

## ***Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany***



**WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS**

**Jan 31, 2021 | [ONLINE WORSHIP LINK](#)**

Today's hashtags are: #EdenUCC #BendtheCurve

Eden United Church of Christ is an **LGBTQIA+ Open & Affirming** and a **Sanctuary** 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. *Creemos que todas las personas son hijas e hijos de Dios; que personas de todas las edades, razas y orientaciones sexuales son parte de nuestra cultura diversa. Damos la bienvenida a todas las personas al ministerio de esta iglesia.*

*Children's bulletins are available from the ushers and nursery care is available during worship. We encourage the posting of worship to social media, just kindly mute devices. Thank you for not bringing food or beverages into the Sanctuary other than sacramental elements or water.*



21455 Birch St, Hayward, CA  
Corner of Birch & Grove  
(510) 582-9533

# FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY | [ONLINE WORSHIP LINK](#)

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The “+” indicates times when we are invited to stand, in body or spirit, as we are able.

**OPENING MUSIC | When the Morning Gilds the Skies | Barnby**

**WELCOME & UPDATE | Rev. Pepper Swanson**

**BIBLE READING | [Mark 1:21-28](#) | [[Español](#)] | Jan Bass**

**MESSAGE | “Authority Issues” | Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring**

**HYMN | We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness | No. 179 | Dr. Jessie Lo**

**OUR PRAYERS | Joys & Concerns | Rev. Marvin Wiser**

Submit your prayers digitally to the clergy. Digital prayer requests are sent directly to the pastors and remain confidential. You may also share your prayer requests with others during our Fellowship time at 11 am.

**JESUS’ PRAYER | 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.*

**[ONLINE OFFERING](#) | Jan Bass**

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM | Hymn of Promise | Natalie Sleeth | Eden Choir**

**BLESSING | Pastor Arlene**

**CLOSING MUSIC | All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name | Holden**

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## TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS

*Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, Senior Minister*

*Rev. Pepper Swanson, Associate Minister & Video Editor*

*Rev. Marvin Lance Wiser, Designated Term Associate Minister*

*Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Organist & Music Director*

*Jan Bass, Liturgist*

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS — Upcoming Events**

**Ash Wednesday Kits:** Ash Wednesday is **Wednesday, Feb 17**. While we can't meet in person this year, many members would like to honor the tradition of beginning Lent by receiving the sign of the cross in ashes and/or anointing with oil. Home kits are being assembled for anyone interested. The kits will include a small amount of ashes for each member of your family and an Illustrated Labyrinth Devotional with background on Ash Wednesday traditions, Scripture reading, and space to write, doodle, or color your Lenten Intentions. To receive a kit by mail or door dash, contact Pastor Pepper at [pepper@edenucc.com](mailto:pepper@edenucc.com) by **Wednesday, Feb 10**. Let her know how many people in your household will participate. And, remember there will be a special worship video for Ash Wednesday as well.

**Mardi Gras Zoom Party:** And, speaking of Lent being around the corner, ESLO invites you to attend our All Church Family Mardi Gras Zoom Party on **Friday, Feb 12 at 7:30 pm**. We'll explore the traditions of Mardi Gras as we prepare for Lent 2021. Activities include DIY Mask Contest, Stories, Games, and Youth Videos. No Mardi Gras mask? No problem! White paper masks to decorate at home will be available Feb 1 for those interested in decorating their own. Please pre-register for the party by clicking [here](#) and send Pastor Pepper an email at [pepper@edenucc.com](mailto:pepper@edenucc.com) if you'd like a mask for your child/children or yourself.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS — Ongoing Events**

**New Eden UCC Logo Apparel Store:** Looking for the perfect polo, vest, or jacket to wear as you volunteer or participate in outreach events for Eden Church? How about replacing that broken coffee cup? Or buying a gift for a hard-working employee? Look no further than Eden's new [Lands End business storefront](#) where you can select your item, in your size, in your color, and apply either a dark or light rainbow logo. To get started click this [link](#). If you have questions, contact [Pastor Pepper](#).

**COVID-19 Testing @ Eden:** New Drive-Thru Testing in the Oliver Hall parking lot for teens and adults will be conducted Th, F, Sat. Click [here](#) to make an appointment.

**Music Weekly Online on Fridays at 3 pm - BRING YOUR VOICE & FEEL THE SPIRIT!** Music offers great comfort and spiritual support in times good and bad. Starting September 18th, Eden UCC is offering online music meetings every Friday at 3 pm (3 to 4), led by Music Director Dr. Jessie Lo. There will be a voice warm up, hymn sing, a variety of song selections, and a music Q&A. Participants have the option of joining the music meetings with or without participating in the monthly recorded Anthem musical offering. Everyone - all levels & all ages - is invited to join! Please email the Music Director, Dr. Jessie Lo, at [jessie@edenucc.com](mailto:jessie@edenucc.com) to get the Zoom link and the music materials required for the music meeting.

**Children's Storytime:** Please join us online at 10:15 am on Sunday, immediately prior to Fellowship for show & tell, a story about People in the Bible or a storybook touching on Christian themes, and Children's Prayers. Contact [Pastor Pepper](#) for more information.

**Comida para Cherryland:** Comida para Cherryland now serves the community as a drive-through distribution. Please consider a donation or forward this information to anyone

*who is looking for a way to help local residents in need of groceries. Since the COVID-19 crisis unfurled, participation in the Comida has expanded geographically and clients served has tripled, due to widespread unemployment and the closure of other area food pantries.*

**Seekers Book Club:** The Seekers are starting **Eat Joy**, edited by Natalie Eve Garrett, which is the 2021 Alameda County Reads book. Seekers meet on Wednesday at 10:30 am. A second Seekers group is forming for **Eat Joy**. Be in touch with Pastor Pepper if you are interested in participating.

**Cherryland Computer Café Hours:** **Physical location CLOSED until otherwise noted**, but persons may schedule online tutoring help via the [Facebook page](#) or by contacting CCC Director, [Denise Cuevas](#). Due to the impact of the pandemic on our community's educational life, the CCC will **remain virtually OPEN** throughout the winter break to continue to help students catch up and remain on track with their classes, and to assist residents in Unincorporated Alameda County apply for rent relief.

**Church Center:** Church Center is our centralized member and community tool for digital connection. If you have been checked into any event or service, you've already been using it. It's only a click away on our new websites home page and is available for download from the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#). Register with your mobile number, and request to join the groups that you are already a part of or that you would like to be a part of. We are using this app for communications, check-ins, groups, forms, volunteer management, payments, etc. See Pastor Marvin for more details.

**Eden UCC Mobile Alerts:** Be in the know wherever you go! Text "**EdenUCC**" to **33222** to opt into our text message service so that you can stay informed of important happenings as they occur on our campus and in our ministry together.

### **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS — Opportunities to Give or Serve**

**End of Year Statements:** For the first time, Eden Church is sending out year-end donor statements electronically. If you have an email address on file in the Planning Center, you have already been sent an email with a link to your 2020 donor statement. Please note: these links expire at 10 am on Feb 13, 2021.

For those of you who do not have an email address on file, you will receive a printed 2020 donor statement in the mail. If you have any questions about this process or if you need any assistance accessing your 2020 donor statement, please contact Associate Treasurer Jan Bass at [jan@sebastian9.com](mailto:jan@sebastian9.com).

**Remember to Use the Dropdown Fund Selector:** A quick reminder that when you make a digital gift through Planning Center, either online or through the app, use the drop down menu to select your fund designation for your gift. For those who pledge, please use the fund called My Pledge. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact our Associate Treasurer Jan Bass at [jan@sebastian9.com](mailto:jan@sebastian9.com).

**"My Giving" in Planning Center:** Your contributions to Eden UCC and its many ministries are much appreciated. You may access your giving record in the "My Giving" section of your

Church Center App. If you have any questions about using Church Center for digital giving or about viewing your giving history, please contact our Associate Treasurer [Jan Bass](#).

**Donations are being accepted for the Deacon's Fund "COVID-19 Relief."** To make a tax deductible, secure, online donation click [here](#) and choose "COVID-19 Relief" in the drop down menu. Other forms of payment may be mailed to Eden United Church of Christ, 21455 Birch Street, Hayward, CA, 94541. Please make checks payable to "Eden United Church of Christ" and write "COVID-19 Relief" in the memo line. These costs are solely supported by donations from members and friends (not the church's annual budget).

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS —Services Available in Our Community**

**Meals For Seniors -- Delivered:** If you are 60+ you have access to the "senior meal program" which delivers meals, cheese, milk, eggs and fresh fruit, so that you do not need to leave your home to buy food. In Alameda County call: 510-577-3530. Ask for the "senior meal program." They will return your call to verify your age. Volunteers leave the food at your door. For more information, see their website by clicking [here](#).

**SOS Meals on Wheels** is offering free home delivered meals to all seniors in the Oakland and Central County areas. The Home-Delivered Meals Program provides nutritious meals, nutrition education, nutrition risk screening and nutrition counseling. Participant contributions are welcome, \*but not required.\* Call the SOS Meals on Wheels Site Contact: Charline Deterline at 510-582-1263 or email [tara@sosmow.org](mailto:tara@sosmow.org).

## JOYS

**Comida para Cherryland** was recently awarded a **new pallet jack** from the ACCFB, and enough free diapers from 4-Cs, Alameda County First 5, Help A Mother Out, 4-Cs to provide for food pantry families with infants and toddlers in Feb and Mar!

Our **Tres Reyes Magos Worship and Drive-Thru/Walk up Fiesta**, held on Jan 3, brought traditional posole and other gifts to over 250 families and Church members in the Cherryland area — that's 1200 portions of posole!

Congratulations to our compañera, **Juliana "July" Tejada**, who was recognized earlier this month by the Alameda County Board of Education for providing 1000 COVID-19 masks for the Cherryland Elementary School community, and who was a featured speaker for the SF Interfaith Council's Jan 7, 2021 meeting. In addition to being a great seamstress and dedicated community leader, she is the mother of five children, including a current (Selena Perez Tejada) and a former (Sandra Perez Tajada) Eden Church employee.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

For the family of **Alliene Turner's** sister Colliene, whose youngest son Tyler died last week. Prayers for the entire family as they process the shock and sadness of his death.

For all of our **Contact Tracers** who are contacting community members testing positive for COVID-19, assisting them with Isolation and Quarantine protocols and local resources.

For families in need of **affordable housing**. If you have a lead on a room, an apartment, or a house to rent, please contact Pastor Arlene.

For our **children and youth** as they adapt to new learning environments and especially for our high school and college seniors as they contemplate their next steps.

For our **first responders, health care workers, households in quarantine, and all other essential personnel** including those delivering groceries to homebound residents and teaching children online.

For our **homebound members and friends**.

For **Kay Crosby**, who has been hospitalized in Klamath Falls, OR for more than a week.

For **leaders in our communities**, both local and national, to lead with integrity, siding with the most vulnerable.

For **Michael Messer**, Ruth and Mike Baratta's 13 month old grandson who had surgery this past week.

## THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

### Sunday, Jan 31

10:00 — 10:45 am      Worship | Online  
 10:30 — 11:00 am      Children's Storytime | Online  
 11:00 — 12 noon      Fellowship | Online

### Monday, Feb 1

4:00 — 7:00 pm      Cherryland Computer Café | Online

### Tuesday, Feb 2

10:00 — 12:00 pm      Eden Crafters | Online  
 4:00 — 7:00 pm      Cherryland Computer Café | Online  
 7:00 — 8:30 pm      Board of Trustees | Online

### Wednesday, Feb 3

10:30 — 11:30 pm      Seekers Book Club | Online  
 1:30 — 4:00 pm      Cherryland Computer Café | Online

### Thursday, Feb 4

6:00 — 8:00 pm      Estudio Biblico | Online

### Friday, Feb 5

### Sunday, Feb 7

10:00 — 10:45 am      Worship | Online  
 10:30 — 11:00 am      Children's Storytime | Online  
 11:00 — 12 noon      Communion & Fellowship | Online



## COMING ATTRACTIONS

<i>Feb 8</i>	<i>Evening Bible Study</i>	<i>Mar 13</i>	<i>NCNC UCC Special Meeting</i>
<i>Feb 10</i>	<i>Deadline for Ordering</i>	<i>Mar 19</i>	<i>Lent — Relate (Mix It Up)</i>
	<i>Ashes/Lent Kits</i>	<i>Mar 26</i>	<i>Palm Sunday</i>
<i>Feb 12</i>	<i>Mardi Gras Party</i>	<i>Apr 1</i>	<i>Maundy Thursday</i>
<i>Feb 17</i>	<i>Ash Wednesday — Lent Begins</i>	<i>Apr 2</i>	<i>Good Friday</i>
<i>Feb 22</i>	<i>Evening Bible Study</i>	<i>Apr 4</i>	<i>Easter &amp; Easter Pageant</i>
<i>Mar 5</i>	<i>Lent — Reflect (Meditation)</i>		
<i>Mar 8</i>	<i>Evening Bible Study</i>		
<i>Mar 12</i>	<i>Lent — Relate &amp; Reflect (Mix It Up &amp; Meditation)</i>		

# MISSION, VISION, & VALUES | What We Believe

## MISSION STATEMENT | What are we about here and now?

The members of Eden Church worship God and strive to follow Christ's example by providing a welcoming and safe environment for all, seeking God's wisdom, growing spiritually, caring for each other, enriching our neighborhood, and sharing the good news of God's creative and unfolding work in the world.



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## VISION STATEMENT | What do we want to become in the next 3 to 5 years?

The vision of Eden Church is to grow in spirit, fellowship, and number by offering many opportunities for spiritual growth; by becoming a more culturally diverse congregation; by strengthening our capacity to serve our neighbors, by caring for each other as Christ cares for us; by inviting others to be a part of our community of faith; and by working to transform individual lives and our community through the power of God's love in human action.

## VALUES STATEMENTS | What are the ideals and behaviors that we need to express to fulfill our mission and realize our vision?

In order to fulfill our mission and realize our vision, Eden Church strives to embrace and express the following core values:

- Worship and spiritual practices that are both traditional and contemporary
- Religious education and spiritual practices that are grounded in a progressive theology
- Caring relationships that honor differences and foster unity and growth
- Enriching experiences for children and youth in our church and community
- Programs and partnerships that serve those in need while addressing the root causes of social problems
- Being a true sanctuary that nurtures and protects all participants, especially the most vulnerable among us

## OFFICERS

Jana Aloo | Moderator  
Jennifer Vetovec | Vice Moderator  
Rev. Robert Parrish | Treasurer  
Jan Bass | Associate Treasurer  
Kim Shuss | Clerk

## OFFICE HOURS

Monday -- Friday, 8:30 am to 5 pm  
(After hours, please call for appointment)  
Phone: 510-582-9533  
Fax: 510-200-9635  
Email: [office@edenucc.com](mailto:office@edenucc.com)  
Website: [www.edenucc.com](http://www.edenucc.com)