

Eden United Church of Christ
Order for Worship
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 10, 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 Praise the Lord with Drums and Cymbals S. Karg-Elert
(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 Enter, Rejoice, and Come In (v. 1) **NCH № 73**
*En-ter, re-joice, and come in. En-ter, re-joice, and come in.
To-day will be a joy-ful day; en-ter, re-joice, and come in.*

* **CALL TO WORSHIP** *(All who are able may stand)* Herb Graw

L: Sing to Yahweh a new song of praise in the assembly of the faithful.

R: **Let Israel rejoice in their Maker;
Let the people of Zion be glad in their God.**

L: Let them praise God's name in a festive dance;
Let them sing praise to God with tumbrel and harp.

R: **For God loves the people and crowns the lowly with victory.¹**

* **HYMN** Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped **NCH № 22**

¹ Psalm 149:1-4 in *Psalms Anew: In Inclusive Language*. Nancy Schreck and Maureen Leach, eds. (Saint Mary's Press: Winona, MN, 1986) p. 199.

* **INVOCATION** *(in unison)* Herb

God, you are the power of liberation, calling your servant Moses to lead your people into freedom, and giving him the wisdom to proclaim your holy law. Be our Passover from the land of injustice, be the light that leads us to the perfect rule of love, that we may become citizens of your kin-dom come on earth. Amen.

* **PASSING OF THE PEACE** Herb

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 Herb

L: Worship will continue with the Ministry of Music.

ANTHEM One Earth, One Sky Oler/Strommen

CHILDREN'S GATHERING Arlene

CHILDREN'S BLESSING God Bless the Children *(insert)* P. Stevens

(Children and youth will remain in worship today. Nursery care is available at any time during worship.

Please see an usher for an escort to the nursery.)

SCRIPTURE READING Exodus 12:1-14 Herb

(Today's scripture lesson can be found on page 51 in the pew Bibles)

SERMON "Why Do We Celebrate?" The Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring

* **HYMN** O God, Our Help in Ages Past **NCH № 25**

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY Arlene

Joys and Concerns

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

Down to the River to Pray
*As I went down to the river to pray,
Studying about that good old way
And who shall wear the starry crown
Good Lord, show me the way!*

OFFERING & DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS

Invitation

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

Herb

Offertory You've Got to Be Carefully Taught from South Pacific

R. Rogers

* **Response**

We Give You But Your Own
*We give you but your own, what-e'er the gift may be;
All that we have is yours a-lone, we give it grate-ful-ly.*

NCH № 785

* **Prayer of Dedication**

Herb

* **HYMN**

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

NCH № 76

* **BENEDICTION**

Arlene

* **RESPONSE**

Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers *(v. 1)*
*Thank our God for sis-ters, broth-ers, one by grace, in har-mo-ny,
Join-ing heart to heart with oth-ers, mak-ing strong com-mu-ni-ty.
With the cross of Christ our stan-ard, let us sing as with one voice,
Glo-ry, glo-ry, yours the promise: we who are the church rejoice.*

NCH № 397

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

* **POSTLUDE**

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

arr J. Carter

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

Herb Graw, Liturgist

Miriam Hutchinson & Julie Booher, Greeters

Miriam Hutchinson, Stephanie Spencer, Russ Newman & Julie Booher, Ushers

Dianne Dorn & Keith Smith, Church School Teachers

Kemy Gekara & Yoselin Penado, Nursery Workers

TJ Wilkinson, Fellowship Captain

Keith R. Smith, Fellowship Hosts

Carol Roach, Ruben Rodriguez & Hiroko Takada, Fellowship Helpers

Margo Heath, Rozetta Walth, and Miriam Hutchinson, Counters

Daniella Prym, Trustee on Duty

Dawn Coburn, Sunday Sexton

Flower Dedication

The flowers were given by Lauren Smith-Bove and are prayers of healing for her football coach, Reggie Walker.

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.

TODAY

Taste & See: New to Eden? Visitors and newcomers are invited to join our pastor and welcoming team for a reception in the Norberg Room, **TODAY** from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. Grab coffee & a snack from Fellowship in Oliver Hall, meet up in the Norberg Room (east wing). Tell us a little about yourself and your spiritual journey. Ask questions. Learn more about enriching experiences offered at Eden such as Bible study, volunteer opportunities, and church school. Children are welcome!

UPCOMING EVENTS

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 2 pm. There will be half-hour break for lunch -- please bring a brown bag lunch. The class is currently full but to be placed on a waiting list, please contact Pastor Pepper.

Race in America: The Eden Area Interfaith Council & Castro Valley Library present a Community Dialogue on Race on Saturday, **Sept 16** from 2 to 4 pm at the Castro Valley Library. Join local faith leaders for a thought-provoking discussion about racial justice in America in light of the recent escalation in demonstrations and acts of hate in our country and even in our own Bay Area. Come dialogue about these issues and help our community come together and move toward greater harmony and mutual acceptance. Refreshments will be provided. For more information, contact Stephanie Spencer.

Kick-Off Sunday: On Sunday, **Sept 17**, Eden Church will kick-off 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.

Card-A-Palooza & Ice Cream Social: *Anomie*, anyone? How about a hand of *B.S.* or *Exploding Kittens*? Or maybe go classic with *Rummy 500*? Bring a deck of cards or a card game to explore with friends, new and old. Eden Church & Starr King Unitarian-Universalist Church invite middle & high school youth to a Card-A-Palooza and Ice Cream Social on Sunday, Oct 1 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm in Oliver Hall at Eden Church. Please sign up, so we know how much ice cream to bring!! RSVP to Pastor Pepper.

Eden Choir Schedule: Eden Choir Continues in September with New Rehearsal Schedule: We appreciate the Eden singers for a summer of choir music. The Choir continues with a new rehearsal schedule at 9am and 11:30am every Sunday beginning Sunday, Sept.3. All is welcome to stop by and sing! 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 *The Third Reconstruction* by the Rev. Dr. William J. Barber II. A modern-day civil rights champion tells the stirring story of how he helped start a movement in 2013 in North Carolina to bridge America's racial divide. In this memoir of how Rev. Barber and allies as diverse as progressive Christians, union members, and immigration-rights activists came together to build a coalition, he offers a trenchant analysis of race-based inequality and a hopeful message for a nation grappling with persistent racial and economic injustice. Rev. Barber writes movingly—and pragmatically—about how he laid the groundwork for a state-by-state movement that unites black, white, and brown, rich and poor, employed and unemployed, gay and straight, documented and undocumented, religious and secular. Only such a diverse fusion movement, Rev. Barber argues, can heal our nation's wounds and produce public policy that is morally defensible, constitutionally consistent, and economically sane. *The Third Reconstruction* is both a blueprint for movement building and an inspiring call to action from the twenty-first century's most effective grassroots organizer. 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.

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, **Oct 6**. For information, contact Daniella Pym.

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 4-7 pm, and Comida Wednesdays from 1:30 to 4 pm. 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, September 10

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	Music Rehearsal	Sanctuary
11:30—12:30 pm	Taste & See E-vent	Norberg
12:30— 1:30 pm	Sunday Counters	Library

Monday, September 11

4:00— 7:00 pm	Cherryland Computer Café	Norberg
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Tuesday, September 12

4:00— 7:00 pm	Cherryland Computer Café	Norberg
10:00—12:00 pm	Eden Stitchers	Jensen

Wednesday, September 13

10:00—11:30 am	Seekers	Community
1:30— 4:00 pm	Cherryland Computer Café	Norberg
1:30— 4:00 pm	Comida para Cherryland	Oliver Hall

Saturday, September 16

10:30—2:00 pm	First Aid & CPR Class	Oliver Hall
2:00—4:00 pm	Eden Interfaith Community Dialogue on Race	Offsite

Sunday, September 17 – Kick Off Sunday!

9:00— 9:45 am	Music Rehearsal	Sanctuary
10:00—11:15 am	Worship & Bluegrass Music	Sanctuary
11:15—12:30 pm	Lunch, Information Fair, & Activities	Oliver Hall
11:30—12:30 pm	Music Rehearsal	Sanctuary
11:30—12:30 pm	Sunday Counters	Library

Coming Attractions – Mark Your Calendars!

New or amended items are in italics

- Sept 13 Comida para Cherryland
- Sept 16 First-Aid/CPR Training
- Sept 17 *Kick-Off* 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 *Bring-A-Friend*: “Roanoke Revival” (Bluegrass Music)
- Oct 09 Bible Study (Both Day & Evening Sessions)
- Oct 11 Comida para Cherryland
- Oct 14 Ashland-Cherryland FamFest
- Oct 22 Memory Tables (Preparing for All Saints) & ESLO Committee
- Oct 23 Bible Study (Both Day & Evening Sessions)
- Oct 23 EAF Board of Directors
- Oct 25 Comida para Cherryland
- Oct 29 Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting & Memory Tables (Preparing for All Saints)
- Nov 05 All Saints Sunday (Jesse Acker-Johnson, Spanish Guitar, Ofrenda)
- Nov 06 Bible Study (Both Day & Evening Sessions)
- Nov 07 Church Council Meeting

Hurricane Relief Efforts

If you participated in our UCC "One Great Hour of Sharing Offering" this past March, your gift is already at work helping Hurricane Harvey & Hurricane Irene victims. If haven't had the opportunity to contribute or if you feel called to give again, go to the UCC's Hurricane Harvey Disaster Relief Fund at www.ucc.org/disaster_hurricane_harvey

Photo Gallery

Check out our new photo gallery! Each month we post our favorite photos of Eden Church programs and events. This month's photo gallery features photos from our backpack distribution and our Cherryland Youth Leadership Institute Fiesta as well as a few shots of our Sunday worship. You can find the September Photo Gallery at www.edenucc.com/september-photo-gallery

God Bless the Children

Patsy Stevens

C F C D7 G7

God bless the chil-dren. Keep them from harm. Give your pro - tec tien with - in your strong arm-

5 C F C F C D7 G7

Send your de-fen - ders in their be - half. Let lit - tle - ones al - ways be a - ble to laugh.

9 F C G7 amin D7 G D7 G7

May those who care for them do so with joy. The hap - pi - est child-hood for each girl and boy. Our

13 C E7 F A7 F C G7 C

most pre-cious trea-sure de - serves all our love. God bless the chil-dren and watch from a - bove.