us for our bluegrass music worship and for fun & games during Coffee Hour.

Eden Choir Resumes in Sept with New Rehearsal Schedule: Summer is almost over for Eden's singers and musicians! Choir will resume regular rehearsals at **9 and 11:30 am every Sunday** beginning Sunday, **Sept 3**. Everyone is invited to participate! For more information, contact our Music Director & Organist Dr. Jessie Lo. 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.

SMALL GROUPS

Seekers Book Club: Seekers are 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 with a new video-based curriculum, *Animate: Bible*. This seven-session exploration of the Bible features short talks by renowned scholars and preachers Eric Elnes, Phyllis Tickle, Nadia Bolz-Weber, Jose Morales, Will Willimon, Jay Bakker, and Rachel Held-Evans, followed by an opportunity for discussion and self-reflection. Fall dates for both the morning and evening sessions include **Sept 25, Oct 9 & 23, Nov 6 & 20, and Dec 4 & 18**. For information, contact Pastor Pepper, Dianne Dorn or Keith Smith.

Short Excursions: Are you interested in short excursions with other members and friends of Eden? Two excursions were successfully scheduled for this summer. Have an idea for a short excursion? Willing to host the event and help with publicity and arrangements? Please 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, **Sept 1**. For information, contact Daniella Prym.

ONGOING PROGRAMS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cherryland Computer Café Fall 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 beginning **Sept 5**, on Mondays and Tuesdays from 4-7pm, and Comida Wednesdays from 1:30 to 4pm. Hours are subject to change; please call the Church Office at (510) 582-9533 to confirm availability.

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.

Flowers for Worship: The 2017 Flower Calendar is posted in the Church Office. 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.

This Week At-A-Glance

Sunday, August 20

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

Tuesday, August 22

10:00—12:00 pm	Eden Stitchers	Jensen Room
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Wednesday, August 23

10:00—11:30 am	Seekers	Community Room
1:30—4:30 pm	Comida Para Cherryland	Oliver Hall
5:30—7:30 pm	Immigration/Adaptation Program (final session)	Fireside Room

Sunday, August 27

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

Coming Attractions – Mark Your Calendars!

New or amended items are in italics

- Aug 23 Comida para Cherryland
- Aug 27 ESLO Committee Meeting
- Sept 04 Labor Day
- Sept 05 Church Council Meeting
- Sept 09 Short Excursion: *GAPA Rise Up!* Concert
- Sept 13 Comida para Cherryland
- Sept 16 First Aid/CPR
- Sept 17 Open House Sunday with “Roanoke Revival” (Bluegrass Music)
- Sept 17 Church School Resumes
- Sept 25 Bible Study Begins (Both Day & Evening Sessions)
- Sept 27 Comida para Cherryland
- Oct 01 World Communion Sunday & Neighbors in Need Offering
- Oct 03 Church Council Meeting
- Oct 08 “Roanoke Revival” (Bluegrass Music)
- Oct 09 Bible Study
- Oct 11 Comida para Cherryland
- Oct 14 Ashland-Cherryland FamFest
- Oct 22 ESLO Committee
- Oct 23 Bible Study
- Oct 23 EAF Board of Directors
- Oct 25 Comida para Cherryland
- Oct 29 Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting
- Nov 05 All Saints Sunday (Jesse Acker-Johnson, Spanish Guitar)
- Nov 06 Bible Study
- Nov 07 Church Council Meeting

Get All the Latest Eden Events Sent Straight to Your In-Box!

Each Friday, the weekly e-Chimes is delivered by email. Each edition features two or three upcoming events as well as links to all your favorite paper Chimes features such as the monthly calendar, the duty roster, and a photo gallery of last month’s activities.

If you aren’t signed up to receive the weekly e-Chimes, go to www.edenucc.com and subscribe by clicking “Subscribe Now” under Receive the Eden e-Chimes!

And, remember to check your spam folder if you haven’t received your e-Chimes lately. For more information or assistance signing up, contact Pastor Pepper or Tania Martinez.



Castro Valley Community Alliance

The Community Alliance is a collaborative group of Castro Valley community and educational leaders, students, and families advocating for compassion, understanding and acceptance. We will leverage all available resources in our community to help ensure Castro Valley community members, including students attending schools in Castro Valley, are valued, welcomed, respected, supported and are provided the best opportunities to succeed academically, socially and emotionally.

Castro Valley Unified School District (CVUSD) serves a diverse community with a rich history and dynamic members from across the globe. Students and families bring with them a variety of cultures, religions, experiences and languages. This diversity strengthens our community. CVUSD works diligently to ensure all students enjoy a safe, inclusive learning environment that encourages healthy academic, social and emotional development. CVUSD's motto is "**ALL means ALL.**" **ALL means ALL** is the philosophy at the core of the Community Alliance and drives the work of the group.

- We partner with members of the broad, diverse Castro Valley community to engage in the shared effort of supporting every student's success in school and in the community. The Community Alliance and CVUSD will engage in a comprehensive approach to build partnership in our community. CVUSD will host meetings of the Community Alliance to develop and plan activities to support our diverse community. The Community Alliance has planned the following steps to begin its work.

The Community Alliance will:

- Attend middle and elementary school walk-through registrations to connect with parents and inform them of the Community Alliance.
- Attend CVHS's Back to School Night to connect with parents and inform them of the Community Alliance.
- Visit every school in district the first two months of school to let students know we are here to support them.
- Have a presence at community events, parent meetings and in the media to share our message of ALL means ALL.
- Celebrate diversity with multi-cultural community events.
- Plan community conversations in partnership with the County's Human Relations Commission.
- Provide a series of parent and community workshops.
- Support the District Student Leadership Alliance. The District Student Leadership Alliance will produce a video and presentation to advocate for compassion, understanding and acceptance.

How can you be a part of this effort?

The Community Alliance is seeking partners to support the work outlined above. Opportunities for participation include:

- Become a Community Alliance member.
- Attend Community Alliance events.
- Attend Community Alliance trainings and workshops.
- Post and share information about the work of the Community Alliance.
- Follow the CVUSD Facebook page & Twitter feed.
- Help us develop a Community Alliance media presence.

For more information, contact Superintendent Parvin Ahmadi at superintendent@cv.k12.ca.us

