

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT



WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS

Nov 27, 2022 | [ONLINE WORSHIP LINK](#)

Eden United Church of Christ is an **LGBTQ 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.



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OPENING MUSIC | Emmanuel Comes (based on Latin Hymn “O Come O Come Emmanuel” and Matthew 1:23 “Emmanuel” | 8th Century Plainsong/Arr. Mark Hayes | Jessie Lo

WELCOME | Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE | The Johnson-Josue Family

OPENING PRAYER | Pastor Arlene

CHOIR ANTHEM | The Candles of Advent | arr. Don Besig | Eden Church Choir and Friends | Geronimo Rojas, Flute

BIBLE READING | [Matthew 24:32-44](#) | [Español](#) | Jan Bass

SERMON | “Perpetual Presence” | Rev. Dr. Marvin Lance Wiser

HYMN | Toda la Tierra (All Earth Is Waiting) | NCH No. 121 | Verse 1 (en Espanol) | Verse 1 (English) | Verse 4 (English)

JOYS & CONCERNS | Pastoral Prayer | Pastor Arlene

JESUS' PRAYER

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.

OFFERING INVITATION & PRAYER | Jan Bass

OFFERTORY | Wake, Awake for Night is Flying | J.S. Bach | Jessie Lo

BLESSING | Pastor Marvin

CLOSING SONG | Ukrainian Bell Carol* | Mykola Leontovych/Arr. Phillip Keveren | Jessie Lo

GO IN PEACE

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, Senior Minister

Rev. Pepper Swanson, Associate Minister

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

Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Pianist, Organist

Ken Rawdon, Music Director

Vanessa Bonner, Rebecca Berringer, Yoon Choe-Mitchell, Seth Mijares, Jose Avalos, Choral Section Leaders

Jan Bass, Liturgist

Susie Newman, Greeter-Ushers

Russ Newman, Trustee on Duty

Pastor Pepper & Viki Vivaldo, Church School Teachers

FLOWER DEDICATION

For more info and to sign up to bring flowers for a specific Sunday, click the [link](#) to go to our new Online Flower Calendar or call the Office at (510) 582-9533.

****Ukrainian Bell Carol** is based on the Ukrainian folk chant “ Shchedryk”. The original Ukrainian title translates to “the generous one,” derived from the Ukrainian word for bountiful, and tells a tale of a swallow flying into a household to proclaim the bountiful year that the family will have. It was introduced to Western audiences by the Ukrainian National Chorus when they were on tour in the US, and premiered the piece on October 5, 1922, to a sold-out audience at Carnegie Hall. It has since been a favorite part of the Christmas repertoire in the US and is typically sung with English lyrics.*

***Crafters' Holiday Auction:** The Crafters' Holiday Auction will close at **10 am on Monday, Nov 28**. There will be a preview event on **TODAY** — come check out the items and “buy now” if you see something you like. To go to the auction website, click [here](#). All proceeds benefit Comida para Cherryland.*

***Cookies & Cocoa:** It's a **Do It Yourself Cookies & Cocoa on Sundays, Dec 4 and Dec 11**. We'll provide the cocoa (and coffee) — you provide the cookies. We invite people with last names that begin **A to M** to bring their favorite cookies on **Sunday, Dec 4** and people with last names that begin **N to Z** to bring their favorite cookies on **Sunday, Dec 11**. Please remember to label any cookies with nuts.*

***Holiday Choral Concerts:** On **Sunday, Dec 4**, the **Mt. Eden High School Choir** will perform during worship and on **Wednesday, Dec 7**, they will present their winter concert in the Sanctuary at **7 pm**. On **Monday, Dec 12**, the **Chabot College Concert Choir**, with special guest soloist **Raquel Jeter**, will present their annual winter concert, “**GAUDETE!**” at **7 pm** in the Sanctuary. All performances are in the Sanctuary. The*

Sunday performance is gratis but tickets will be sold at the door for the weekday events.

Christmas Pageant and Happy Birthday, Jesus!: *On Sunday, Dec 18, the Eden Church children and youth will present an in-person Christmas Pageant for the first time since Dec 2019! We'll celebrate the return of the Pageant with our traditional Happy Birthday, Jesus celebration after worship with birthday cupcakes and a round of congratulations for our cast.*

*This year, you are invited to make a **Happy Birthday gift of diapers** in honor of baby Jesus. You can bring a box of diapers to Church or you can use our online giving portal to make a donation to our **"Happy Birthday Jesus - Diapers" fund**. All diapers donated or purchased with donations will be distributed at Comida para Cherryland. Diaper sizes 5 and 6 are especially needed.*

Estate Planning: *Eden's Planned Giving Committee is pleased to provide **"Your Estate Planning Record"** to help you get started. We also encourage you to consider including Eden Church and the EAF in your estate plans. As always, be sure to consult your tax or financial planner to determine the best options for your particular financial situation and goals.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS — Ongoing Events

Our Time to Shine! Window Replacement Campaign: *Last Sunday at the Semi-Annual Meeting, the Congregation unanimously approved the launch of a \$100,000 capital campaign to replace the 73-year old opaque windows in the Sanctuary. Thanks to the leadership we have already collected **\$58,250** in pledges and gifts. Additional pledges are needed to reach, and ideally exceed the goal, by **Dec 15, 2022** so that the process of ordering the custom built windows can begin as soon as possible. Pledge forms are included in today's bulletin. Or click [here](#) to access a fillable pdf. Pledge forms are confidential and should be returned to [Jan Bass](#).*

Spring Festival Planning: *Are you interested in contributing your time and talent to help raise funds for the replacement of the opaque Sanctuary windows? Eden's Stewardship Committee is sponsoring a Spring Festival Carnival on Saturday, Mar 18 and needs volunteers to plan, organize, and work the festival. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact [Pastor Pepper](#) or [Pastor Marvin](#).*

Festival de Primavera: *¿Está interesado en contribuir con su tiempo y talento para ayudar a recaudar fondos para el reemplazo de las ventanas del Santuario? El Comité de Administración de Edén está patrocinando un Festival de Primavera en sábado, el 18 de marzo y necesita voluntarios para planificar, organizar y trabajar en el festival. Si está interesado en ser voluntario, comuníquese con [Pastor Pepper](#) o [Pastor Marvin](#).*

Eden Church Choir Rehearsal each Sunday: Come join us! 11:00 am in the Music Room.

English Language Bible Study: The Daytime group meets every Thursday at 10:30 am and the Evening group meets every Monday at 8 pm. Both groups are studying the Book of Isaiah. Contact [Pastor Pepper](#) for more info.

Estudio Biblico: Our Bible Study in Spanish is held every Thursday at 6 pm. To join, send an email to [Pastor Marvin](#). We are exploring the book of Esther.

Seekers Book Club: We are currently reading, "The End of Bias: A Beginning: The Science and Practice of Overcoming Unconscious Bias." Join us on Wednesdays at 10:30 am on Zoom. Email [Pastor Pepper](#) for information.

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

Sanctuary & Accompaniment Appeal: Newcomers to the US face numerous challenges. Paramount among them is the challenge of finding affordable housing. If you know a landlord who is able to rent a room or an apartment at an affordable price, please speak with one of our pastors. If you are able to fund a night of lodging or subsidize rent for a family whose members are not yet eligible for a work permit, please use the QR code to make a digital gift, or deliver your offering to the church office. (Please reference the Sanctuary / Accompaniment Ministry in the online, drop-down menu, or the memo of your check.) If you are able to help with a fundraiser, please email yuliana@edenucc.com. And pray without ceasing for the healing of the nations and a safe and sound home for every child of God.

Comida para Cherryland: Digital donations can be made online using [our giving portal](#). Please use the dropdown to select "Comida para Cherryland." Checks can be made payable to Eden United Church of Christ. Please be sure to note the donation is for "Comida para Cherryland" and mail to the Church's address, 21455 Birch Street, Hayward, CA 94541.

Church Center: Church Center is our centralized member and community tool for digital connection. It's available for download from the [Apple App Store](#) or [Google Play Store](#). Register with your mobile number, and request to join the small groups. See Pastor Marvin for more details.

JOYS

Our \$100,000 "Our Time to Shine!" Capital Campaign was unanimously approved last Sunday. To date, **\$58,250** in pledges have been received.

[Our COVID Story](#) of community resiliency is now a published page on our website. Please read and reflect during this season of remembering and thanksgiving.

On Nov 2, Pastora **Nadia Tavera** was approved by the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Northern California-Nevada Region's Training & Care Committee to move forward with her ordination process!

The **FY22 Eden Area Foundation** audit was successfully completed this month! Copies are available upon request from the Church Office.

The **FY21 Eden Church single audit** was successfully completed last month, and filed with the federal government! Copies are available upon request from the Church Office.

The **Eden Crafters** raised nearly **\$1,000** for Comida para Cherryland at their most recent auction of handmade items.

The Alameda County Board of Supervisors approved **\$300,000** in **ARPA funding** for Eden Church to help cover financial losses incurred during the pandemic. Three supervisors earmarked \$100K to benefit Eden Church including: Districts 2 (Sup. Valle), District 3 (Sup. Brown), and District 4 (Sup. Milley).

Between Mar 16, 2021 and Oct 26, 2022, Eden UCC and Padres Unidos de Cherryland's ERAP Teams have processed 2,278 rent relief applications, which has resulted in the awarding of **\$21,347,584.37** in **rent relief** for 1,440 tenants and 1,440 landlords.

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 **Ruth and Mike Baratta's 2-year old grandson Jack** who is ill with RSV.

For **Vicente Flores** who is a patient at the San Leandro Hospital.

For **Mel Lewis**, and his wife, **Lynn Albert-Lewis**. Mel is recovering from surgery and outpatient cancer treatments.

For **Charlotte Lusschen** who has been a patient in the ICU at Stanford University Hospital since Sep 20. Prayers, calls, and cards are also invited for her mother, **Janna Lusschen**, who is receiving respite care at Carlton Senior Living in San Leandro.

For **Pat Payne's brother George Clifford** who is undergoing chemotherapy.

For **Jim, Jeannie, Tony, and Erica Schumann**, who have all been experiencing health challenges. Cards and calls are welcome.

For **Becky Wilson**, who suffered a broken kneecap on Oct 22, and who is on an estimated 9-month road to recovery.

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

Sunday, Nov 27 — First Sunday of Advent

9:00 — 9:45 am	Choir Rehearsal Music Room
10:00 — 10:45 am	Worship Sanctuary & Online
10:00 — 10:45 am	Pageant Practice Courtyard
10:45 — 11:00 am	Courtyard Conversations
11:00 — 11:45 am	Choir Rehearsal Music Room

Monday, Nov 28

8:00 — 9:00 pm	Bible Study Online
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Tuesday, Nov 29

10:00 — 11:00 pm	Eden Crafters Online
11:00 — 12:00 pm	Estudio Biblico Online

Wednesday, Nov 30

10:30 — 11:30 pm	Seekers Book Club Online
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Thursday, Dec 1

10:30 — 11:30 am	Bible Study Online
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Sunday, Dec 4 — Second Sunday of Advent

9:00 — 9:45 am	Choir Rehearsal Music Room
10:00 — 10:45 am	Worship & Holy Communion Sanctuary & Online
10:00 — 10:45 am	Pageant Practice Courtyard
10:45 — 11:00 am	Cocoa & Cookies Courtyard
11:00 — 11:45 am	Choir Rehearsal Music Room

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Nov 28	<i>Crafters Holiday Auction Closes</i>
Dec 4	<i>Second Sunday in Advent — Cocoa & Cookies</i>
Dec 6	<i>Trustees Meeting</i>
Dec 11	<i>Third Sunday in Advent — Cocoa & Cookies</i>
Dec 13	<i>Church Council Meeting</i>
Dec 18	<i>Fourth Sunday in Advent - Christmas Pageant & Happy Birthday, Jesus - Pastor Arlene's Chicken Soup</i>
Dec 24	<i>Christmas Eve Worship & Holy Communion — Cider & Cookie</i>
Dec 25	<i>Christmas Day Worship & Holy Communion</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.



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
Jana Aloo | Clerk

OFFICE HOURS

Monday -- Friday, 8:30 am to 5 pm
(After hours, please call for appointment)
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