

**Eden United Church of Christ**  
**Order for Worship**  
**Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost**  
**November 12, 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** Allemande in E minor, HWV 429 G. F. Handel

**THE LIGHT ENTERS WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**

*(Nursery care is available at any time during worship.)*

**GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS** The Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring

*(Thank you for your gift of presence and for completing a blue worship card today)*

**INTROIT** Rejoice, You Pure in Heart (v. 2) **NCH № 71**

*Bright youth and sea-soned age, strong souls and spir-its meek,  
Raise high your free, ex-ult-ing song, God's won-dours prais-es speak.  
Ho-san-na! Ho-san-na! Re-joice, give thanks and sing.*

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

**L:** It's time to wake up!

**R:** God is about to surprise us.

**L:** It's time to get ready!

**R:** God's love is about to change the world.

**L:** It's time to start planning!

**R:** God has a mission for us to accomplish.

**L:** It's time to listen to God's Word!

**R:** God has a message for us to hear.

**L:** It's time to open our hearts to the movement of the Holy Spirit;

**R:** So that we can become living witnesses of the Good News.

\* **HYMN**

O Savior, Let Me Walk with You

**NCH № 503**

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

Herb

**O God of Good Surprises, we try to stay awake and watch for your arrival, but often we grow worried from our daily routines. We try to wait patiently for the fulfillment of your kingdom, but we are easily overcome by our need for immediate gratification. We want to believe your ancient promises, but our worldly doubts creep in. So we come asking for a wakeup call, eager to receive your guidance and encouragement, which are the only things that can guide our feet and lead us in paths of righteousness, for your name's sake. 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.

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

Reverie in F minor

D. Alexander

**CHILDREN'S GATHERING**

Pastor Arlene

**SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

**Invitation**

**Welcome & Address**

**Questions of the Parents and Sponsors**

**Baptismal Prayer & Act of Baptism**

**Prayer of Blessing** (*in unison*)

**Bless this child, O God, and grant that he may be filled with a spirit of wisdom and understanding, a spirit of counsel and might, and a spirit of the knowledge and the love that you have for him and for all people. Bless his families and our congregation, too, as we strive to be faithful examples of the Christian life for every child whom you have entrusted to our care. Amen.**

**Presentations**

Deacons

*Baptized today: Brayden-Tien Vo, son of Ellen & Jimmy Vo*

**CHILDREN'S BLESSING** Go, My Children, with My Blessing (v. 1) **NCH № 82**

*Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone;  
Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own;  
In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-ev-er,  
Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own.*

*(Children in grade K-8<sup>th</sup> are excused to Church School.*

*High School Youth may remain in worship or assist with Church School.*

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

**SCRIPTURE READING** Matthew 25:1-13 Herb

*(Today's scripture lesson can be found on page 806-807 in the pew Bibles)*

**SERMON** "Stay Woke" The Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring

\* **HYMN** Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning **NCH № 369**

**PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY** Pastor Pepper

**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** Hear Our Prayer, O God. **NCH № 769**

**OFFERING & DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS**

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

**Offertory** Deserted Plantation W. Gillock

\* **Response** Give Thanks for Life (v. 2) **NCH № 297**

*Give thanks for those who made their life a light  
caught from the Christ-flame, burst-ing though the night,  
Who touched the truth, who burned for what was right.*

\* **Prayer of Dedication** Herb

\* **HYMN** This Little Light of Mine *(Sing v. 1 twice)* **NCH № 524**

\* **BENEDICTION** Pastor Arlene

- \* **RESPONSE**                      May the Sending One Defend You (*v. 1*)                      **NCH № 79**
- May the Send-ing One de-fend you,  
may the Seek-ing One a-mend you,  
May the Keep-ing One be-friend you,  
in your glad-ness and in your griev-ing.*
- \* **CHIMES AND THE LIGHT DEPARTS WITH THE PEOPLE**
- \* **POSTLUDE**                      Allegro in G minor, HWV 432                      G. F. Handel
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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  
 Omri Shimron, Guest Pianist  
 Herb Graw, Liturgist  
 Julie Booher, Greeters

Stephanie Spencer, Miriam Hutchinson, Russ Newman, and Julie Booher, Ushers  
 Kemy Gekara & Yoselin Penado, Nursery Workers  
 Keith Smith & Dianne Dorn, Church School Teachers  
 Rozetta Walth, Margo Heath, and Miriam Hutchison, Counters  
 T.J. Wilkinson, Fellowship Captain  
 Keith R Smith & Salad Potluck, Fellowship Host  
 Carol Roach and Athena Malloy, Fellowship Helpers  
 Jim Fryer, Trustee on Duty  
 Dawn Coburn, Sunday Sexton

**Flowers**

*The flowers were given by Jared and Lauren Smith-Bove in celebration of Gene Bove'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.

**TODAY**

Join us **TODAY**, during fellowship for **John Bulette Retirement Party**. After 43 years of service, Eden Sexton John Bulette is retiring. To celebrate John's retirement, the Fellowship Committee is hosting a salad bar potluck. Salad greens, salad dressings, and dessert will be provided.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**FESCO Thanksgiving Luncheon:** Our annual fundraiser benefiting the Family Emergency Shelter Coalition on Friday, **Nov 17**, from 12 noon to 1:30 pm is sold out! Many thanks to everyone who purchased a ticket or agreed to sponsor a table. To be added to a waiting list, contact Pat Payne.

**ESLO and Advent Decorating:** The ESLO Committee and interested volunteers will meet Sunday, **Nov 19** at 11:30 am in the Norberg Room to finalize plans for this year's Advent Decorating & Nacimiento Creation Day (Dec 2, 9:30 am to 12:30 pm) and other Advent events. Please join us!

**Do you love Advent and Christmas music?** If so, then you are uniquely qualified to join the Christmas edition of the Eden Church Choir! Everyone is invited to join the Choir for any or all of our Advent and Christmas worship services on Sundays in December at 10 am and on Christmas Eve at 7 pm. The Eden Church Choir will rehearse at 9 am and 11:30 am every Sunday, except today Nov 12. Drop-ins welcome!

**Eden Music Program:** 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 playing instrumental music? Interested in singing? Join the Eden choir! If you'd like to be a part of the music making process for certain services but have little prior knowledge of music? You are welcome to sign up with Dr. Jessie Lo to coordinate repertoire and schedule.

### SMALL GROUPS

**New Free Yoga Class: Namaste!** Free bi-lingual (English-Spanish) yoga classes are offered at Eden Church each week. Class is from 6 to 7 pm on Tuesday nights in **Room 201** (across from the Jensen Room). Please use the West Wing (FESCO) entrance. For more information, contact Tania Martinez.

**Seekers Book Club:** Seekers started a new book: *Two Dogs and a Parrot* by Joan Chittister. Seekers meet **Wednesdays at 10 am** in the Community Room. Newcomers are always welcome.

**Bible Study:** Bible Study resumed in September with a new video-based curriculum, *Animate: Bible*. Remaining Fall dates for both the morning and evening sessions include **Nov 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, **Dec 1**. 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 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](mailto: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, November 12

9:00—9:45 am	Music Rehearsal	Sanctuary
10:00—11:15 am	Worship	Sanctuary
11:15—12:30 pm	Fellowship/John's Retirement Celebration	Oliver Hall
11:30—12:30 pm	Music Rehearsal	Sanctuary
11:30—12:30 pm	Sunday Counters	Library
6:00—8:30 pm	Youth Group: Roller Skating	Offsite

### Monday, November 13

11:30—12:30 pm	Staff Meeting	Fireside Room
4:00—7:00 pm	Cherryland Computer Café	Norberg Room

### Tuesday, November 14

10:00—12:00 pm	Eden Stitches	Jensen Room
4:00—7:00 pm	Cherryland Computer Café	Norberg Room
6:00—7:00 pm	Free Yoga	Room 121
7:00—9:00 pm	Trustee Meeting	Fireside Room

### Wednesday, November 15

10:00—11:30 am	Seekers	Norberg Room
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### Friday, November 17

12:00—1:30 pm	FESCO Luncheon	Oliver Hall
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### Sunday, November 19

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	Sunday Counters	Library

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

*New or amended items are in bold & italics*

<b>Nov 14</b>	Free Yoga	<b>Dec 05</b>	Free Yoga
<b>Nov 17</b>	FESCO Thanksgiving Fundraiser	<b>Dec 10</b>	Second Sunday in Advent
<b>Nov 17-19</b>	Fall Youth Event	<b>Dec 10</b>	Las Posadas at Starr-King UU
<b>Nov 18</b>	Ashland Cherryland FamFest	<b>Dec 12</b>	Free Yoga
<b>Nov 19</b>	Bluegrass Music & ESLO Meeting	<b>Dec 13</b>	Comida para Cherryland
<b>Nov 20</b>	Bible Study	<b>Dec 17</b>	Third Sunday in Advent: Pageant & Happy Birthday Jesus Party
<b>Nov 21</b>	Free Yoga	<b>Dec 18</b>	Bible Study
<b>Nov 22</b>	Comida para Cherryland	<b>Dec 19</b>	Free Yoga
<b>Nov 23</b>	Thanksgiving (Campus Closed)	<b>Dec 24</b>	Fourth Sunday in Advent
<b>Nov 24</b>	Thanksgiving Holiday (Campus Closed)	<b>Dec 24</b>	Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship
<b>Nov 28</b>	Free Yoga	<b>Dec 25</b>	Christmas Day (Campus Closed)
<b>Nov 29</b>	DTAM Search Committee	<b>Dec 26</b>	Christmas Holiday (Campus Closed)
<b>Dec 02</b>	Advent Decorating Day/Youth Service	<b>Dec 27</b>	Comida para Cherryland
<b>Dec 03</b>	First Sunday in Advent & DTAM Com.	<b>Jan 07</b>	<i>Tres Reyes</i> Celebration
<b>Dec 04</b>	Bible Study		
<b>Dec 05</b>	Church Council Meeting		

## Poinsettia Display & Comida Offering

The Eden Church Deacons invite members and friends to contribute funds for *Comida para Cherryland*, this Advent Season. With our donations, the *Comida* volunteers will purchase nutritious groceries for the families most in need in the Eden area.



In appreciation for members and friends' contributions to the *Comida*, the Deacons will purchase poinsettias for display in the Sanctuary during the Advent and Christmas seasons, and deliver poinsettias to homebound and hospitalized members and friends on Dec 17.

If you would like to dedicate your contribution to a loved one and include your dedication in our Sunday worship bulletin on the Fourth Sunday in Advent (Dec 17) and Christmas Eve (Dec 24), please include the name or names of those persons in the space provided below.

Please note: **Deadline for dedications is Wednesday, December 6, 2017**

If you wish to participate in the Deacon's Advent Offering for the *Comida*, please complete this form, and enclose and mail (or deliver) your check and dedication to the Eden Church office.

I would like to dedicate my *Comida* offering Poinsettia to:

\_\_\_\_\_

In memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

In honor of:

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

I have enclosed \$\_\_\_\_\_ (\$4.50 per grocery bag) and understand that all names listed above will be published, and that my enclosed contribution will provide food for *Comida para Cherryland* participants.

\_\_\_\_\_

My Name

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number

\_\_\_\_\_

Email

Eden UCC ♦ 21455 Birch Street ♦ Hayward CA 94541 ♦ 510-582-9533 ♦ [www.edenucc.com](http://www.edenucc.com)