Congregational Church
of San Mateo
Iglesia Congregacional de San Mateo

Sunday, July 13, 2025
5th Sunday After Pentecost

"Because of who you are, and where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

Prelude *Ich ruf zu dir, Herr Jesu Christ, BWV 639* Chase Olson
J.S. Bach

Welcome Rev. Álvaro Durán
↑ **Call to Worship** Evie, Kallan and Kiela Ebneter

Leader: Let us open our eyes wide.
All: So we can notice what others overlook.

Leader: Let us open our ears wide.
All: So we won't be without the truth, even if it is uncomfortable.

Leader: Let us open our hearts wide.
All: So God's love can pour into us, and freely flow out of us.

Leader: Let us be like the Good Samaritan.
All: Without limits to our compassion and sense of justice.

Leader: May we always recognize and welcome your presence with us.

↑ **Opening Song** *Open My Eyes that I May See*
Chalice Hymnal

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine. *(continued →)*

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear;
And while the wavenotes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, ready my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine.

↑ Sharing the Peace Rev. Kibbie Ruth

*During the Peace, **children (4th grade and younger)** are invited to attend our faith formation programs in the Christian Education Building by exiting out the back door of the Sanctuary with our adult program leaders. Parents/guardians are welcome to accompany kids to help them get settled. Children and youth are most welcome to remain in the service if they would prefer. Activity baskets with goodies for our younger kiddos can be found in the entry hall (Narthex) at the Kids Table. We're glad you're here! After worship, kids can be picked up in their program room or Kloss Hall at Coffee Hour.*

Invitation to Offering CORA Jennifer Kozicki

CORA is the only agency in San Mateo County solely dedicated to helping those affected by intimate partner abuse. From counseling, to emergency housing, to legal assistance, their services are designed to provide safety, support, and healing for individuals who experience abuse in an intimate relationship, and to educate the community to break the cycle of domestic violence.

Give to CCSM with ease!

- ***Text Giving: Text 73256** with the amount you'd like to donate in the format "CCSM Plate $__" (e.g., "CCSM Plate $25"). You'll receive a confirmation text after your first gift (which requires entering your payment information — a one-time step taking about 2 minutes).*
- ***Offering Plate:** Place your cash or check in the offering plate with a note on the memo line specifying where you'd like the funds directed.*
- ***Online Giving:** Visit CCSM's online giving link **ccsm-ucc.org/give/***
- ***Check:** Mail a check to the church office. (225 Tilton Ave, 94401)*

In addition to our plate offering, we gratefully accept gifts to our General Fund at any time.

Offertory *Spirit Song* Kayoko Hori-Grech
John Wimber

Scripture Luke 10:23-37 Ismael Boigues and Josh Moore

Then turning to the disciple, Jesus said to them privately, “Blessed are the eyes that see what you see! For I tell you that many prophets and kings desired to see what you see but did not see it and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.”

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.”

But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

Message Revs. Kibbie Ruth and Álvaro Durán

Prayer Meditation *Ubi Caritas (Live in Charity)*

TAIZE

Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.
Live in charity and steadfast love, live in charity; God will dwell with you.
Ubi caritas et amor, ubi caritas, Deus ibi est.

Congregational Prayer Rev. Álvaro Durán

In Unison*

**This beloved prayer, often referred to as the "Lord's Prayer," has been adapted and translated countless times over the centuries. While we've provided two options below, we encourage you to use any version that resonates with you.*

Our Creator, Who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre, venga tu reino, hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día. Perdona nuestras ofensas, como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria, ahora y por siempre. Amén.

"Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander" Thomas Merton — Mike Harris

In Louisville, at the corner of Fourth and Walnut, in the center of the shopping district, I was suddenly overwhelmed with the realization that I loved all these people, that they were mine and I theirs, that we could not be alien to one another even though we were total strangers. It was like waking from a dream of separateness, of spurious self-isolation in a special world. . . .

This sense of liberation from an illusory difference was such a relief and such a joy to me that I almost laughed out loud. . . . I have the immense joy of being man, a member of a race in which God Himself became incarnate. As if the sorrows and stupidities of the human condition could overwhelm me, now that I realize what we all are. And if only everybody could realize this! But it cannot be explained. There is no way of telling people that they are all walking around shining like the sun.

Then it was as if I suddenly saw the secret beauty of their hearts, the depths of their hearts where neither sin nor desire nor self-knowledge can reach, the core of their reality, the person that each one is in God's eyes. If only they could all see themselves as they really are. If only we could see each other that way all the time. There would be no more war, no more hatred, no more cruelty, no more greed. . . . But this cannot be seen, only believed and 'understood' by a peculiar gift.

↑ **Closing Hymn** *Here I Am, Lord*

Daniel L. Schutte

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin, my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? ***Refrain***

Refrain: Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart. *(continued →)*

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide, till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? ***Refrain***

↑ **Benediction** Rev. Álvaro Durán

Postlude *Fugue in D Major, BWV 532* Chase Olson
J.S. Bach

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Special Thanks to:
Our Coffee Hour volunteers, the CCSM Board
Our Liturgical Arts volunteers, Kay Harris and Alice Morison

Joys and Concerns

Each week, the pastoral care team gives prayerful attention to the congregation's joys and concerns. Many of these come with a request to hold the contents in confidence; therefore they are not published below. The wonderful thing about prayer is one doesn't need a specific reason in order to lift another in the light of love and care. Join us in holding the named and unnamed in God's light and love. Prayers will be listed below for two weeks, unless otherwise requested.

Recent Prayer Requests

Angela Kraft Cross' dear, dear friend **Peter Ossulston** (who's been in the bulletin for months) passed away July 8. He was 68. Angela first met him 50 years ago on the plane to orientation at Oberlin. Prayers for all those who loved Peter.

Please hold **Betsy Woodward** and family in your prayers following the death of her uncle, **Richard Longmire,** on July 3, surrounded by his nieces and caregivers.

Carol Henton's grand niece, **Sophie Grace Pennington,** who was born June 17, remains hospitalized in a neonatal intensive care unit in Michigan. Her journey ahead will be long. Prayers for her parents, **Hannah and Bryce,** plus the entire Pennington family are very much appreciated by **Carol, Doug, and Liz Henton.**

Annette Daniels and family gratefully acknowledge the kind expressions of love and support extended upon Bill's recent passing. A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, September 20 at 11:00 am here at CCSM.

Please hold **Julie Berk** in prayer as she continues to recover from surgery. She loves your cards, calls, and well wishes—they keep her going!

Month of Sundays Ministry thanks **Michele Merfeld Hale** for the beautiful cards she has been making for us to send to members of the congregation. Their messages are so unique and meaningful. Thank you too for the anonymous angels who leave cards in the Month of Sundays box in the church office. It is much appreciated.

Jonathan Kronn and Don Ruthroff offer prayers of thanksgiving for their **Aunt and Uncle's** safe journey home from Israel and request continued prayers for safety and peace for friends and family who live in Israel.

Ongoing prayer requests:
Continuing prayers for our beloved siblings**: Bob Plaisted,** friend of Angela Kraft Cross; **Lynn and Paul Nieberding; John,** Sharon Tobin's son; **Renato Floresca; Peter Smith,** Kirsten Smith's father-in-law; **Lynne and Peter,** friends of Lynn Nieberding; **Lisa Caswell,** friend of Pam McCarthy-Hudson; Chona Tendero's friend, **Feljohn Rancap; Aprille Espinuevas**, friend of Robert and Johann Leung; **Lani Leydig; Cheryl Granucci;** Allison Rock and Chris Wuthmann's friend**, Karen; Veril Phillips and Bev Knowlton; Mike and Lee Mullery; George Vail; Martha Pierce; Dorothy Gorman; Dottie Scott;** Don and Jonathan's brother, **Chuck Ruthroff; Caroline Reinke.**

Bulletin Board

If you wish to have an announcement added to the "Bulletin Board," please email Chase at cmontara@ccsm-ucc.org to have your item added.

NEIGHBORHOOD FIESTA TODAY, 4:00 - 6:30 pm! Join us for an afternoon of music, food, fun, and community! Invite your friends and neighbors. If you're able, bring a dish to share based on the following: **Last name A-I**: Dessert (including fruit); **Last name J-Q**; Veggie side dish or green salad; **Last name Q-Z**: Carb/meat side dish or snacks/chips.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for ICE Verification Team • Faith in Action is looking for volunteers for their Verification Team, which verifies rumors of ICE activity when reports are made to their Rapid Response Hotline. The next training will be held on Zoom on **July 15 at 6:00 pm.** If you're interested, you can register at tinyurl.com/ICE-Verify

STYROFOAM RECYCLING IS COMING! Saturday, July 19 • 10 am - 2 pm • The Environmental Justice Ministry is now offering **styrofoam recycling** at CCSM. Bring your saved styrofoam to the CCSM parking lot on July 19 for transport to a recycling center, where it will be used to make picture frames, insulation, and other products. This opportunity will be scheduled every six months.

FINDING JOY TOGETHER ~ A SUMMER BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP • On **July 21 and August 17,** we will continue to discuss *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World* by The Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu, in the Fireplace Room. Join us for inspiration and connection and to practice cultivating joy! Contact Siew Kang, internationalchoir@gmail.com, for details.

ZOE MULLERY'S RETIREMENT LUNCHEON will be on **Sunday, July 27** at 11:45 am in Kloss Hall. Zoe is retiring after 34 years of dedicated service to CCSM! Can you help the planning team make this day special for Zoe? If so, we would love contributions to the potluck luncheon. Could you provide a salad, vegetarian lunch option, or a dessert? There are other ways to help, also. Please contact Chase Montara at cmontara@ccsm-ucc.org. Thanks!

SAVE THE DATE! UCC CLUSTER PICNIC, August 3, 12 - 4 pm in Huddart Park. CCSM will join Congregational Church of the Peninsula, Island United, and College Heights for a joint picnic. Details to come.

BE A SUNDAY GREETER! We're looking for a few friendly faces to help welcome people to church—either by the name tag board before worship or at the Welcome Table for about 15 minutes after the service. It's a simple way to help newcomers feel welcome. Just 15 minutes can make a big difference! Contact Alison, alisonschwandt@gmail.com, if you're interested.

SEEDS OF GRATITUDE TABLE, Sundays After Church • Kloss Hall • The Spiritual Life Committee invites you to stop by and write a note of gratitude to someone who's made a difference in your life.

Calendar visit **CCSM-UCC.ORG/EVENTS** for the full calendar of events and meetings

Below is a snapshot of this week's events, meetings, and activities. For more information—or to add something to the calendar—please reach out to the event host or contact Chase Montara at *cmontara@ccsm-ucc.org*

Sunday, July 13

10:30 - 11:30 AM	**Worship Service** in person and online (FB and YouTube)
10:45 - 11:30 AM	**Youth & Children's Programs,** CE Building
11:30 AM	**Coffee Hour,** Kloss Hall
4:00 - 6:30 PM	**Family Fiesta / Fiesta Familiar,** Kloss Hall and Front Lawn

Monday, July 14

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM	**Women at the Well Women's Group,** Fireplace Room
4:00 - 6:00 PM	**Samaritan House Meal Service,** Kloss Hall

Tuesday, July 15

10:00 - 11:30 AM	**Men's Coffee Group,** Food Court, Hillsdale Mall (Contact Peter Held, paheld1417@gmail.com)
4:00 - 6:00 PM	**Samaritan House Meal Service,** Kloss Hall
7:00 - 8:30 PM	**Our Home San Mateo,** 3rd Floor Conference Room

Wednesday, July 16

4:00 - 6:00 PM	**Samaritan House Meal Service,** Kloss Hall
7:15 - 8:45 PM	**Bilingual Worship Service,** Kloss Hall

Thursday, July 17

9:00 - 11:00 AM	**Casual Bike Riders**, CCSM Parking Lot; contact John Ebneter, jebneter@aol.com
10:15 - 11:30 AM	**Women's Coffee Group**, Food Court, Hillsdale Mall; contact linda.skromme@gmail.com
4:00 - 6:00 PM	**Samaritan House Meal Service,** Kloss Hall

Friday, July 18

4:00 - 6:00 PM	**Samaritan House Meal Service,** Kloss Hall

Saturday, July 19

8:30 - 10:30 AM	**CC Riders Weekly Bike Ride** (contact Peter Held, paheld1417@gmail.com)
10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	**Environmental Justice Styrofoam Collection,** Parking lot

Sunday, July 20

10:30 - 11:30 AM	**Worship Service** in person and online (FB and YouTube)
10:30 AM	**60 Minutes High School Discussion Group,** Fireplace Room
10:45 - 11:30 AM	**Youth & Children's Programs,** CE Building
11:30 AM	**Coffee Hour,** Kloss Hall

For Staff, CCSM Board, and Ministries leads, go to ccsm-ucc.org/welcome/#staff or scan the QR code. To contact your CCSM Board, email **Board@ccsm-ucc.org.** To contact anyone in the Council of Ministries, email **COM@ccsm-ucc.org.** To contact the church office, email **cmontara@ccsm-ucc.org**

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ADVOCATING FOR LGBTQ+ INCLUSION AND JUSTICE SINCE 1972
OPEN AND AFFIRMING COALITION
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

New to our church? We're so glad you're here! To celebrate, we'd love to pledge a $5 donation on your behalf to a charity of your choice. Supporting other non-profits is something we do every week, and we'd love to include you in that process!
Simply scan the QR code and fill out the form.