

Sunday, July 5, 2026

250th Anniversary of the
Declaration of Independence

Congregational
Church of San Mateo
Iglesia Congregacional de San Mateo

Welcome to CCSM!

We are so glad you're here! To celebrate your visit, we'd love to make a \$5 donation on your behalf to a charity of your choice. Supporting 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!**



Children & Youth

We love having kids at CCSM! Please choose the option that works best for your family today:

- **Stay in the Service:** Children and youth are always welcome in the Sanctuary! Feel free to grab toys/activities/color sheets from the basket at the Kids Table in the Narthex.
- **Go to Faith Formation:** During the Passing of the Peace, kids (up to 5th grade) are invited to head to the Christian Education Building with our leaders. Parents are welcome to walk them over.



church center

Pick-up: If your kids attend Faith Formation, you can meet them in their program room or Kloss Hall during Coffee Hour.

Get Connected We'd love to get to know you!

- **Connect Card:** Fill one out and drop it in the offering plate or hand it to a greeter. Or fill out the "Contact Us" form at ccsm-ucc.org.
- **Stay in the Loop:** Email kim@ccsm-ucc.org to get our weekly *Connections* newsletter, *Worship Links*, or biweekly *Family Scoop*.
- **Get the App:** Download the Church Center app on Google Play/App Store (Search: Congregational Church of San Mateo)

- **Follow Us:**  @ccsmucc  ccsm.ucc  ccsmMediaChannel  tinyurl.com/CCSMspotify

Accesibilidad / Accessibility

En el nártex hay dispositivos de asistencia auditiva e instrucciones para traducción (inglés-español). Por favor, diríjase a un acomodador si necesita ayuda.

Order of Service

↑ Please rise | Spoken together | Music |  Sung together

Prelude

Simple Gifts
arr. A. Copland

Welcome

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

↑ Call to Worship

Carole Melis

Leader: Calling all citizens of heaven: exiled dreamers and disciples of love.

All: God is close to the outcast and faithful to all.

Leader: Calling all pilgrims of the Spirit, carried by the winds of hope,

All: God is everywhere at all times, compassionate to all.

Leader: Calling all travelers between worlds, who translate compassion into peace,

All: God makes neighbors of strangers and kin of the forgotten.

Leader: Come to worship and be renewed for this long journey.

All: Strangers in a strange land, we have come to worship the Creator of all.

↑  Opening Hymn

God is Here

#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. Jessica Vacketta

🎵 **Centering Song**

Let there Be Peace Earth

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be,
With God our creator, siblings all are we.
Let us walk with each other, in perfect harmony,

Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

Invitation to Offering

Special Offering: Venezuela
United Church of Christ

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

The United Church of Christ is launching an urgent appeal to support both immediate life-saving aid and long-term recovery. Working through our trusted partners on the ground like Global Ministries and ACT Alliance, we are delivering emergency relief to displaced families, distributing food and water, and offering pastoral care to those facing profound loss and trauma.

Give to CCSM with ease!

- **Church Center App:** Download the 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

Somewhere

Bernstein, lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Scripture Reading

Matthew 5:14-16

Carole Melis

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp and put it under the bushel basket; rather, they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your God in heaven.

Special Music

In this Time of Great Reflection

C.J. Briggs

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

We invite you to follow along with the words, located on the back page of your bulletin.

Homily

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

🎵 Sermon Response

In this Time of Great Reflection

vs. 4-5

(Music on back of bulletin)

Congregational Prayer

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

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. Amen.*

↑ 🎵 Song of Preparation

Doxology

Old 100th

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above the heavenly hosts;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

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. 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 vasos).*

Communion Meditation

For Everyone Born

↑ Closing Hymn

How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies

#594

How beautiful, our spacious skies, our amber waves of grain;
Our purple mountains as they rise above the fruitful plan.
America! America! God's gracious gifts abound,
And more and more we're grateful for life's bounty all around.

Indigenous and immigrant, our daughters and our sons:
O may we never rest content, till all are truly one.
America! America! God grant that we may be,
A sisterhood and brotherhood from sea to shining sea.

How beautiful, sincere lament, the wisdom born of tears,
the courage called for to repent the bloodshed through the years.
America! America! God grant that we may be
A nation blessed with none oppressed, true land of liberty.

How beautiful, two continents, and islands in the sea
That dream of peace, nonviolence, all people living free.
Americas! Americas! God grant that we may be
A hemisphere where people here all live in harmony.

↑ Benediction

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

Postlude

Waltz
Chopin

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:

Liturgical Arts volunteers: Betty Till; Preparing Communion: Ruth Dizon and Chona Tendero;

Coffee Hour Hosts: Teresa Gebler, Kay & Mike Harris;

Musicians leading worship: Carole Melis, Sue Bullis,

Dr. Ondine Young, C.J. Briggs, and the Hoffman Family

Musicians may contact ondine@ccsm-ucc.org to join the music ministry

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. To share a request, fill out a connect card in the pew and place it in our offering plate, give it to a minister,

visit ccsm-ucc.org or the Church App. Prayers will be listed below for two weeks, unless otherwise requested.

Recent Prayer Requests:

Rylee Corradini requests prayer for **Lena Respass**, who is hospitalized after a fall.

We hold **Annette Daniels** in prayer following the death of her sister, **Barbara Lee**, on June 19.

Prayers for **Joaquín, Nadia Hernández's father**, who is receiving palliative care.

Prayers for **Nicolasa, Josefina's mother**, who is fighting cancer.

Ongoing prayers: Jerry & Nancy Nugent; Joel Uribe, father of Victor de la Torre; **Andrew Lind; Kerry and Tom**, friends of Holly Allen; **Sabrina**, friend of Mike & Sue Hill; **Heather Morgan; Larry Anderson**, friend of Frank Garritano; **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 Leung; **Lani Leydig; Cheryl Granucci**; Allison Rock and Chris Wuthmann's friend, **Karen; Veril Phillips & Bev Knowlton; Mike & Lee Mullery, Dottie Scott**

Bulletin Board

CCSM IS HIRING A PART-TIME CUSTODIAN: We're looking for a dependable, service-oriented assistant for a consistent Sunday shift (7:00 AM – 3:30 PM, 8 hours guaranteed) with opportunities for additional event-based hours. If you know someone who is, please contact Chase Montara cmontara@ccsm-ucc.org.

SUPPORT THE BENCH & PLANTER PROJECT: We are transforming our outdoor area into a warmer, more welcoming space for conversation and rest, and we invite you to help bring this vision to life. To contribute any amount, visit Church Center Give page and select "Loggia Bench Project" from the drop-down menu.



BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY! BOBBY JO VALENTINE CONCERT • Saturday, July 18 • 7pm:

Acclaimed folk/pop artist Bobby Jo Valentine is performing at our church on Saturday, July 18 at 7:00 PM! Scan the QR code to buy tickets.

JULY IS JERICHO ROAD TO SUMMER REFRESH • July 5 - 19: Help us support our Samaritan House dining guests by donating full-sized toiletries (body wash, deodorant, 2-in-1 shampoo, hairbrushes), socks, hats, or mini first-aid kits to the box in the narthex. You can also donate via Church Center by selecting "Jericho Road." If you'd like to volunteer on distribution day, Tuesday, July 21, please contact Katherine at vegastultz@yahoo.com.

JOIN BELL CHOIR THIS SUMMER • Sundays, July 12- August 9 • 12 - 1pm: Looking for a fun way to connect this summer? Join CJ and Ondine for Handbells in the Choir Room on Sundays from 12:00 to 1:00 PM. No prior experience is needed, and everyone from upper elementary through adults is welcome! **Talk to Ondine and CJ at coffee hour after church to sign up or learn more, or in the choir room TODAY after worship.**

LIBRES EN CRISTO • Sundays, beginning, July 12 • 3pm Join us for ¡Libres en Cristo!, our first Spanish-language, LGBTQ+-affirming course exploring progressive faith from a Latino perspective, beginning Sunday, July 12 at 3pm. For more info or to join our inclusive community, **please contact Rev. Álvaro.**



INSPIRING DELEGATION TO EL SALVADOR • Nov 9 - 15 • Join a transformative pilgrimage to El Salvador to deepen your faith, walk in the footsteps of historic martyrs, and learn from local communities fighting for justice. Scan the QR code for more information.

Calendar visit CCSM-UCC.ORG/EVENTS or our **Church Center App** (click the calendar icon at the bottom of the homepage) for the full calendar of events and meetings.

Sunday, July 5

10:30 - 11:30 AM **Worship** in person and online (FB and YouTube)
 10:45 - 11:30 AM **Children & Youth Faith Formation**, CE Building
 11:30 - 12:30 PM **Coffee Hour**, Kloss Hall
 12:00 - 1:00 PM **Bell Choir Info session with CJ and Ondine**, Choir Room

Monday, July 6

12:00 - 1:00 PM **Posy Posse**, Kloss Kitchen
 4:00 - 6:00 PM **Samaritan House Meal Service**, Kloss Hall

Tuesday, July 7

10:00 - 11:00 AM **Men's Coffee Group**, Hillsdale Mall Terrace; contact Peter Held, paheld1417@gmail.com
 4:00 - 6:00 PM **Samaritan House Meal Service**, Kloss Hall
 7:00 - 9:00 PM **Circulo Mujeres ZUMBA**, Kloss Hall

Wednesday, July 8

4:00 - 6:00 PM **Samaritan House Meal Service**, Kloss Hall
 6:00 - 7:30 PM **Summer Youth Group**, Buckham Room
 7:15 - 8:30 PM **Bilingual Worship Service**, Kloss Hall

Thursday, July 9

9:00 - 10:30 AM **Casual Bike Rider's Group**, meet in Parking Lot
 10:15 - 11:30 AM **Women's Coffee Group**, Fireplace Room
 4:00 - 6:00 PM **Samaritan House Meal Service**, Kloss Hall
 7:00 - 9:00 PM **Circulo Mujeres ZUMBA**, Kloss Hall
 7:00 - 8:30 PM **Finance Committee Monthly Meeting**, hybrid, 3rd Fl. Conference Room

Friday, July 10

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

Saturday, July 11

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

Sunday, July 12

10:30 - 11:30 AM **Worship** in person and online (FB and YouTube)
 10:45 - 11:30 AM **Children & Youth Faith Formation**, CE Building
 11:30 - 12:30 PM **Coffee Hour**, Kloss Hall
 3:00 - 4:30 PM **Libres en Cristo**, Buckham Room



In This Time of Great Reflection

Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2026

Restoration

Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835



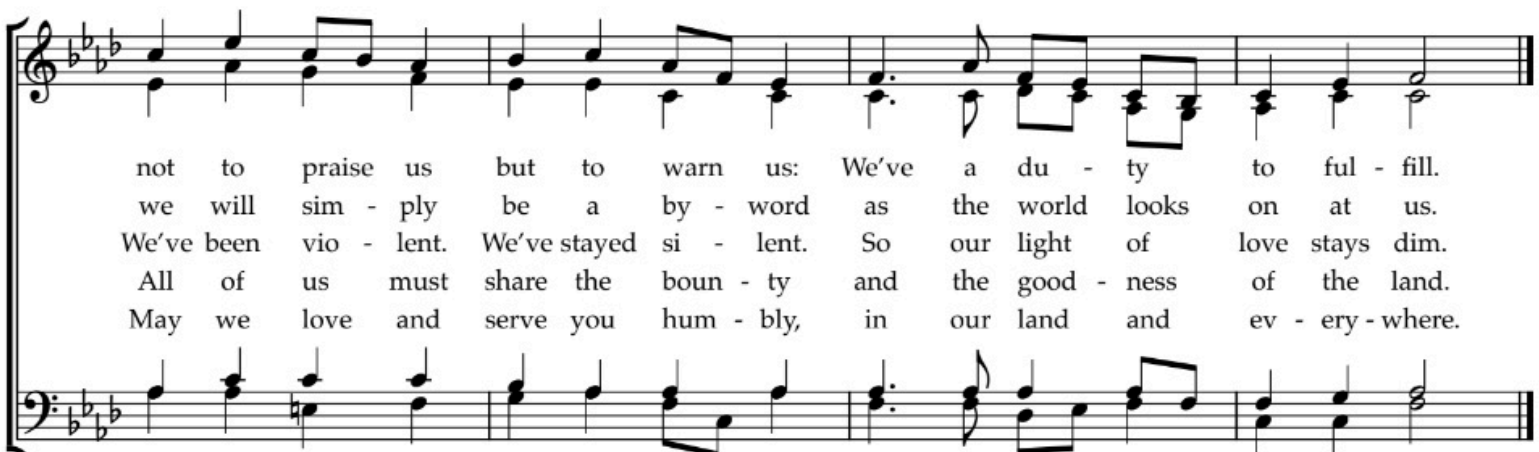
1. In this time of great re - flec - tion on two hun - dred fif - ty years,
2. Here is what holds us to - geth - er: Mer - cy, love, com - mu - ni - ty.
3. We re - call our na - tion's sto - ry. Keep us hon - est, God a - bove!
4. Will we work for ra - cial jus - tice? Will we turn from fear and hate?
5. In this time, O God, re - store us to the land we're called to be—



We re - mem - ber, as a na - tion, times we've pros - pered, times of tears.
We're to seek to care for neigh - bors in a just so - ci - e - ty.
In our quest for wealth and glo - ry, we have in - jured ones you love.
What is now the pub - lic wit - ness that you call us to cre - ate?
where all peo - ple here a - mong us know your blest com - mu - ni - ty.



"We shall be," a prea - cher told us, "as a ci - ty on a hill"—
If we fail to help the nee - dy and to build a land that's just,
Through en - slave - ment, through dis - place - ment, we have cho - sen ways of sin.
As we ce - le - brate our coun - try, help us, Lord, to un - der - stand:
May we seek to be that ci - ty, not with pride but as a prayer.



not to praise us but to warn us: We've a du - ty to ful - fill.
we will sim - ply be a by - word as the world looks on at us.
We've been vio - lent. We've stayed si - lent. So our light of love stays dim.
All of us must share the boun - ty and the good - ness of the land.
May we love and serve you hum - bly, in our land and ev - ery - where.