

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



**WELCOME | BIENVENIDOS**

**Nov 12, 2023 | 10 am**

Watch Live on [Facebook](#) or [Vimeo](#)

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.



# 24th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | ONLINE WORSHIP LINK

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**OPENING MUSIC** | “Arie - Wie lieblich ist der Boten Schritt!/How beautiful are the feet” from *Messiah* | George Handel | Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP** | The Lord Is in the Holy Temple | Floice R. Lund | Eden Church Choir & Friends

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

**OPENING PRAYER** | Pastor Arlene

**OPENING HYMN** | “We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky” | *NCH* No. 563 | Verses 1-3

**BIBLE READING** | [Jonah 3:1-4:11](#) | [Español](#) | Athena Guy Malloy

**CHOIR ANTHEM** | “There’s A Wideness In God’s Mercy” | Karen Marrolli | Eden Church Choir and Friends

**SERMON** | “When God Sends a Worm” | Rev. Dr. Marvin Lance Wiser

**SERMON HYMN** | “There Is A Balm In Gilead” | *NCH* No. 553 | Verses 1-3

**JOYS & CONCERNS** | PASTORAL PRAYER | Rev. Brenda Loreman

## **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** | Athena

**OFFERTORY** | “Lead Us from Death to Life” | *NCH* 581| Jessie Lo

**BLESSING** | Pastor Marvin



**CHORAL BENEDICTION | The Lord Bless You and Keep You | Peter Lutkin |  
Eden Church Choir & Friends**

**CLOSING SONG | “There’s a Balm in Gilead” | African-American  
Spiritual/Arr. Randall Hartsell | Jessie Lo**

**STAY FOR THE SEMI-ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

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**TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS**

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

*Rev. Dr. Marvin Lance Wiser, Associate Minister*

*Rev. Brenda Loreman, Designated Term Associate Minister*

*Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Pianist, Organist*

*Ken Rawdon, Music Director*

*Athena Guy Malloy, Liturgist*

*Edith Sanchez, Greeter-Usher*

*Daniella Prym, Trustee on Duty*

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**FLOWER DEDICATION**

*The flowers today were given by Jan Bass, in memory of her mother, Joyce Bass, who would have been 96 on November 15th.*

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Holiday Cards:** *Please take a moment after worship to sign the Thanksgiving cards for our members and friends who are unable to worship with us. This is a special ministry of the church that is much appreciated by those who receive the cards. The cards will be available to sign in the breezeway behind the Sanctuary for three Sundays, starting today.*

**Online Craft Auction is Live!:** *The Eden Crafters' annual online holiday auction began on Wednesday, **Nov 1** and continues through **Thursday, Nov 16** on the 32Auctions platform. A lovely array of items—including table decor, wall hangings, baskets, tote bags, and jewelry—are available for either bidding or a convenient “buy it now” price. [Use this link](#) to access the auction and view the items. You'll need to create a login and*

password to be able to bid on items (or use your login from last year). We encourage you to bid often and generously! Your contributions to this auction will go to support the distribution of diapers and wipes at Comida para Cherryland. For more information, reach out to [Pastor Brenda](#) or [Jan Bass](#).

**Call to the Semi-Annual Meeting:** The Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting will be held **TODAY**, beginning at 11 am in the Sanctuary. This meeting is called by the Church Council in accordance with the Church bylaws. The meeting purpose is to receive a report from the Eden Area Foundation (EAF) Board of Directors regarding the 2024 grants, and to receive a report from the Trustees regarding the Sanctuary window replacement project. Guests are welcome and members are needed. For more information, contact Moderator [Carlos Londoño](#), Trustee Co-Chairs [Bob Turner](#) and [Julie Booher](#), or [Pastor Arlene](#). Plan to participate by Zoom? [Click here](#) to pre-register (required).

**Día de los Muertos Ofrenda:** Our beautiful ofrenda in the niche near the main office will be deconstructed in the next few days. If you contributed a photo or other memory item that you'd like to take home, please retrieve your item this week. If you contributed a copied photograph, you may leave it on the ofrenda, and it will be displayed again next year. Many thanks to our Compañeras community who so lovingly created this year's ofrenda!

**Welcome Baby Annette:** We are excited to welcome Annette Tucker Figueroa to the Eden family with a baby sprinkle after worship on **Sunday, Nov 19**. Please join us in the Fireside Room and Courtyard for treats and congratulations. If you'd like to contribute a gift, the family would most appreciate diapers or Amazon and Costco gift cards. If you can help provide food for the event, please reach out to [Pat Payne](#).

**Get Ready for Advent:** It hardly seems possible that it's time for Advent, but it's just around the corner. Following the baby sprinkle and a light lunch after worship on **Sunday, Nov 19**, join Pastor Brenda in the sanctuary to adorn the church for the Advent season. We'll be putting up and decorating the trees and adding other decor to the sanctuary. We'll play some holiday music, and there may even be some homemade cookies! Many hands make light work. [Reach out to Pastor Brenda](#) for more info.

**It's Time to Stay Protected:** The CDC, CDPH, and ACPHD recommend that all persons 6 months and older receive the newly updated COVID-19 vaccine, just authorized last month. This new monovalent vaccine targets the more recent dominant circulating strains of Omicron, and will help boost our immunity that attenuates with time. If it has been more than two months since you received the previous (last year's bivalent or any previous) COVID-19 vaccine, you are eligible now. Contact your primary care provider for questions and appointments or contact our own vaccine navigation hotline numbers: (510) 214-2855 (English) or (510) 214-2256 (Español).

**Bible Study Survey:** It's hard to believe it's already November! Next month we'll be wrapping up our Bible & Migration course for Texts & Contexts Bible Study. What would you like to study together in 2024? Let [Pastor Marvin](#) know [via this Church Center Survey](#) so he can start planning ahead. Thanks in advance for your participation!

**Texts & Contexts Bible Study:** The "Bible & Migration" study series continues on Thursday nights through Dec 14, 6:00 pm in Spanish and 7:30 pm in English. There will be no class on Nov 23. For more info, [find the groups on our website](#), or connect with [Pastor Marvin](#).

**Choir Rehearsals & Performances:** Choir rehearsals continue on Sundays at 11:00 am, in the Music Room; the Eden Choir sings in worship two Sundays a month throughout the program year. For more information, [connect with our Music Director](#), Ken Rawdon.

**Eden Crafters:** The Crafters meet at 9:30 am every Tuesday. Check us out in [Groups](#) on Church Center or contact [Pastor Brenda](#) for more information.

**Seekers Book Club:** The Seekers are beginning a new book: [Overthrow](#) by Stephen Kinzer. Now's a great time to join this group or reconnect. Find us in [Groups](#) in Church Center, or contact [Pastor Brenda](#) for more information.

**Please Wear Your Name Tag:** Wearing a name tag is a good way to offer welcome and hospitality to new and returning worshippers. Many of the name tags of regular worshippers are hanging on the net at the entrance of the sanctuary; if yours is missing, or you never had one in the first place, send an email to our office manager, [marianne@edenucc.com](mailto:marianne@edenucc.com), and request a replacement.

**Sanctuary & Accompaniment Appeal:** Newcomers to the US face many challenges, especially 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 a pastor. 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, email [yuliana@edenucc.com](mailto:yuliana@edenucc.com).

**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.

**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.

**Our Time to Shine! Window Replacement Campaign:** Thanks to everyone's support we have now collected **over \$111,535** in pledges and gifts. If you haven't begun your pledge payments yet, we ask that you begin payment now, according to the preferences you indicated on your pledge form. The contractor for the work was awarded to Best Construction of Sacramento. The windows have been manufactured, and are ready for delivery and installation as soon as we receive our permit from AC Public Works. Pledge payments and new contributions can be made online using the dropdown menu on the church website, or by sending a check to the church, Attn: Jan Bass, made payable to Eden UCC. Haven't pledged yet but would like to contribute to the window campaign? Click [here](#) to access a fillable pdf windows pledge form. Pledge forms are confidential and should be returned to [Jan Bass](#).

## JOYS

We have a new baby in the congregation, **Annette Lorraine!** Annette was born into the **Tucker Figueroa family**, Aug 31, 2023.

Many thanks to our **Compañeras Ministry partners** for creating our beautiful ofrenda for this season of remembrance and thanksgiving for our loved ones who have gone to God.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

For the family of **the Rev. Kay McFarland**, who died on October 21. Kay was an Interim Minister for First Christian Church of Fremont, one of the predecessor congregations of Niles Discovery Church, and was an associate member at Eden UCC.

For Grace Moremen and the family of **the Rev. Bill Moremen**, who died peacefully on October 17 from advanced Parkinson's. Bill was the Senior Minister of Eden UCC from 1983-1993.

**For the Bulette & Allen families.**

*For the **DerMinasian Day family**, who are experiencing several health challenges.*

*For **Kay**, Margret Felix's stepdaughter, who is on a healing journey from cancer.*

*For **the elder Spencers and their caregivers**, as they grapple with several life changing health episodes, and transition into higher levels of care.*

*For **Allie & Bob Turner**, as Allie recovers from surgery.*

*For extended family members of **Keith Smith's**, one who is having surgery and some who are grieving the death of parents.*

*For the family of **Lorenzo Canlas**, as they help Lorenzo's father, Lesander Canlas, manage treatments for brain cancer.*

## **THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

### **Sunday, Nov 12**

9:00 — 9:50 am	Choir Rehearsal   Music Room
10:00 — 10:45 am	Worship   Sanctuary & Online
11:00 — 11:30 am	Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting   Sanctuary & Online
11:30 — 12:30 noon	Fellowship   Courtyard & Fireside

### **Tuesday, Nov 14**

9:30 — 10:55 am	Eden Crafters   Online
7:00 — 9:00 pm	Council Meeting   Online

### **Wednesday, Nov 15**

10:00 — 11:00 am	Seekers   Online
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### **Thursday, Nov 16**

6:00 — 7:15 pm	Estudio Biblico   Fireside & Online
7:30 — 8:30 pm	English Language Bible Study   Fireside & Online

### **Sunday, Nov 19**

9:00 — 9:50 am	Choir Rehearsal   Music Room
10:00 — 10:45 am	Worship   Sanctuary & Online
10:45 — 11:45 am	Fellowship & Baby Sprinkle   Courtyard & Fireside
11:00 — 11:45 am	Choir Rehearsal   Music Room
12:00 — 2:00 pm	Adorning the Sanctuary

## **COMING ATTRACTIONS**

- Nov 12 Sunday Worship | Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting
- Nov 19 Sunday Worship & Church School | Baby Sprinkle & Adorning the Sanctuary
- Nov 23/24 Thanksgiving Holiday | Church Campus Closed
- Nov 26 Sunday Worship & Church School | Fellowship & Choir Rehearsal
- Dec 3 Sunday Worship & Holy Communion | First Sunday of Advent
- Dec 10 Sunday Worship | Second Sunday of Advent
- Dec 17 Sunday Worship & Pageant | Happy Birthday, Jesus Party
- Dec 24 Sunday Morning Worship Morning | Candlelight Christmas Eve Service
- Dec 31 Sunday Worship | Bring your "Grands" to Church Sunday



# 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

Carlos Londoño | Moderator  
Jana Aloo | Vice Moderator  
Rev. Robert Parrish | Treasurer  
Jan Bass | Associate Treasurer  
Melissa Josue | Clerk

## OFFICE HOURS

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