

Eden United Church of Christ
Order for Worship
First Sunday in Lent
Sunday, February 18, 2018
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.*

PRELUDE

Angel Band

R. Stanley

THE LIGHT ENTERS WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Pepper Swanson

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

INTROIT

Lift High the Cross *(Refrain only)*

NCH № 198

***Lift high the cross, the love of Christ pro-claim;
Let all a-dore and praise that sa-cred name.***

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

Herb Graw

L: Like ancient pilgrims, we begin the journey into Lent.

R: **We walk the path that Jesus walked.**

L: We encounter the temptations that he encountered.

R: **We seek the spiritual clarity that he expressed.**

L: We move together as companions on the journey.

R: **We pray for the spirit's guidance.**

L: Christ shows us the way.

R: **We are blessed.**

* **HYMN**

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

NCH № 472

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

O God of Pilgrims, hear our prayers for traveling mercies as we embark on this Lenten journey. Grant us a vision of the future you envision for us. Shed your light on the path ahead. Guide our feet along Christ's way. Through the storm, through the night, lead us on to the light. Lead us on, precious Lord, lead us home. Amen.

* **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Wayfaring Stranger
Roanoke Revival

Traditional

CHILDREN'S GATHERING

Pastor Pepper & Dianne Dorn

CHILDREN'S BLESSING Jesus Loves Me (v. 3)

NCH № 327

*Je-sus loves me! Still to-day,
walk-ing with me on my way,*

Want-ing as a friend to give light and love to all who live.

(Children and youth are excused for Church School.

Nursery care for babies and toddlers is available at any time during worship.)

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:9-15

Herb

(Today's scripture lesson can be found on page 812 of the pew Bibles.)

SERMON

"Time's Up!"

The Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring

HYMN

Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult

NCH № 171

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Pastor 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

Shepherd, Lead

NCH № 774

*Shep-herd, lead, lead me in your righ-teous-ness
Make your way plain be-fore my face.
For it is you, God, you, God on-ly,
who makes me to lie down in safe-ty.*

OFFERING & DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS

Invitation

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

Herb

Offertory

Your Lone Journey

D. Watson

***Response**

My God, Accept My Heart This Day *(v. 1)*

NCH № 352

*My God, ac-cept my heart this day, and make it al-ways yours,
That I from you no more may stray as long as life en-dures.*

***Prayer of Dedication**

*** HYMN**

Softly and Tenderly

NCH № 449

*** BENEDICTION**

Pastor Arlene

*** RESPONSE**

Amen

NCH № 812

A-men, a-men, a-men.

*** CHIMES & THE LIGHT DEPARTS WITH THE PEOPLE**

POSTLUDE

I'm Coming Back, but I Don't Know When

C. Monroe

(The congregation is seated for the Postlude)

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
Julie Booher, Greeter
Theressa Collier, Julie Booher, Scott Swanson & TBD, Ushers
Kemy Gekara & Yoselin Penado, Childcare Workers
Athena Malloy & Rozetta Walth, Church School Teachers
Jan Bass, Fellowship Captain
Soup Potluck, Fellowship Host
Suzie Hasselkuss & Jana Aloo, Fellowship Helpers
Dave Wallace & Sally Kusalo, Counters
Bob Turner, Trustee on Duty
Dawn Coburn, Sunday Sexton

Flower Dedication

*The flowers on the altar are given by Peggy Apperson
in loving memory of Dan Apperson (d. Feb. 22, 2016.) What a guy!*

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 celebrate infant and adult baptism and receive new members several times each year. We will celebrate baptism and receive new members next on **Palm Sunday, Mar 25**, during morning worship.

TODAY

One Great Hour of Sharing Coin Banks: Our annual special offering to support One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) will be received on Sunday, **Mar 11**. This offering support global ministries including disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development projects to bring water, food, and jobs to the people of many different nations. Coin banks for your use will be distributed during the Children's Gathering TODAY. You may also donate by using the OGHS envelope in the Mar 11 bulletin, or by going online at ucc.org/oghs. For more information and a personal testimony in support of this program, please contact our global missionary and Stewardship Chair, Dianne Dorn.

Soup Potluck Sunday: Soup for President's Day weekend? Nope, it's just soup for the sake of soup while it's still winter! Join us for a soup potluck after worship in Oliver Hall.

Directory Proof: Please take a moment to review your entry in the draft 2018 Church Directory. If your entry is incorrect, please provide the correct information next to your entry. If your entry is correct, please initial it so we know you have reviewed your information. You can find the draft Directory on a clipboard in Oliver Hall.

COMING EVENTS

Mix-It-Up Potlucks: Please join us this Lent for one of our new Mix-It-Up Potlucks. The first potluck will be held on Wednesday, **Feb 21**. These events provide an opportunity to share food and conversation with other Eden Church members and newcomers. Each potluck will have space for 5 people who have been at Eden for 5 years or longer AND 5 people who have been at Eden for 5 years or fewer. Please bring an appetizer, salad, or entrée to serve 6 to 8 people. Drinks and paper goods will be provided. All potlucks will be in the Fireside Room beginning at 6:30 pm. If you need childcare, please contact Pastor Pepper at least 48 hours in advance. To sign up, use the link in e-Chimes or contact Pastor Pepper.

How Changes in the Federal Tax Code May Affect You & Your Family: At the request of members and friends of Eden Church, the Rev. Rob Parrish, our Treasurer, who is a Certified Public Accountant and partner in the Palo Alto-based accounting firm Bettelon, Duong & Parrish LLP, will provide an overview of changes in the federal tax code that begin rolling out with the 2018 tax year. The seminar will be held on Sunday, **Feb 25**, from 11:30-12:30, in the Norberg Room. If you require childcare, please let Pastor Pepper know by Feb 18.

Taste & See: New to Eden? Visitors and newcomers are invited to join our Senior Minister and welcoming team for a reception in the Norberg Room, **Mar 11**, from 11:30 am to 12:30 pm.

SMALL GROUPS

Free Yoga Class: *Namaste!* Free weekly bi-lingual (English-Spanish) yoga classes are offered at Eden Church 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, our weekly book discussion group, started *Lab Girl* by acclaimed scientist and Fulbright recipient Hope Jahren on Wednesday, **Jan 31**. *Lab Girl*, which is the first book chosen for Castro Valley's first annual all-city read, is the touching memoir of growing up as a kid scientist in rural Minnesota. Seekers meet each week on Wednesdays at 10 am in the Fireside Room. Newcomers and members of the community are always welcome. For more information, contact Pastor Pepper.

Bible Study: Curious about the lost coin? Wondering about the barren fig tree? How about the prodigal son and his father? Eden's Bible Study group began a new series on the parables of Jesus. Come to either our daytime session at 10 am or our evening session at 7 pm. Both sessions in the Fireside Room. Parking on the west side for best entrance. Spring dates for both the morning and evening sessions include: **Feb 26, Mar 12 & 26, Apr 9 & 23 and May 7 & 21**. For info, contact Dianne Dorn or Keith Smith.

Single Women's Group: Single women meet for fellowship and lunch on the first Friday of every month. The next meeting is Friday, **Mar 2**. For information, contact Daniella Prym.

ONGOING PROGRAMS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coat Drive for Unaccompanied Minors: Gently-used and clean coats are being collected at Eden Church for unaccompanied minors during Jan & Feb. Nearly 300 unaccompanied minors attend school in the Hayward Unified School District and are in need of clothing, housing, and support. Coats in men's sizes S, M, & L are especially needed. If you'd like to donate a coat, please place it in the collection barrel in the Eden Church Office. For more information, contact Pastor Arlene.

Cherryland Computer Café Hours: The spring semester café hours will be as follows: Monday and Tuesdays, 4—7pm, and Comida Wednesdays, 1:30—4pm.

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.

2018 Flower Calendar: The 2018 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, February 18

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

Monday, February 19-President's Day (*Campus Closed*)

Tuesday, February 20

10:00—12:00 pm	Stitchers	Jensen Room
4:00—7:00 pm	Cherryland Computer Café	Norberg Room
6:00—7:00 pm	Free Yoga	Room 201

Wednesday, February 21

10:00—11:00 am	Seekers	Fireside Room
6:30—8:30 pm	Mix-It-Up Potluck	Fireside Room

Thursday, February 22

7:00—9:00 pm	Trustees Meeting	Fireside Room
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Sunday, February 25

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	Federal Tax Codes Seminar	Norberg Room
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

Feb 20	Free Yoga
Feb 21	Mix-It-Up! Lenten Potluck
Feb 25	<i>How Recent Changes in Federal Tax Code May Affect You & Your Family</i>
Feb 26	Bible Study
Feb 27	Free Yoga
Feb 28	Comida para Cherryland
Feb 28	Mix-It-Up! Lenten Potluck
Mar 06	Church Council Meeting
Mar 06	Free Yoga
Mar 11	One Great Hour of Sharing Offering
Mar 11	Savory Pie Pi Sunday
Mar 11	Taste & See

Overview of the Lenten Season

The Christian season of Lent began Ash Wednesday, **Feb 14**, and continues through Holy Saturday, **Mar 31**. Lent is a season that commemorates Jesus' 40-day experience in the wilderness, and encourages spiritual growth through more intentional prayer, study, service, worship, and special offerings. At Eden Church the following opportunities are offered to nourish our community as we travel through Lent together:

- **Feb 18**, First Sunday in Lent, Bluegrass Music, 10-11:15 am, Sanctuary & Soup Potluck, 11:30-12 noon, Oliver Hall
- **Feb 20**, Free Yoga, 6:00-7:00 pm
- **Feb 21**, Mix It Up! Potluck, 6:30-7:30 pm
- **Feb 25**, Second Sunday in Lent, Choir Anthem, 10-11:15 am, Sanctuary
- **Feb 26**, Bible Study, 10:00-11:00 am & 7:00-8:00 pm
- **Feb 27**, Free Yoga, 6:00-7:00 pm
- **Feb 28**, Comida para Cherryland, 1:30-4 pm & Mix It Up! Potluck, 6:30-7:30 pm
- **Mar 4**, Third Sunday in Lent, Sacrament of Holy Communion, 10-11:15 am, Sanctuary
- **Mar 6**, Free Yoga, 6:00-7:00 pm
- **Mar 7**, Mix It Up! Potluck, 6:30-7:30 pm
- **Mar 11**, Fourth Sunday in Lent, OGHS Offering, 10-11:15 am, Sanctuary & Savory Pie for Pi Sunday Potluck, 11:30-12 noon, Oliver Hall, Taste & See E-vent, Norberg Room, 11:30-12:30 pm
- **Mar 12**, Bible Study, beginning at 10:00 am & 7:00 pm
- **Mar 13**, Free Yoga, 6:00-7:00 pm
- **Mar 14**, Mix It Up! Potluck, 6:30-7:30 pm
- **Mar 18**, Fifth Sunday in Lent, 10-11:15 am, Sanctuary
- **Mar 20**, Free Yoga, 6-7 pm
- **Mar 21**, Mix It Up! Potluck, 6:30-7:30 pm
- **Mar 25**, Palm Sunday, 10-11:15 am, Sacrament of Baptism, Reception of New Members, Choir Anthem, and Palm procession, Sanctuary
- **Mar 26**, Bible Study, beginning at 10 am & 7 pm
- **Mar 27**, Free Yoga, 6-7 pm
- **Mar 29**, Maundy Thursday, Holy Communion and Tenebrae Service, 7-8 pm, Pioneer Chapel
- **Mar 30**, Good Friday, 12 noon, Guided Labyrinth Walk, Courtyard,
- **Apr 1**, Easter Sunday & Holy Communion, 10-11:15 am, Sanctuary; Easter Egg Hunt, 11:30-12 noon, Campus