



**Congregational Church**  
of San Mateo  
Iglesia Congregacional de San Mateo

**Sunday, February 1**  
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

***“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!**

*En el nártex hay disponibles dispositivos de asistencia auditiva  
e instrucciones para conectarse a la traducción simultánea de este servicio (inglés-español).  
Por favor, diríjase a un acomodador si necesita ayuda o más información.*

**Prelude**

*“Andante”*  
Vivaldi

Don Harper

**Welcome**

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

**↑ Call to Worship**

Taylor Hansen

Leader: When faith is reduced to empty words and spirituality becomes a product,

All: **We come, seeking what is real.**

Leader: God does not desire spectacle or sacrifice, but lives aligned with justice, mercy, and humility.

All: **We walk towards faithful living.**

Leader: This is the work set before us; this is the path of life.

All: **Let us worship our God, who calls us to live what we profess and to walk together in love.**

## ↑ Opening Song

### *Let Justice Flow Like a River*

vs. 1, 2, & 5

Sheet music located at the back of your bulletin.

#### Refrain:

**Let justice roll like a river, and wash all oppression away;  
Come, O God, and take us, move and shake us,  
Come now, and make us anew, that we might live justly like you.**

1. Take from me your holy feasts, all your off'rings and your music;  
Let justice flow like waters, and integrity like an ever-flowing stream.
2. How long shall we wait, O God, for the day of your mercy to dawn,  
the day we beat our swords into ploughs, when your peace reigns over the earth?
5. You have been told the way of life, the way of justice and peace;  
to act justly, to love gently, and walk humbly with God.

## ↑ 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. After worship, kids can be picked up in their program room or Kloss Hall at Coffee Hour. We're glad you're here!*

## Centering Song

### Improvisations

Don Harper

## Congregational Prayer

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

### In Unison

*This beloved prayer, often known as the Lord's Prayer, has been adapted and translated countless times over the centuries. While we offer two versions below, you are invited to pray in the words that resonate most deeply 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 libráanos del mal. Porque tuyos es el reino, tuyos es el poder, y tuya es la gloria, ahora y por siempre. Amén*

**Invitation to Offering**

Dios Habla Hoy Ministries

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

Since December, Iglesia Dios Habla Hoy in South Minneapolis has provided food and support to about 14,000 families who are afraid to leave home due to ICE enforcement, even though roughly 25,000 families are registered for help. Their weekend attendance has dropped sharply as many in the Latino community remain hidden for safety, and the church has become a lifeline of care, dignity, and presence in a time of deep fear.

***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/](http://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***Brightest and Best*

Julie Berk &amp; Krista Hanson

**Scripture**

1 Corinthians 1: 18-31

Taylor Hansen

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to abolish things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. In contrast, God is why you are in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

**Sermon****“Fools for Christ”**

Rev. Dr. Arlene K. Nehring

**Hymn of Response****Take My Life, and Let It Be***CH No. 609 vs 1, 3, 5, & 6*

Sheet music located at the back of your bulletin.

1. Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.  
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise,  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.
  
3. Take my voice, and let me sing; unto God my praise I bring.  
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from thee,  
filled with messages from thee.
  
5. Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne,  
it shall be thy royal throne.
  
6. Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store.  
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee,  
ever, only, all for thee.

**Invitation to Communion**

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

*ALL, and we really mean all, are welcome to share in the celebration of communion. Please join us in coming forward down the center aisle to receive bread (gluten-free available) and juice. For those unable to come forward, communion will be brought to you. Kindly dispose of empty cups in the small bins at the end of the first pew as you return to your seat (we recycle the cups).*

*TODAS LAS PERSONAS son bienvenidas a compartir de la celebración de la comunión. Por favor, acérquese por el pasillo central para recibir pan (disponible sin gluten) y jugo de uva sin alcohol. Si no puede pasar al frente, la comunión le será traída a usted. Amablemente disponga las copas vacías en los cestos para basura al costado de cada banca en la primera línea al regresar a su asiento (reciclamos los vasos).*

**Communion Meditation**

Don Harper

↑ **Closing Hymn**

Lift Every Voice And Sing

NCH No. 593

1. 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 the 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.

2. Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod, felt in the days when hope unborn had died;  
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet, come to the place for which our people sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered,

We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered,

Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last

where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

3. 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.

↑ **Closing Words**

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

↑ **Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Arlene Nehring

↑ **Choral Response\***

*\*Please remain standing for the choral response*

**Postlude**

*"Fanfare on an Original Theme"*

Don Harper

Martin

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**Special thanks to those helping with today's service:**

Our Liturgical Arts volunteers: Laura Pierce-McKenzie & Megan Goulden

Our Coffee Hour Host: Teresa Gebler

Our musicians leading worship: Dr. Ondine Young, Julie Berk, and Don Harper

Musicians may contact [ondine@ccsm-ucc.org](mailto:ondine@ccsm-ucc.org) to join the music ministry;

Handbell choir resumes 2/22 (Lent, in preparation for Easter).

## Joys and Concerns

*Prayer connects us in love and care, whether we have specific requests or simply wish to hold someone in God's light. Each week, our pastoral care team holds our congregation's joys and concerns in prayer. To share a request, fill out a connect card in the pew and place it in our offering plate, give it to a minister, or visit [ccsm-ucc.org](http://ccsm-ucc.org). Prayers will be listed below for two weeks, unless otherwise requested.*

### Recent Prayer Requests:

Prayers for **Alice Morison**, who is in rehab at Brookside following an injury she suffered in a fall. She is in need of patience, she says.

**Candace Nagare** requests prayers for her friend **Sheila Young and her family** who lost her 20 year old grandson on New Year's Eve. His name is **Bradley Morse**.

Please hold **Sue Bullis** in your prayers. She is home from the hospital, recovering from pneumonia.

**Ongoing prayer requests:** **Lindsay**, family member of Genel Morgan; **Peter Pierson; Heather Morgan; Larry Anderson**, friend of Frank Garritano; **Joaquín**, Nadia Hernández father; **Sanjana**, friend of Susan & Warren Long; **Mike and Lee Mullery's nephew, Wally; 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; Caroline Reinke**.

## Bulletin Board

*If you wish to have an announcement added to the "Bulletin Board," please email Kim Rey at [kim@ccsm-ucc.org](mailto:kim@ccsm-ucc.org)*

**A reminder** to check the email address of any email you receive to be sure it is from Rev. Jessica. Several members have received bogus emails this week. Rev. Jessica emails from [jessica@ccsm-ucc.org](mailto:jessica@ccsm-ucc.org).

**Super Bowl Potluck Party, February 8, 3 - 7pm in Kloss Hall:** Join us for an evening of football, food, and fun for all ages! Whether you're here for the game, the commercials, or just the company, there is a spot for you at the table. We'll provide the pizza and entertainment; we simply ask that you bring a snack or side dish to share. Come make some memories with the whole church family.

**The Village Pub is Back on a New Night, Tuesday, February 10, 7 - 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!

**Memorial Planning Second Hour, February 12, 12 - 1pm in the Buckham Room:** Join Rev. Jessica and Chase Montara for a second-hour session on the practical and spiritual elements of memorial planning. Learn how to personalize a service and ease the burden on loved ones through early preparation. All are welcome to attend this supportive Q&A session.

**Z Quartet Musical Tapas II, February 21, 5:30 - 7:45pm:** The Z Quartet returns for "Musical Tapas II," featuring a global variety of string music from Mendelssohn to 2024 modern works. This free community event at Kloss Hall includes a 5:30PM reception and post-concert cookies, but please RSVP for planning! Add'l info: <https://tinyurl.com/2fsh9hkh> RSVP: <https://tinyurl.com/bd9ywe5w>

**Pick-A-Vent Sign Up, February 22 at 9:45am:** Don't miss your chance to sign up for a Pick-A-Vent (formerly Pick-A-Party) and support CCSM. We have some great activities in the works that will be available on February 8, and mark your calendars for **February 22** when the full list of events will be open for sign-ups! Questions, email Robert Leung ([robert.leung@gmail.com](mailto:robert.leung@gmail.com)).

**Creation Care Program, February 28, 1 - 4pm:** Join us at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Redwood City for a free program featuring renowned climate advocate Rev. Jim Antal. Please sign up below to explore the moral challenge of the climate crisis through an inspiring keynote and interactive breakout groups! (<https://tinyurl.com/2ydp4nt6>)

**CYF Family Bowling Night, March 1, 4:30 - 6:30pm:** Families with children and youth of all ages are invited for an evening of bowling, pizza, and arcade games (\$15/bowler)! You don't have to bowl to join the fun — we'd love to have everyone there! Sign up today on the Church Center app to join us in a night of fun and fellowship!

**Nourishing Our Youth:** Support our youth by providing a light supper for 15 people on a Sunday evening at 5:00 PM. Whether you cook or order in, your hospitality helps turn our program into a community—sign up here! [tinyurl.com/mts7jyh8](https://tinyurl.com/mts7jyh8)

**2026-27 Scholarship Applications Now Open!** CCSM is proud to support our students' educational journeys. If you or a student you know (High School Senior, College, or Grad School) is active in our congregation, please apply for our 2026-27 scholarships! Applications are available now—help us spread the word to the next generation of scholars. Due April 1, 2026. Find more information on our website. [ccsm-ucc.org/families/#scholarships](https://ccsm-ucc.org/families/#scholarships)

**Join the Bell Choir:** Our Bell Choir will begin rehearsal during Lent on Sunday, February 22nd. We invite you to make this a Lenten practice to play bells during Eastertide- no experience required! Talk to Ondine Young during Coffee Hour or email her at [ondine@ccsm-ucc.org](mailto:ondine@ccsm-ucc.org).



**Do You Have our new Church Center app?** Church Center is a user-friendly mobile app and web platform designed to help you stay connected with CCSM wherever you are. Download on Google Play or the App Store and search for the Congregational Church of San Mateo.

# Calendar

visit [\*\*CCSM-ucc.org/events\*\*](http://ccsm-ucc.org/events) for the full calendar of events and meetings

## **Sunday, February 1**

9:15 - 10:00 AM	<b>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b> , Sanctuary
9:45 - 10:15 AM	<b>Joyful Noise Choir Rehearsal</b> , Fireplace Room
10:30 - 11:30 AM	<b>Worship Service</b> in person and online (FB and YouTube)
10:45 - 11:30 AM	<b>Children &amp; Youth Faith Formation</b> , Christian Education (CE) Building
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM	<b>Coffee Hour</b> , Kloss Hall
4:00 - 5:00 PM	<b>Children, Youth &amp; Families (CYF) Faith Formation</b> , CE Building
5:00 - 5:30 PM	<b>CYF Supper</b> , CE Building
5:30 - 6:30 PM	<b>Youth Group (6-12th grade)</b>

## **Monday, February 2**

4:00 - 6:00 PM	<b>Samaritan House Meal Service</b> . Kloss Hall
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## **Tuesday, February 3**

10:00 - 11:00 AM	<b>Men's Coffee Group</b> , Hillsdale Mall Terrace; contact Peter Held, <a href="mailto:paheld1417@gmail.com">paheld1417@gmail.com</a>
4:00 - 6:00 PM	<b>Samaritan House Meal Service</b> , Kloss Hall

## **Wednesday, February 4**

4:00 - 6:00 PM	<b>Samaritan House Meal Service</b> , Kloss Hall
7:15 - 8:45 PM	<b>Bilingual (Spanish/English) Worship Service</b> , Kloss Hall

## **Thursday, February 5**

9:00 -10:30 AM	<b>Casual Bike Rider's Group</b>
10:15 - 11:30 AM	<b>Women's Coffee Group</b> , Fireplace Room
4:00 - 6:00 PM	<b>Samaritan House Meal Service</b> , Kloss Hall
7:30 - 9:00 PM	<b>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b> , Sanctuary

## **Friday, February 6**

4:00 - 6:00 PM	<b>Samaritan House Meal Service</b> , Kloss Hall
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## **Saturday, February 7**

8:30 - 10:30 AM	<b>CC Riders Weekly Bike Ride</b> ; contact Peter Held, <a href="mailto:paheld1417@gmail.com">paheld1417@gmail.com</a>
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## **Sunday, February 8**

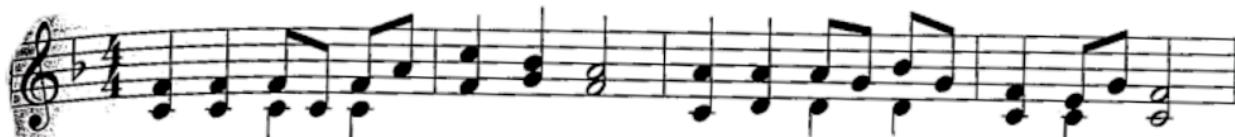
9:15 - 10:00 AM	<b>Chancel Choir Rehearsal</b> , Sanctuary
9:45 - 10:15 AM	<b>Joyful Noise Choir Rehearsal</b> , Fireplace Room
10:30 - 11:30 AM	<b>Worship Service</b> in person and online (FB and YouTube)
10:45 - 11:30 AM	<b>Children &amp; Youth Faith Formation</b> , CE Building
11:30 - 12:30 PM	<b>Coffee Hour</b> , Kloss Hall
12:00 - 2:00 PM	<b>Innovation Lab Team Meeting</b> , CE Building
3:00 - 7:00 PM	<b>Super Bowl Party</b> , Buckingham Room



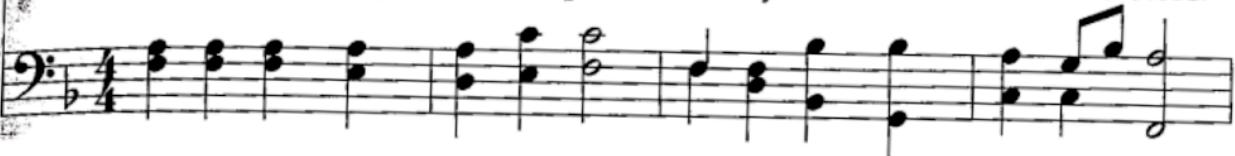
For Staff, CCSM Board, and Ministries leads, go to [ccsm-ucc.org/welcome/#staff](http://ccsm-ucc.org/welcome/#staff) or scan the QR code. To contact your CCSM Board, email [Board@ccsm-ucc.org](mailto:Board@ccsm-ucc.org). To contact anyone in the Council of Ministries, email [COM@ccsm-ucc.org](mailto:COM@ccsm-ucc.org).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

# Take My Life

609



1. Take my life, and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee.
2. Take my hands, and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love.
3. Take my voice, and let me sing; un - to God my praise I bring.
4. Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;
5. Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no lon - ger mine.
6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its trea - sure store.



1. Take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in
2. Take my feet, and let them be swift and beau - ti -
3. Take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa -
4. Take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - ery power as
5. Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy
6. Take my - self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly,



1. cease - less praise, let them flow in cease - less praise.
2. ful for thee, swift and beau ti ful for thee.
3. ges from thee, filled with mes sa - ges from thee.
4. thou shalt choose, ev ery power as thou shalt choose.
5. roy - al throne, it shall be thy roy al throne.
6. all for thee, ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.



## Refrain

## Let Justice Roll Like a River



Let jus - tice roll like a riv - er, and



wash all op - pres - sion a - way; Come, O



God, and take us, move and shake us,



Come now, and make us a - new, that



we might live just - ly like you.

*Last time*

## Verse 1



1. Take from me your ho - ly feasts, all your of - f'rings and your  
mu - sic; Let jus - tice flow like wa - ters, and in -  
teg - ri-ty like an ev - er-flow-ing stream.

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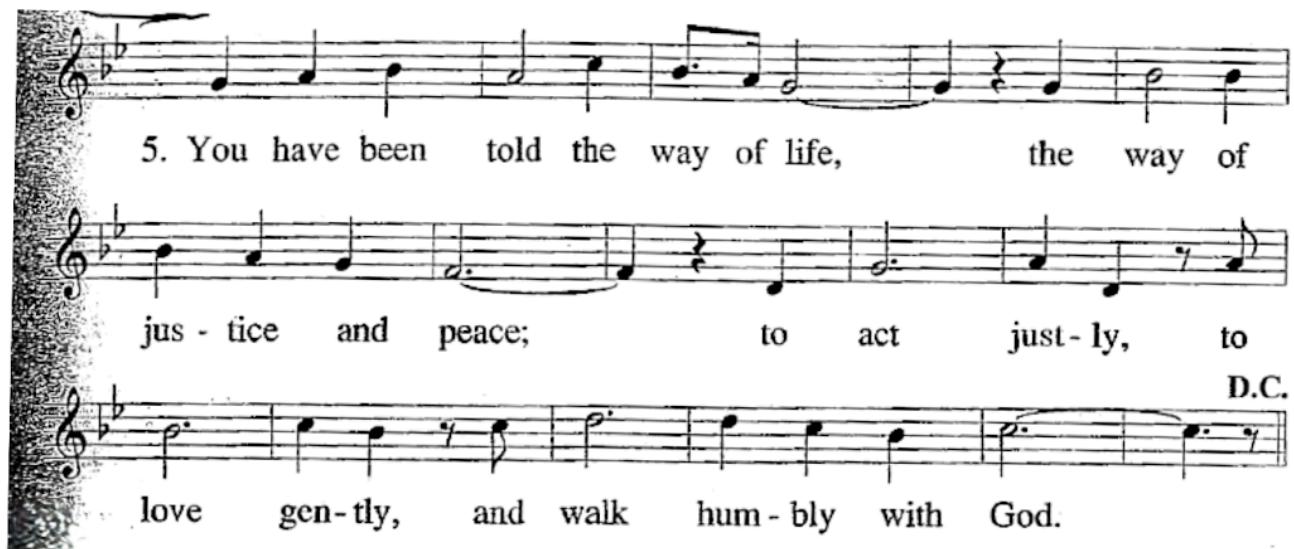
## Verse 2



2. How long shall we wait, O God, for the day of your  
mer - cy to dawn, the day we beat our  
swords in-to ploughs, when your peace reigns o - ver the earth?

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## Verse 5



5. You have been told the way of life, the way of  
jus - tice and peace; to act just - ly, to  
love gen - tly, and walk hum - bly with God.

D.C.

# Our Guiding Principles:

**We are a Spiritual Community**

**We are Christian**

**We are God's Hands, Feet and Face**

**We are Inclusive**

**We are Open Minded**

**We are Evolving**

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We are a certified  
Cool Congregation  
of  
**Interfaith  
Power & Light**