



Congregational Church
of San Mateo
Iglesia Congregacional de San Mateo

Sunday, November 9, 2025
22nd Sunday After Pentecost

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



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 practice. **Simply scan the QR code and fill out the form!**

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue
J.S. Bach

Pasha Kaznacheev

Welcome

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

↑ Call to Worship

Jacqui Stultz

Leader: We come, seeking the quiet voice that stirs our hearts.

All: We come to listen, to breathe, to remember who we are.

One: In stillness, we hear the cry for justice.
In silence, we feel God's heartbeat for the world.

All: Let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

One: Come, let us worship the One who turns our longing into love, and our hope into action.

↑ Opening Song

Lift Every Voice and Sing

#593, vs. 1 & 3

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty; Let our rejoicing rise,
High as the listening skies, let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that our harsh past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
God who has brought us thus far on the way;
God, who by your might, led us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our God where we met you,
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of the world, forget you;
Shadowed beneath your hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.

↑ Sharing the Peace

Rev. Álvaro Durán

*During the Peace, **children (4th grade and younger)** and **youth (5th-8th grade)** 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.*

Scripture Reading

Amos 1:1-2; 5:14-15, 21-24

Jacqui Stultz

The words of Amos, who was among the shepherds of Tekoa, which he saw concerning Israel in the days of King Uzziah of Judah and in the days of King Jeroboam son of Joash of Israel, two years before the earthquake.

And he said: The Lord roars from Zion and utters his voice from Jerusalem, the pastures of the shepherds wither, and the top of Carmel dries up.

Seek good and not evil, that you may live and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, just as you have said. Hate evil and love good and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon.

Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Sermon

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

Sermon Response

O for a World

#575

vs. 1, 2, & 5

O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,
Where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
Where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

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.

Invitation to Offering

Swords to Plowshares

Aurora Dopp

Swords to Plowshares is a community based non-profit dedicated to supporting veterans as they navigate the challenges of post military life so that they can achieve health, housing, wellness and stability. Its mission is to prevent and end veteran homelessness through wraparound care and informed advocacy. Just some of the services provided free are access to healthcare, counseling, food and a supportive community of peers.

Give to CCSM with ease!

- **Church Center App:** Download the new Church Center App, tap the "Give" icon at the bottom of the homescreen, add your amount, tap next and select "Plate."
- **Scan the QR code** to make a gift to the plate offering or the General Fund.
- **Offering Plate:** Place your cash or check in the offering plate.
For checks, note on the memo line where you'd like the funds directed.
- **Online Giving:** Visit CCSM's ccsm-ucc.org/give/ and click the blue "Give" button.
- **Mail:** Send a check to the church office. (225 Tilton Ave, San Mateo, CA 94401)



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

Offertory

Un sospiro

Pasha Kaznacheev

Fr. Liszt

Annual Giving Update

Martha Bronitsky

↑ Closing Hymn

Let Justice Flow Like Streams

#588

Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water, pure,
Enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.

Let righteousness roll on as others' care we heed,
An ever flowing stream of faith translated into deed.

So may God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true.
And justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.

↑ **Benediction**

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

Postlude

Tijuca
D. Milhaud

Pasha Kaznacheev

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Special Thanks to those helping with today's service:

Our Liturgical Arts volunteers: Alexandra Gillen and Pam Ridlehuber

Our Coffee Hour Hosts: CCSM Board

Our musicians leading worship: Don Harper, Pasha Kaznacheev and CCSM Chancel Choir



Join us in Dreaming God's Dream! Make your Estimate of Giving pledge today and help invest in CCSM's ministry and mission. We have 55 who have pledged so far, totaling \$273,060. **Our 2026 Goal is \$560,000 in pledges. Scan the QR code or fill out a pledge card** (found in your pew or at the Welcome Table in the Narthex). *Cards may be returned to an usher or the CCSM office (Attn: Cheryle Matteo)*



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 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:

Stan Higgs shares the loss of his close friend, **John, the Marine**, who passed suddenly this week. Please offer your condolences to Stan.

Heather Morgan is hospitalized (in the ICU) due to complications stemming from her recent leg amputation. Please pray that she will soon recover from these medical issues and return home.

Prayers for a good friend of **Frank Garritano, Larry Anderson**, from back in New York, who had a serious heart attack over the weekend and is on ECMO and needs a heart transplant.

Greg Graves requests prayers for his family's matriarch, **Roberta Raffety**, who passed away at 93 years old in Binger, Oklahoma.

Genel Morgan asks for continued prayers for her family member **Lindsay** who will be having surgery soon and follow up treatment. Please pray for a good outcome and support for her family at this difficult time.

Ongoing prayer requests:

Continuing prayers for our beloved siblings: **Joaquín**, Nadia Hernández father; **Paul Nieberding; Heather Morgan; Sanjana**, friend of Susan & Warren Long; **Mike and Lee Mullery's nephew, Wally; Lynn and Paul Nieberding; John**, Sharon Tobin's son; **Renato Floresca; Lynne and Peter**, friends of Lynn Nieberding; 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; 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

Celebrate Mike Mullery's 90th Birthday, TODAY. Join us after worship for happy coffee hour where we'll celebrate Mike's milestone birthday with cake and extra sweet treats.

CCSM & You: New Member Lunch, TODAY, November 9, 12:00–2:00 pm. Whether you're new to CCSM or have been around a while, come learn more about our church, explore ways to get involved and why membership might be the right step for you.

Our Home Same Mateo Rally: The fight for renter protections is critical, especially after the Council's prior rejection. Join us on November 11 at 6 PM here at CCSM to rally as the City Council revisits the eviction issue and urge them to enact measures that keep renters in their homes.

Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity Benefit Concert will be held on November 13th at 6:30 PM in Berkeley. This evening of powerful music, poetry, and storytelling will inspire hope and solidarity, supporting CCSM's ongoing work for immigrant justice and dignity. Learn more or purchase tickets at bit.ly/2025LoveOverFear.

The Village Pub will be open again on Thursday, November 20th from 7 to 8:30pm in the Fireplace Room. Join us for a casual evening to connect with new and familiar faces. Come ready to chat, laugh, and simply enjoy hanging out—all are welcome! Dave Olson, dave.olson17@comcast.net

Music & Art Guild: Join us on November 21 at noon for lunch (please bring with you), dessert (provided!), and a performance by Bella Voce, a CCSM-based vocal ensemble dedicated to fostering community, collaboration, and mentorship among women through singing. Led by Julie Berk, they will perform diverse pieces ranging from a 16th-century madrigal to a Broadway hit.

Innovation Lab Second Hour: The Innovation Team is focusing its efforts on the critical need to support working parents struggling with stress across work, family, and finances. Join them on Sunday, November 23, at noon during Second Hour to learn what they've discovered and help shape the next steps for nurturing connection, faith, and well-being for these families.

Thanksgiving Potluck Service: Join us for a special bilingual Thanksgiving Potluck Service led by Revs. Jessica and Álvaro on Wednesday, November 26, at 7:00 pm in Kloss Hall and the Buckham Room. It will be an intimate gathering around tables to share prayers, break bread, and express gratitude for our year of blessings. The church provides the turkey; please bring a favorite side dish or dessert to share!

Family Tree Lighting Festival, November 30, 5-7pm: CCSM's Advent Tree Lighting Festival is coming! Let's kick off the Advent season with our neighbors — with chili, cocoa, carols, cookies, and crafts. Join in the countdown to our tree lighting at 6 PM. It's the perfect way to welcome the season of hope and light — bring your family, invite your friends, and come celebrate!

Sign up to Co-Host Happy Coffee Hour: Thank you to our Happy Coffee Hour hosts for strengthening our CCSM community! We still need 5 hosts for the 2025 schedule on: Nov 30 (2) and Dec 21 (1), 28 (2). Please sign up by emailing Melodie Lew (boygie.m2000@yahoo.com).

Donate to Call Primrose: We are close to reaching our goal of 42 cases of Thanksgiving cooking oil, but we still need several hundred dollars in donations. Please help us meet this target by donating to Call Primrose via our website or app.

Winter Clothes Donation Drive (Jericho Road): Help us keep our neighbors warm this winter! We are collecting essential winter items—including coats, hats, gloves, and new thick socks—to distribute to those who receive meals at CCSM through Samaritan House. Please place your new or gently used, clean donations in the box in the Narthex between now and Thanksgiving week.

Pick-A-Vent Moving to February: We're excited to announce a new name and sign-up date for our annual party-hosting fundraiser! Formerly called Pick-A-Party, we are rebranding to Pick-A-Vent (short for "Event") and shifting the sign-up period to February 2026. This popular fundraiser connects members through unique hosted activities, with proceeds supporting CCSM's goals.

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.

[Learn More!](#)



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Calendar

visit [CCSM-UCC.ORG/EVENTS](https://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, November 9

9:45 - 10:15 AM **Joyful Noise Children's Choir**, Fireplace Room; contact Julie Berk, teacherjulie7@gmail.com
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 - 12:30 PM **Coffee Hour**, Kloss Hall- **Come celebrate Mike Mullery's 90th birthday!**
12:00 - 2:00 PM **New Member Luncheon**, Buckham Room
4:00 - 6:30 PM **Sunday Evenings Together: Children & Youth Program**, Kloss Hall & CE Building

Monday, November 10

11:00 - 12:30 PM **Women at the Well**, Fireplace Room, contact Siew Kang at internationalchoir@gmail.com
4:00 - 6:00 PM **Samaritan House Meal Service**, Kloss Hall

Tuesday, November 11

10:00 - 11:00 AM **Church and Office closed in observance of Veteran's Day**
Men's Coffee Group, SM Central Library on 3rd floor balcony; contact Peter Held, paheld1417@gmail.com
4:00 - 6:00 PM **Samaritan House Meal Service**, Kloss Hall
6:00 - 8:00 PM **Our Home San Mateo Rally**, Front Lawn, contact Rev. Alvaro
7:15 - 8:30 PM **MSJ Monthly Meeting**, ZOOM contact Katherine Vega Stultz at vegastultz@yahoo.com

Wednesday, November 12

4:00 - 6:00 PM **Samaritan House Meal Service**, Kloss Hall
7:00 - 8:30 PM **Chancel Choir Rehearsal**, Sanctuary
7:15 - 8:45 PM **Bilingual Worship Service**, Kloss Hall

Thursday, November 13

9:00 - 11:00 AM **Casual Bike Riders**, CCSM Parking Lot; contact John Ebnetter, jebnetter@aol.com
10:15 - 11:30 AM **Women's Coffee Group**, Fireplace Room; contact linda.skromme@gmail.com
4:00 - 6:00 PM **Samaritan House Meal Service**, Kloss Hall
6:00 - 8:00 PM **Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity Benefit Concert**, Berkeley (see bulletin board)

Friday, November 14

1:00 - 2:30 PM **Bella Voce Choir Rehearsal**, Fireplace Room
4:00 - 6:00 PM **Samaritan House Meal Service**, Kloss Hall

Saturday, November 15

8:30 - 10:30 AM **CC Riders Weekly Bike Ride**; contact Peter Held, paheld1417@gmail.com

Sunday, November 16

9:45 - 10:15 AM **Joyful Noise Children's Choir**, Fireplace Room; contact Julie Berk, teacherjulie7@gmail.com
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 - 12:30 PM **Coffee Hour**, Kloss Hall
4:00 - 6:30 PM **Sunday Evenings Together: Children & Youth Program**, Kloss Hall & CE Building



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