

Christmas Eve



WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS
Dec 24, 2021 | ONLINE WORSHIP LINK

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.

We encourage the posting of worship to social media, just kindly mute devices.



21455 Birch Street, Hayward
Corner of Birch & Grove
510.582.9533

CHRISTMAS EVE | ONLINE WORSHIP LINK

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

OPENING MUSIC | Silent Night | Franz Gruber | Dr. Jesse Acker-Johnson, guitar

BILINGUAL WELCOME | Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring & Stephanie Spencer

LESSON 1 | The Prophecy | [Isaiah 52:7-10 \[Español\]](#) | Dianne Dorn (5 pm) & Eleanor O’Keefe (7 pm)

LESSON 2 | The Annunciation & The Visitation | [Luke 1:26-45 \[Español\]](#) | Aisha Knowles (5 pm & 7 pm)

HYMN | Joy to the World | NCH No. 132, vs. 1, 2, 3 | G.F. Handel

LESSON 3 | The Birth | [Luke 2:1-7 \[Español\]](#) | Herb Graw

CAROL | Away in a Manger | NCH No. 124 | Traditional

LESSON 4 | The Shepherds | [Luke 2:8-12 \[Español\]](#) | Athena Malloy

LESSON 5 | The Kings | [Matthew 2:1-12 \[Español\]](#) | Keith Smith (5 pm) & Allie Turner (video)

CHOIR ANTHEM: O Holy Night | Adolphe Adam | arr. Tom Fettke

MESSAGE | “Keepin’ It Real” | Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring

SPECIAL MUSIC | Villancico de Navidad | Agustín Pío Barrios | Dr. Jesse Acker-Johnson, guitar

CHRISTMAS PRAYER | Pastor Nadia Tavera

[CHRISTMAS OFFERING](#) | Pastor Marvin Wiser

OFFERTORY | Holy Night | Adolphe Adam | Dr. Jesse Acker-Johnson, guitar

CANDLE LIGHTING & BLESSING | Pastor Arlene & Stephanie

CAROL | Silent Night | NCH No. 134, vs. 1, 2, 3 | Franz Gruber

[Logistics Hotlink](#)

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

Nadia Tavera, Designated Term Assistant Minister

Ken Rawdon, Music Director

Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Pianist

Dr. Jesse Acker-Johnson, Guitarist

Dianne Dorn, Eleanor O'Keefe, Aisha Knowles, Athena Malloy, Herb Graw, Keith Smith, and Allie Turner, Liturgists

ANNOUNCEMENTS — Upcoming Events

Epiphany/Tres Reyes Magos Worship & Fiesta: *Pastor Nadia Tavera will lead our Tres Reyes Online Worship on **Sunday, Jan 2, 2022**. A bilingual Online Celebration of Holy Communion will follow at 11 am on Zoom with Rev. Dr. Arlene K Nehring presiding. Links to both the worship video and Communion service will be emailed to All Members and to our e-Chimes list the previous evening. At **12 noon**, there will be a Tres Reyes Drive-Thru Fiesta in the Oliver Hall Parking Lot. Traditional Mexican New Year's Food will be served, quarantine care kits, and toys will be distributed to families with children and gift cards will be given to unaccompanied minors.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS — Ongoing Events

English Language Bible Study: *Bible Study is on vacation until **Monday, Jan 10**. When they return, our daytime group meets Mondays at 1 pm on Zoom and is beginning a new letter by the Apostle Paul. Our 7 pm group will continue their study of the Paul Among the People by Sarah Ruden.*

Children's Storytime: *Children's Storytime is on vacation until **Sunday, Jan 2**. Please join us online at 10:30 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.*

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](#).*

COVID-19 Testing at 20095 Mission Blvd remains open. To make an appointment at this site, click [here](#).

Comida para Cherryland: Comida para Cherryland now serves the community as a drive-through distribution center. 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: Seekers resume on **Wednesday, Jan 12** at 10:30 am. We are starting a new book, **Fuzz: When Nature Breaks the Law** by Mary Roach, a humorous and scientific look at God's creation, especially its anomalies.

Cherryland Computer Café Hours: Physical location **CLOSED** until otherwise noted. To schedule online tutoring with Ms. Samantha, go to our [Facebook page](#).

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 website's 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! Church Center now allows SMS text messaging, so we are transitioning from Textedly to Church Center (by Planning Center) for text messaging services to be utilized for urgent updates. No action is needed on your part other than to keep your mobile number and carrier updated in your Church Center profile section. Thanks for making sure we're always connected!

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS — Opportunities to Give or Serve

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.

“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

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.* To inquire about meal delivery service in Castro Valley, Hayward, San Leandro, San Lorenzo, or Oakland, call 510-582-1263. For food assistance in other areas of Alameda County-- or for any other senior services-- call the county’s info line for Senior Information & Assistance at 1-800-510-2020 or 510-577-3530.*

JOYS

Sheila Hardy *is recovering well from heart transplant surgery.*

Eden Crafters’ Holiday Auction *raised \$850 for Comida para Cherryland.*

Team EUCC *has, to date, helped 630+ Alameda County families successfully obtain rent relief through the Alameda County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP).*

*The Alameda County Board of Supervisors has approved a resolution to provide **\$65M in rent relief** for tenants who have been severely impacted economically by the pandemic.*

PRAYER CONCERNS

*Countless families in our county are 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 **Afghan Refugees** who are moving into our community and country, and for the many thousands left behind who are living under the oppression of the Taliban.*

*For **the Aloo family**, who are grieving the death of Peter's brother, Marvin, and the news that his brother, Steve, has lung cancer. Peter flew back to Kenya last month to attend Marvin's funeral services and to be with family. He will return in the new year.*

*For the family and friends of **Kay Crosby**, who slipped away to Jesus on Nov 23, 2021. An in-person memorial service is being planned for Saturday, Feb 5, at Eden Church. Watch the bulletin for further updates.*

*Surviving loved ones of the nearly **5 million** who have succumbed to COVID-19.*

***Vicente Flores** who continues to receive chemotherapy treatments for lung cancer, and is preparing to celebrate 50 years of marriage with **Edalid (Nena) Flores**.*

***Lucy S.**, a mother of three children whose family has been part of our accompaniment ministry, received her temporary work permit this past week after being in the process for 2 ½ years.*

*For the family and friends of **Lucy Norman Spencer**, Stephanie Spencer's mother, who died on Nov 29, 2021 in Arlington, V. Stephanie will be working remotely from her parents' home until arrangements for her father's care are settled.*

*For the family and friends of **Ginny Richardson**, Rachel Rios-Richardson's mother, who died at home on Dec 11, 2021, where she was receiving hospice care from her family.*

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Friday, Dec 24 — Christmas Eve

9:00 am — 5:00 pm Church Office Hours
5:00 — 5:45 pm Lessons, Carols, and Candlelight Service | Sanctuary Plaza
7:00 — 7:45 pm Lessons, Carols, and Candlelight Service | Sanctuary Plaza

Saturday, Dec 25 — Christmas Day

12:01 am — 11:59 pm Lessons, Carols, and Candlelight Service | Online
See email from Pastor Pepper.

Sunday, Dec 26 — First Sunday After Christmas

10:00 — 10:45 am Worship | Online
11:00 — 12 noon Fellowship | Online

Monday, Dec 27 — Campus Closed

Tuesday, Dec 28 — Campus Closed

Wednesday, Dec 29

9:00 am — 5:00 pm Church Office Hours

Thursday, Dec 30

9:00 am — 5:00 pm Church Office Hours

Friday, Dec 31 — New Year's Eve; Campus Closed

Saturday, Jan 1 — New Year's Day; Campus Closed

Sunday, Jan 2 — Tres Reyes Fiesta

11:00 — 12:00 n Celebration of Holy Communion | On Zoom
12:00 n — 2 pm (or until the food & gifts are gone) | OH Parking Lot



COMING ATTRACTIONS

Jan 2 *Tres Reyes Worship & Drive-Thru Fiesta (Online Worship & Zoom Communion)*
Jan 5 *Trustees Meeting*
Jan 12 *Council Meeting*
Jan 12 *Comida para Cherryland*
Jan 17 *MLK, Jr. Holiday*
Jan 26 *Comida para Cherryland*

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.



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

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

Jennifer Vetrovec | Moderator
Carlos Londono | 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
Website: www.edenucc.com