



\* **INVOCATION** *(in unison)*

Herb

**O Divine Wisdom, your cry breaks through the clamor of creation through the words of prophets and apostles in every time, who proclaim your truth and point passersby to the intersection where peace and justice meet. Here, the hungry are fed, foreigners are welcomed, the sick are healed, captives are freed, and the dead are raised. Here, your kin-dom comes on earth, and everyone lives in peace and harmony. Here, your word is heard. Here, your word is heeded. Here, your word makes us whole. Amen.**

\* **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Herb

**L:** The peace of God be with you all

**R:** And also with you.

**L:** Let us greet our neighbors with a sign of peace.

**MUSICAL INTERLUDE**

**L:** Our service continues with the ministry of music.

**ANTHEM**

Let A Joyful Song Arise!

Carl Nygard, Jr.

**CHILDREN'S GATHERING**

Pastor Arlene

**BLESSING**

Great Work God Has Begun In You *(v. 4)*

**NCH № 353**

*Great work has God be-gun in you,  
take on God's love in all you do,  
And may that love in you in-crease—now,  
With God's bless-ing, go in peace.*

*(K-5th grade are excused for Church School and should be picked up by parents in the Classroom.  
Care for babies and pre-schoolers is available in our Nursery at any time during worship.)*

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Proverbs 1: 20-33

Herb

*(Today's scripture lesson can be found on page 509-510 in the pew Bibles.)*

**SERMON**

"The Holy Protester"

Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring

\* **HYMN**

We Shall Not Give Up the Fight

**NCH № 437**

**PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY**

**Joys and Concerns**

Pastor Pepper

**Pastoral Prayer**

## Jesus' Prayer *(in 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.

**Prayer Response**      Prayer is the Soul's Sincere Desire *(v. 5)*      **NCH № 508**

*O Christ, by whom we come to God,  
the Life, the Truth, the Way,  
The path of prayer you too have trod:  
Christ, teach us how to pray.*

## OFFERING & DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS

**Invitation** *(Thank you for placing your blue worship card in the offering plate)*      Herb

**Offertory**      Minuet in A Minor      Jean-Philippe Rameau

\* **Response**      What Gift Can We Bring *(v. 4)*      **NCH № 370**

*Lend your joy to all our giving, let it light our pilgrim way;  
From the night of anxious keeping loose us into generous day.  
Then when years on earth are over, and we've lived our human span,  
God, fulfill beyond our dreaming, all our stewardship began.*

\* **Prayer of Dedication**      Herb

\* **HYMN**      Lift Every Voice and Sing      **NCH № 593**

\* **BENEDICTION**      Pastor Arlene

\* **RESPONSE**      From All That Dwell below the Skies *(v.1)*      **NCH № 27**

*From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise;  
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!  
Let the Redeemer's name be sung  
through every land, by every tongue.  
Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia,  
al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!*

\* **CHIME AND THE LIGHT DEPARTS WITH THE PEOPLE**

*(The congregation is seated for the Postlude)*

**Worship Leaders**

The Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring, Senior Minister  
The Rev. Pepper Swanson, Associate Minister  
The Rev. Marvin Lance Wiser, Designated Term Associate Minister  
Herb Graw, Liturgist  
Dr. Jessie Wenchieh Lo, Organist & Music Director

Yoselin Penado & Fabiola Orea, Childcare Workers  
Athena Malloy & Rozetta Walth, Church School Teachers  
Julie Booher & TBD, Greeters  
Julie Booher, Theresa Collier, & Scott Swanson, Ushers

Julie Booher, Fellowship Captain  
Jana Aloo & Suzie Haseelkuss, Fellowship Hosts  
Suzie Hasselkuss & Rozetta Walth, Fellowship Helpers

Julie Booher, Trustee on Duty  
Sally Kusalo & Dave Wallace, Counters  
Dawn Coburn, Sunday Sexton

**WELCOME**

Welcome to Eden United Church of Christ! If you are searching for a spiritual home, please consider becoming part of our congregation. Eden welcomes members who seek a deeper relationship with God in a caring community and who strive to make a difference in the lives of others. We will celebrate the Sacrament of Baptism and the Rite of Church Membership four to five times yearly during morning worship. Please see one of our pastors or an usher, deacon, or member of the E-Team if you seek baptism for yourself or your child, or if you would like to be received into church membership. We celebrate infant and adult baptism and receive new members several times each year.

**FLOWERS**

*The flowers on the altar were given by Keith Smith in memory of Leroy Smith.*

**TODAY**

**Taste & See:** New to Eden? Visitors and newcomers are invited to join our pastor and welcoming team for a reception in the Norberg Room, next **Sunday, Sept 16**, 11:30 am to 12:30 pm. Grab coffee & a snack from Fellowship in Oliver Hall then come to our gathering. Tell us a little about yourself and your spiritual journey. Ask questions. Learn more about enriching experiences offered at Eden such as Bible study, volunteer opportunities, and church school. Children are welcome!

## COMING EVENTS

**International Day of Peace at Lake Chabot:** On **Friday, Sept 21**, there will be a 70th anniversary celebration of the International Day of Peace proclaimed by the United Nations as a day of armistice devoted to strengthening the ideals of peace, both within and among all nations and peoples. The event is 6-7 pm at the Lake Chabot Marina (picnic area). There will be a brief program of prayer and song with an optional walk for peace in nature. For more information contact, Stephanie Spencer.

**Choir Retreat:** All choir members (and all those interested in joining the choir) are invited to the choir retreat at the Music Director's home on **Saturday, Sept 22**, at 10 am. We will sing through the anthems for the first half of the upcoming church year. Lunch (potluck) follows after the rehearsal. Please sign up with Dr. Jessie Lo: [Jessie.edenucc@gmail.com](mailto:Jessie.edenucc@gmail.com).

**Parent-Teacher Gathering:** On **Sunday, Sept 23**, at 11:30 am in the Fireside Room, we will have our semi-annual Church School parent-teacher gathering. All parents, teachers, and anyone interested in volunteering with children and youth should plan to attend. We will discuss Church School classes and curriculum, complete annual paperwork, and brainstorm our 2018-19 activities.

**Accompaniment Check-In:** On Jun 25, 2017, Eden Church members declared ourselves a “Sanctuary Church.” This decision involved a commitment to accompany migrants through their immigration and integration processes in the US. Join Pastor Arlene and Eden Accompaniment Team members for coffee and conversation about ways that we are striving to fulfill this commitment. Conversation topics include: Where did our Sanctuary family come from and why? Are we doing anything illegal? What is involved in the asylum seeking process in the US? How can I/we help? This first of several intermittent one hour conversations will be held Sunday, **Sept 30**, beginning at 11:30 am in the Norberg Room.

**2018 HUSD Board of Trustees Candidates' Forum:** Eden United Church of Christ, Padres Unidos de Cherryland, and the Cherryland Computer Cafe will co-host our voter education event on **Wednesday, Oct 17**, from 6 to 8 pm in Oliver Hall. A free community dinner will be provided at 5:30 pm. A formal panel moderated by our leaders will be the main feature of the evening. Voter registration forms and online registration will be offered in 10 languages. Homework help and access to the Cherryland Computer Café will be available for school-aged children. English and Spanish interpretation will be provided throughout the event. The public and the media are invited and encouraged to attend.

## SMALL GROUPS

**Seekers Book Club:** On **Wednesday, Sept 19**, we will have a showing of the movie *Shadowlands* to complete our study of C.S. Lewis. Our next book is *The Gift of Years* by Joan Chittister, which we will begin on Wednesday, **Sept 26**. We meet each week on Wednesdays at 10 am in the Fireside Room. For more information, contact Pastor Pepper [pepper@edenucc.com](mailto:pepper@edenucc.com).

**Read the Book of Revelation!** Our Evening Bible Study will begin reading the Book of Revelation on **Monday, Sept 24**. Fall dates include Sept, 24, Oct 8 & 22, Nov 5 & 19, and Dec 3 & 17. The Evening Bible Study will meet at 7 pm in Fireside.

**Animate: Faith Video Series:** The Daytime Bible Study will begin their study of Christian faith topics using the Animate video series on **Monday, Sept 24**. Fall dates include Sept 24, Oct 8 & 22, Nov 5 & 19, and Dec 3 & 17. Please meet at 1 pm in Pastor Pepper's Office. **Eden en español:** Spanish language Bible Study happens **Thursday** evenings in the Fireside Room from 6:30-8 pm. Todos están invitados a nuestro estudio bíblico los jueves a las 6:30 de la tarde. Vamos a reunirnos en el salón *Fireside*. Va a haber café y pan dulce. También va a haber cuidado del niño para los chiquitos y el café internet de Cherryland va estar abierto para los grandecitos y adolescentes. Para preguntas contacta Pastor Marvin: [marvin@edenucc.com](mailto:marvin@edenucc.com) or 339-203-8412.

**Eden Youth Re-Group:** The Eden Youth will re-group on **Sunday, Sept 23** from 5-7 pm in the Fireside Room. All junior high and high school youth are invited. If your children are part of the Eden Youth Group, be on the lookout for the monthly Youth Newsletter via email. See Pastor Marvin or email [marvin@edenucc.com](mailto:marvin@edenucc.com) to ensure delivery.

## PROGRAMS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Cherryland Computer Café Hours:** The fall café hours are as follows: **Mondays**, 4- 7 pm, **Tuesdays**, 4-7 pm, Comida (2nd and 4th) **Wednesdays**, 1:30-4 pm, **Thursdays**, 6:30-8 pm. Contact our CCC Coordinator, Alicia Oseguera [alicia@edenucc.com](mailto:alicia@edenucc.com) for more information.

**Eden Church Childcare Policy:** Eden Church makes a reasonable attempt to provide childcare during Sunday worship, congregational meetings, and Taste & See Gatherings without a special request. We also make a reasonable attempt to provide childcare for church-sponsored meetings/events upon request. To request childcare, contact Pastor Pepper at [pepper@edenucc.com](mailto:pepper@edenucc.com).

**2018 Flower Calendar:** The 2018 Flower Calendar is posted in the Church Office. Stop by to sign up for a date to match your occasion. Flowers can be provided by: 1) Cut or purchase flowers and arrange them at home or church and place them on the communion table; 2) Make arrangements with Eden's Flower Coordinator Mary Graw to provide flowers and she will arrange them; or 3) Order flowers delivered from a florist to the church on the Saturday prior to your date. Bulletin dedications are due to the Church Office by 12 noon on the Wednesday before your date. For information, contact Mary Graw at 510-581-5536.

## SPIRITUAL CARE

**Pastoral Visits:** Pastor Arlene makes hospital and house calls to members and friends upon request. To request a visit, please call the church office during regular business hours (510-582-9533) or send a text message to Pastor Arlene at 510-461-3285 or email to [arlene@edenucc.com](mailto:arlene@edenucc.com). Pastor Pepper covers hospital calls when Pastor Arlene is out of town. Note, because of privacy laws, hospitals do not contact pastors or share information with anyone other than a patient's power of attorney, so it is necessary for congregants to request visits from our pastors. Professional courtesies are also involved. Generally speaking, pastoral calls are limited to members and friends of Eden Church who are listed on the church rolls. If unchurched persons contact the church and request pastoral care, Pastor Arlene or Pastor Marvin will respond on an as available basis.

**Sacramental Ministry:** Pastor Arlene brings the Sacraments of Holy Communion and Baptism, and the ministry of anointing and healing prayer to hospitalized and homebound members. Please contact her directly to make arrangements for visits. Audio recordings of sermons can be downloaded from the church website. Print copies of the sermons are available by mail upon request and from the office and for downloading from the church website.

**Pastoral Counseling:** Pastor Arlene (English) and Pastor Marvin (Spanish) are available to provide short-term pastoral counseling to members and friends upon request. Please contact them directly to schedule an appointment. For Pastor Arlene call or send a text message to 510-461-3285 or send email to [arlene@edenucc.com](mailto:arlene@edenucc.com). To reach Pastor Marvin, please call or send a text message to 339-203-8412 or send email to [marvin@edenucc.com](mailto:marvin@edenucc.com).

**Spiritual Practices and Retreats:** Pastor Pepper is once again planning a Spiritual Retreat for interested members and friends for early 2019. Last year's retreat was on the Spirituality of Aging. In addition, coloring as a spiritual practice will be available during Advent. If you would like to be added to the list of interested members or would like to suggest a specific spiritual practice or topic, please contact Pastor Pepper.

## THIS WEEK AT-A-GLANCE

### Sunday, September 16

9:00 & 11:30 am	Music Rehearsal	Sanctuary
10:00—11:15 am	Sunday Worship	Sanctuary
11:15—12:30 pm	Fellowship	Oliver Hall
11:30—12:30 pm	Sunday Counters	Library
11:30—12:30 pm	Taste & See	Norberg

### Monday, September 17

4:00—7:00 pm	Computer Cafe	Norberg
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### Tuesday, September 18

4:00—7:00 pm	Computer Cafe	Norberg
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### Wednesday, September 19

10:00—11:30 am	Seekers	Fireside
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### Thursday, September 20

6:30—8:00 pm	Bible Study en Español	Fireside
6:30—8:00 pm	Computer Cafe	Norberg

### Sunday, September 23

9:00 & 11:30 am	Music Rehearsal	Sanctuary
10:00—11:15 am	Sunday Worship	Sanctuary
11:15—12:30 pm	Fellowship	Oliver Hall
11:30—12:30 pm	Sunday Counters	Library
11:30—12:30 pm	Parent-Teacher Gathering	Fireside
5:00—7:00 pm	Eden Youth Re-Group	Fireside

## **COMING ATTRACTIONS – MARK YOUR CALENDARS!**

*New or amended items are in bold & italics*

Sept 16	Taste & See	<b><i>Oct 23</i></b>	<b><i>EAF Board Meeting</i></b>
Sept 21	International Peace Day Celebration	Oct 24	Comida para Cherryland
Sept 23	Parent-Teacher Gathering	Oct 28	Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting
Sept 23	Eden Youth Re-Group		
Sep 26	Comida para Cherryland	Nov 03	Bay Association Meeting
Oct 01	ESLO Meeting	Nov 04	All Saints/Dia de los Muertos
Oct 02	Church Council Meeting	Nov 06	Church Council Meeting
Oct 04	EAF Grants Meeting	Nov 13	Trustees Meeting
Oct 07	World Communion Sunday/ Gay Asian Pacific Alliance Choir	Nov 14	Comida para Cherryland
	Neighbors in Need Offering	Nov 22	Thanksgiving--Campus Closed
Oct 09	Trustees Meeting	Nov 28	Comida para Cherryland
Oct 10	Comida para Cherryland	Dec 01	Advent Decorating Day
Oct 17	2018 HUSD Board of Trustees Candidates' Forum	Dec 02	First Sunday in Advent
		Dec 02	Taste & See63