



Congregational Church
of San Mateo
Iglesia Congregacional de San Mateo

Sunday, February 8
Fifth 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 el servicio de traducción (inglés-español). Por favor, diríjase a un acomodador si necesita ayuda o más información

Prelude

Near to the Heart of God
MCAFEE arranged by Lani Smith

C.J. Briggs

Welcome

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

↑ **Call to Worship**

Jacqui Stultz

Leader: Come, all who hunger for a faith that matters.
Come, all who long for light when the darkness is hard to see through.

All: We come seeking God’s presence and God’s truth.

Leader: God is not impressed by empty rituals or polished prayers. God desires a faith that loosens the bonds of injustice and restores what has been broken.

All: Teach us, Holy One, what kind of worship you desire.

Leader: Jesus tells us: You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world.

All: Help us live the faith we proclaim.

Leader: Let us worship the One who calls us to repair the breach, to shine with compassion, and to live in courageous love.

↑ **Opening Song**

God is Here! As We Your People Meet

NCH #70, vs. 1-3

God is here! As we your people meet to offer praise and prayer,
May we find in fuller measure what it is in Christ we share.
Here, as in the world around us, all our varied skills and arts
wait the coming of the Spirit into open minds and hearts.

Here are symbols to remind us of our lifelong need of grace;
Here are table, font, and pulpit, here the cross has central place.
Here in honesty of preaching, here in silence, as in speech,
here, in newness and renewal, God the Spirit comes to each.

Here our children find a welcome in the Shepherd's flock and fold;
Here as bread and wine are taken, Christ sustains us as of old.
Here the servants of the Servant seek in worship to explore
what it means in daily living to believe and to adore.

↑ **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

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

CH #305

Sing two times through

Music located at the back of your bulletin.

Congregational Prayer

Rev. Álvaro Durán

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 líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria, ahora y por siempre. Amén

SF SafeHouse works to empower and support women who are experiencing housing instability and sexual exploitation or trafficking, by creating survivor-centered spaces, services, advocacy, and community education. Women experience homelessness and the street economy much differently than their male counterparts. San Francisco Safe House is the only long term transitional housing program focused on supporting adult survivors of sexual exploitation and trafficking in San Francisco.

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

We Shall Walk in Peace
traditional arr. Undine Smith Moore

Chancel Choir

Scripture

Isaiah 58: 1-12

Jacqui Stultz

Shout out; do not hold back! Lift up your voice like a trumpet! Announce to my people their rebellion, to the house of Jacob their sins. Yet day after day they seek me and delight to know my ways, as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness and did not forsake the ordinance of their God; they ask of me righteous judgments; they want God on their side. "Why do we fast, but you do not see? Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?" Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day and oppress all your workers. You fast only to quarrel and to fight and to strike with a wicked fist.

Such fasting as you do today will not make your voice heard on high. Is such the fast that I choose, a day to humble oneself? Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush and to lie in sackcloth and ashes? Will you call this a fast, a day acceptable to the LORD? Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them and not to hide yourself from your own kin? Then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly; your vindicator shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard; Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, "Here I am."

If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually and satisfy your needs in parched places and make your bones strong, and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in.

Sermon

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

↑ **Closing Hymn**

*This Little Light of Mine**

NCH #525, 1-3

**This was the favorite song of civil rights activist Fannie Lou Hamer, who could sing as well as she could give powerful speeches. During that era this spiritual was sometimes modified and sung as "This little light of freedom"*

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, this little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine...

All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine...

↑ **Benediction**

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

↑ **Choral Response***

Chancel Choir

**Please remain standing for the choral response*

Postlude

I Need Thee Every Hour
arranged by Emma Lou Diemer

C.J. Briggs

Music in today's bulletin printed with permission, CCLI #11035805. CCSM endeavors to use inclusive language in our worship services. Exceptions occur when we must be compliant with copyright laws.

Special thanks to those helping with today's service:

Our Liturgical Arts volunteers: Pam Ridlehuber & Annette Daniels

Our Coffee Hour Hosts: Kathy & Tony Gallo

Our musicians leading worship: Dr. Ondine Young, Chancel Choir, C.J. Briggs

Musicians may contact 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. Prayers will be listed below for two weeks, unless otherwise requested.

Recent Prayer Requests:

Alice Morison was discharged to home this week after a successful stay at rehab.

Peter Pierson has been transferred to hospice at the VA in Palo Alto. He welcomes visitors. Please reach out to the church office or Rev. Jessica for more information.

Chona Tintero requests prayers for her friend, **Lina Alfonso**, who is recovering from surgery for a brain tumor. She will start radiation treatment in a few weeks.

Chona also requests that we continue to pray for **Feljohn Rencap**, who is struggling with ALS and is hoping for a miracle.

Ongoing prayer requests: **Alice Morison; Sue Bullis; 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 Tintero's friend, **Feljohn Rencap; 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

Super Bowl Potluck Party, TODAY! 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 15, 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.

Ash Wednesday Service, February 18, 7pm: Join this special multi-church ASH Wednesday bilingual service with our Wednesday Latino/a members, Rev. Alvaro and Rev. Jessica. We will have special music with Rosa Los Santos and the CCP band. Churches from around the Peninsula will be joining us for this special service. Potluck dinner to follow. All are invited and welcome to attend!

Music & Art Guild, February 20 at noon. Come to the Buckham Room to meet Antonio Lopez, the Poet Laureate of San Mateo County. As a former East Palo Alto Mayor and author of *Gentefication*, Antonio will share work exploring the intersection of art, policy, and social change. Bring your lunch; dessert is provided!

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. The list of activities are available in the Narthex and clickable pdf will be available in Connection next week. Mark your calendars for **February 22** when the full list of events will be open for sign-ups!

Traditional Spanish Service, beginning February 22, 4 - 5pm: Join us for our Spanish-language Lenten services every Sunday afternoon at 4:00 PM, featuring translation devices for all who need them. Afterward, everyone is invited to the Fireplace Room for coffee and treats.

Creation Care Program, February 28, 1 - 4pm: Note change of venue. Join us [here](#) at CCSM 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 under Registrations to join us in a night of fun and fellowship! Or email kim@ccsm-ucc.org.

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.



church center

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](https://ccsm-ucc.org/events) for the full calendar of events and meetings

Sunday, February 8

9:15 - 10:00 AM

9:45 - 10:15 AM

10:30 - 11:30 AM

10:45 - 11:30 AM

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

12:00 - 2:00 PM

3:00 - 7:00 PM

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Joyful Noise Choir Rehearsal, Fireplace Room

Worship Service in person and online (FB and YouTube)

Children & Youth Faith Formation, Christian Education (CE) Building

Coffee Hour, Kloss Hall

Innovation Lab Team Meeting, CE Building

Super Bowl Party Potluck, Kloss Hall & Buckham Room

Monday, February 9

11:00 - 1:30 PM
1:00 - 2:30 PM
4:00 - 6:00 PM

Women at the Well group, Fireplace Room
Burlingame Music Club, Kloss Hall
Samaritan House Meal Service, Kloss Hall

Tuesday, February 10

10:00 - 11:00 AM
4:00 - 6:00 PM
7:00 - 8:30 PM

Men's Coffee Group, Hillsdale Mall Terrace; contact Peter Held, paheld1417@gmail.com
Samaritan House Meal Service, Kloss Hall
Village Pub, Fireplace Room

Wednesday, February 11

4:00 - 6:00 PM
7:15 - 8:45 PM

Samaritan House Meal Service, Kloss Hall
Bilingual (Spanish/English) Worship Service, Kloss Hall

Thursday, February 12

10:15 - 11:30 AM
4:00 - 6:00 PM
7:30 - 9:00 PM

Women's Coffee Group, Fireplace Room
NO Samaritan House Meal Service today
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, sanctuary

Friday, February 13

4:00 - 6:00 PM

Samaritan House Meal Service, Kloss Hall

Saturday, February 14

8:30 - 10:30 AM

CC Riders Weekly Bike Ride; contact Peter Held, paheld1417@gmail.com

Sunday, February 15

9:15 - 10:00 AM
9:45 - 10:15 AM
10:30 - 11:30 AM
10:45 - 11:30 AM
11:30 - 12:30 PM
11:30 - 12:15 PM
12:00 - 1:00 PM
4:00 - 5:00 PM
5:00 - 5:30 PM
5:30 - 6:30 PM

Chancel Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
Joyful Noise Choir Rehearsal, Fireplace Room
Worship Service in person and online (FB and YouTube)
Children & Youth Faith Formation, CE Building
Coffee Hour, Kloss Hall
Open Cathedral Sandwich Making, Kloss Hall Kitchen
Second Hour: Memorial Planning, Buckham Room
CYF Faith Formation, CE Building
CYF Supper, CE Building
Youth Group (6-12th grade), 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

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305 Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing, Lord, send your spir-it

in this place; Lord, lis-ten to your chil-dren pray-ing,

send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace. grace!

1 (optional) Final

Tell me something good
Grounding ourselves in the Good News this Lent

Ash Wednesday 2026
The Good News is...
All are Invited

February 18th 2026 7:00PM
225 Tilton Ave
San Mateo CA 94401