



**WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS**

**Mar 20, 2022 | [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.*

## THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT | [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 | What Wondrous Love Is This - The Love of God | Arr. Virginia Halberg | Dr. Jessie Lo**

**WELCOME & UPDATE | Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring**

**OPENING PRAYER | Pastor Nadia Tavera**

**BIBLE READING | [Isaiah 55:1-13](#) | [\[Espanol\]](#) | Rachel Rios-Richardson**

**MESSAGE | “Water is Life” | Rev. Pepper Swanson**

\* **HYMN | Lift High The Cross | NCH, No. 198, | Vs. 1 & 5**

**OUR PRAYERS | Joys & Concerns | Rev. Marvin Lance Wisner**

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](#): One Great Hour of Sharing | Rachel Rios-Richardson**

*(Offerings are received through the Planning Center (PC) app & at the door as you leave worship today. Scan the QR Code to be directed to the secure PC giving portal.)*



**OFFERTORY | Give Thanks | Henry Smith | Dr. Jessie Lo**

\* **BLESSING | Pastor Pepper**

**CLOSING MUSIC | My Tribute | Andraé Crouch | Dr. Jessie Lo**

**GO IN PEACE**

**THIS WEEK @ A GLANCE | See Video Screens**

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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*  
*Pastor Nadia Tavera, Designated Term Assistant Minister*  
*Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Organist & Music Director*  
*Ken Rawdon, Music Director*  
*Rachel Rios-Richardson, Liturgist*

## FLOWER DEDICATION

*The flowers on the Communion Table are from Peggy Apperson for 3/17 Russ Newman's birthday and 3/16 as a birthday memory of Dan Apperson's birthday.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

***In the Garden 2: TODAY at 11 am***, we will gather in the Labyrinth Courtyard to plant the new plants selected at our first workshop. Drop by for a **group photo** for our Easter Card, do some digging, amending, and planting, or just come and see how it's going.

**Special Offering:** *One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ (UCC) and its partner denominations that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis.*

*The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of: clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response. Over fifty-five percent (55%) of the UCC's offering supports international development initiatives. The offering also funds refugee resettlement, disaster preparedness and response, and disaster-related volunteer initiatives in the U.S. and internationally.*

*The OGHS Offering will be collected on **Sunday, Mar 27**. If you would like to contribute to OGHS, you can pick up a coin bank today, use the OGHS Offering envelope in the bulletin or visit our online giving portal and use the dropdown to select "Sharing-OGHS."*

**New (and Improving) Livestream Worship:** *We re-started in-person worship with livestreaming on Mar 6. Each Sunday, we are making improvements in our livestream as technology permits. We are eagerly awaiting the installation of fiber optic cable, a new camera that allows close-ups of the speakers, and a switching function that will allow viewers to see the video screens up close. Be sure to look for the closed*

captioning feature during the livestream and on our Facebook post. Here's how to find our livestream on Sunday at 10 am: Vimeo, click this [link](#) and for Facebook, click this [link](#)

If you miss the livestream at 10 am, check your email on Sunday afternoon for a link to the recorded service, or visit the Eden UCC website, go to the dropdown menu under "Worship," and choose "Online Worship."

**Flowers for Worship Resumes:** For more information and to sign up for a specific Sunday, click the link to go to our new [Online Flower Calendar](#) or call the Office at (510) 582-9533.

### **Lenten Events: "In the Garden"**

This year for the season of Lent we will be hosting a series of garden-related events, in keeping with this season's theme of "In the Garden." Please save these dates and let [Pastor Pepper](#) know if you are interested in participating. **Can't come but want to support the replanting effort by making a donation? Use [our giving portal](#) to donate to the "Garden and Flowers" Fund.**

**In the Garden 3: Saturday, Apr 16 (Holy Saturday) at 10 am,** we will gather on the Church's front patio to arrange and display flowers, either purchased or from your own gardens. Arrangements will be displayed on Easter Sunday. Please bring three to five "statement" blooms as well as a variety of greens and other items. Floral foam, wire, and tape will be available as well as some vases.

**Seekers Lenten Study:** Also for Lent, Seekers will be reading **Earth Keeper: Reflections on the American Land** by N. Scott Momaday. Come join us on Wednesdays at 10:30 am.

**Lenten Bible Study:** The Evening Bible Study will begin a special study of the Old Testament and Apocrypha books of Esther. Please join us as we explore who Esther was, how she became a queen, and how she was called to help her people.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS — Ongoing Events**

**Children's Storytime:** Beginning Sunday, Mar 6, Storytime is moving to a new time: 9:15 am to 9:45 am. New time, same great content for children Pre-K and up: a story about people in the Bible or a storybook touching on Christian themes, and games and prayers.

**English Language Bible Study:** Daytime Bible Study meets Mondays at 1:30 pm on Zoom each week and is studying 1 Corinthians. Our 7 pm group will meet **Monday, Mar 14** to begin their study of the story of Esther.

**Estudio Biblico:** Our Bible Study in Spanish is every Thursday at 6pm. To join, send an email to [Pastor Nadia](#) or [Pastor Marvin](#). We are exploring the books of Esdras and Acts of the Apostles.

**COVID-19 Testing** at 20095 Mission Blvd remains open. To make an appointment, 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.

**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!

## JOYS

The Moreau Catholic High School Girls Basketball Team, including Eden's own **Tabitha Aloo #23**, won the 2022 NCS Division 3 Championship on Feb 26, and is headed to the State Tournament! And, congratulations to **Darcy Malloy** for being selected as Team Captain of the Crosspoint High Girls Soccer Team this year!

**Fiber Optic Cable** is being installed on our campus, so that we can begin holding in-person worship and livestreaming worship from our Sanctuary.

**EUCC's Rent & Utility Relief Team**, in collaboration with Centro Legal de la Rasa, has, to date, helped **740+ families** obtain over **\$12,556,947.25** in relief through the Alameda County Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP). The Alameda County

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

***EUCC's Vaccination Team** completed 488 Vaccination Appointments during December 2021 to end the year with **1,292** Registrations and their work TVHC-led Coalition, including HARD, Kidango, Rosey's Place, began in earnest last month.*

***EUCC's Case Investigation / Contact Tracing & Resource Navigation Team** has now helped more than **10,000 community members** successfully isolate & quarantine, and has helped distribute more than **\$2.5 million** in financial assistance from Al Co Social Services Agency.*

***EUCC's Emergency Food Distribution & Delivery Team** has now distributed more than **1,000,000 pounds** of food and cooked meals since the beginning of 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 **Suzie Hasselkuss**, who is home recovering from hip replacement surgery.*

*For **Vai DerMinasian Day** and **her extended family**, and **the people of Tonga** and their loved ones, who have suffered numerous losses resulting from volcanic eruption, tsunamis, and earthquakes.*

*For **Mel Lewis**, and his wife, **Lynn Albert-Lewis**. Mel is participating in six weeks of radiation treatments at Stanford University Hospital that began on January 28, 2022, following surgery on Dec 17, 2021 to remove a tumor from his palate.*

*Eden Church **members and friends who are sick** with the Coronavirus, and for all of us who are affected by the virus.*

*For Carol Roach's grandson, **Montana**, who suffered multiple injuries in a motorcycle accident on Feb 21, 2022.*

*For **Launey Rivers** and **the Rev. Rob Parrish**. Launey who had four disks removed in his neck and a spinal fusion, March 17, 2022. The Caring Circle is organizing meal deliveries to Launey and Rob's home in Union City. To get involved, join the Caring Circle group in the Planning Center app or contact one of the pastors.*

*For the family and friends of **Lillian Timm**, wife of Fred Timm, and one of Eden's Jubilee Members. Lillian died this past Monday, Mar 7, 2022. Her memorial service will be held at Grace Presbyterian Church in Temecula, CA on April 11, 2022. Lillian and Fred joined Eden Church on Dec. 3, 1967.*

*For **the people of Ukraine**, and for all who are striving to protect, defend, and accompany them through Putin's invasion.*

*For **Vicente Flores** who continues to receive chemotherapy treatments for lung cancer.*

## **THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

### **Sunday, Mar 20**

9:15 — 9:45 am Children's Storytime | Online  
10:00—10:45 am Worship | Sanctuary  
11:00 — 12:00 noon In the Garden 2: Planting the Labyrinth Courtyard  
11:30 — 12:30 pm Choir Rehearsal | Music Room & Online

### **Monday, Mar 21**

1:30 — 2:30 pm Bible Study | Online  
7:00 — 8:00 pm Bible Study | Online

### **Tuesday, Mar 22**

10:00 — 12:00 n Crafters

### **Wednesday, Mar 23**

10:30 — 11:30 am Seekers

### **Thursday, Mar 24**

6:00 — 7:00 pm Estudio Biblico

### **Sunday, Mar 27**

9:15 — 9:45 am Children's Storytime | Online  
10:00—10:45 am Worship | Sanctuary  
11:30 — 12:30 pm Choir Rehearsal | Music Room & Online

## **COMING ATTRACTIONS**

Mar 23 Comida para Cherryland  
Mar 27 One Great Hour of Sharing - Special Offering  
Apr 10 Palm Sunday  
Apr 13 Comida para Cherryland  
Apr 14 Maundy Thursday Worship  
Apr 15 Good Friday Labyrinth Walk  
Apr 16 In the Garden 3: Flower Arranging and Display  
Apr 17 Easter Sunday  
Apr 30 COVID-19 Vaccine Pop-Up

# 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 Londoño | 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)