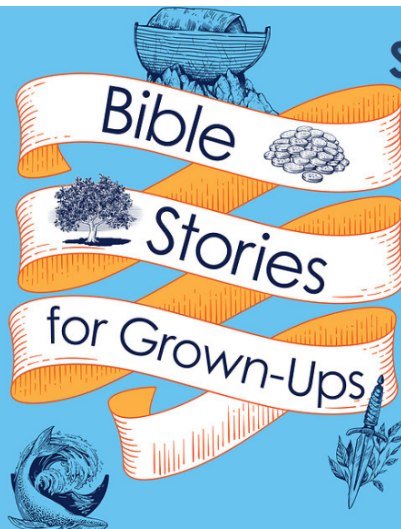


**Congregational Church
of San Mateo**
Iglesia Congregacional de San Mateo



Sunday, September 6, 2026

15th Sunday after
Pentecost

A worship series based on the
book by Josh Scott.

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:** After the passing of the peace, kids (up to 8th grade) are invited to head to the Christian Education Building with our leaders. Parents are welcome to walk them over.

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)



church center

- **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

C.J. Briggs

Welcome

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

↑ Call to Worship

Phil Lind

Leader: Come into the presence of God and open your hearts. There's no need to fear what may spill out.

All: In the dwelling place of the Sacred, we bring our whole selves.

Leader: Let anger speak its truth. Let hurt tell its story. Let sadness have the space to breathe.

All: The aches of the world echo through our spirits.

Leader: God meets us in all that we carry and invites us into a love larger than our own.

All: May our hearts grow wide with compassion as we worship the One whose mercy reaches farther than we can imagine.

↑ 🎵 Opening Hymn

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NCH #459

Come, O Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love.

Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,
come to trust at every turning, God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God,
Came to rescue me from danger, blessed body, precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I am drawn a-new!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known:
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your very own.

↑ Sharing the Peace

Rev. Álvaro Durán

Invitation to Offering

Puente

Puente serves the communities of Pescadero, LaHonda, Loma Mar and San Gregorio in the San Mateo County South Coast. Puente promotes and advocates for equitable access to health insurance, quality education, affordable housing and employment for this population which often experiences racial oppression and discrimination. By advocating for these quality of life issues, Puente uplifts those that they serve.

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

Jonah Whale
By Connie Boss

C.J. Briggs

Scripture Reading

Phil Lind

Jonah 1:1-3

Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai, saying, “Go at once to Nineveh, that great city, and cry out against it, for their wickedness has come up before me.” But Jonah set out to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship going to Tarshish; so he paid his fare and went on board, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, “Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed God’s mind about the calamity that God had said would be brought upon them, and God did not do it.

Jonah 4:1-3, 10-11

But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning, for I knew that you are a gracious and merciful God, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from punishment. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live."

Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labor and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand persons who do not know their right hand from their left and also many animals?"

Sermon

"It's Not About the Fish"

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

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.

↑ Song of Preparation

Help Us Accept Each Other

CH #487 vs. 1-3

Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
we are ourselves accepted and meant to love and live.

Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life
we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them or as they may become.

Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
in living situations to do the truth in love;
to practice your acceptance, until we know by heart
the table of forgiveness and laughter's healing art.

Invitation to Communion

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).

Revs. Jessica Vacketta and Álvaro Durán

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

Hey Jonah
Bible/Bradbury

C.J. Briggs & Ondine Young

↑ 🎵 Closing Song

God Dismiss Us With Your Blessing

See Insert on Back Page

↑ Sending Forth & Benediction

Rev. Jessica Vacketta

Postlude

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 Volunteer: Annette Daniels

Communion Preparers: Ruth Dizon and Chona Tendero

Coffee Hour Volunteers: Thaniel van Amerongen; Amy Occhiuto, Mia Rossi, & Norma Searle

Musicians leading worship: C.J. Briggs and Ondine Young, Chancel Choir

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:

We hold **Julien Phillips'** friend, **Sharmeen**, in our prayers as she recovers from a recent surgery in her fight with cancer.

We give thanks to God for **Fernanda Baez's** successful surgery and encouraging start to her recovery, and for **Evan's** safe return to the United States.

Genel Morgan requests prayers for her cousin's husband **Terry** who has been diagnosed with a new cancerous tumor in his lung in the midst of a long battle with this disease.

This week we learned of **Dorothy "Dottie" Scott's** passing on August 17 at age 96. We hold her daughter **Nancy Schaffer** and family in our prayers at this time. There will be a private family service in the East Bay in the coming weeks.

We hold the **people of Nepal**, families, friends, rescue workers, tourists, and loved ones around the globe in our prayers following the devastating floods this past week.

Please keep **Nancy Nugent** in your prayers who is in the hospital in **Palo Alto** fighting an infection.

Sue and Mike Hill ask for prayers for **Sue's brother, Barry LaClair**, who is going through many medical issues and will be in the hospital for at least another week.

Ongoing prayers: **Sue Young**, Ondine's Mom; **Terri and Gary Bullis**, Sue Bullis' family members; **Lena Respress**, Rylee Corradini's family member; **Nicolasa**, Josefina's mother; **Jerry & Nancy Nugent**; **Joel Uribe**, father of Victor de la Torre; **Andrew Lind**; **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**; **Bev Knowlton**; **Mike & Lee Mullery**

Bulletin Board

Please join us in welcoming **our new part-time custodian, Phillip Lopez**, who will be with us now each Sunday!

Our office will be **closed on Monday, September 7th** in observance of Labor Day.

JOIN THE CHOIR! Do you love to sing? Are you looking for an opportunity to connect outside of worship? Join our CCSM Chancel Choir! Choir rehearsals are Sundays at 9:15am and Thursday evenings. For rehearsal times and location, email Ondine@ccsm-ucc.org or sandra.j.mcnabb@gmail.com. All voices, ages, and abilities welcome!

HELP STOCK THE BLESSING BOX • Sunday, September 13 • Join MSJ for Coffee Happy Hour on September 13th and help stock our Blessing Box! We kindly ask you to bring 1–2 small-to-medium protein items—like canned chicken, SPAM, chili, peanut butter, or shelf-stable milk—to help care for our neighbors.

MUSIC & ART GUILD SEASON KICKOFF • Friday, September 18 • Kick off the Music & Art Guild's new season at 12 p.m. in the Buckham Room & Sanctuary with a live performance of C.J. Briggs's original Seventh Piano Sonata, dessert, and updates on the 2026–2027 schedule and Pat Pepper memorial. Attendees are asked to bring their own lunch, prepare to pay \$25 in annual dues, and RSVP to Genel Morgan, glmrn12@gmail.com.

COASTAL COMMUNITY CLEAN UP • Saturday, September 19 • Join us for coastal cleanup with the Coastside Land Trust on Saturday, September 19, from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at Venice Beach! Supplies are provided, so if you'd like to join the CCSM group or carpool from the church, contact Katherine Stultz or Thaniel van Amerongen.

SLOW READ BOOK CLUB RESUMES THIS SEPTEMBER • Monday, September 21 • 11AM - 12:30PM • Join us on Monday, September 21 as we kick off with *How We Learn to Be Brave: Decisive Moments in Life and Faith* by Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde. For questions, book suggestions, or help getting a copy, please contact Betsy Woodward or Siew Kang.

SUPPORT MENTAL HEALTH WITH TEAM CCSM AT NAMIWALKS • Saturday, Oct. 3rd • Join our church team as we walk for mental health awareness. To register with CCSM or get more details, email Katherine at vegastultz@yahoo.com or visit namiwalks.org.

ANIMAL BLESSING • Saturday, October 3 • 4PM • FRONT LAWN Join us for a special Animal Blessing service on the Feast of St. Francis (the patron saint of animals because of his love and respect for all creation). Bring your furry (and non-furry) friends for a blessing and a chance to connect with other animal loving members of our community. All animals are welcome, but we do ask that you please keep pets on a leash or in your arms during the service.

CHILDREN'S & YOUTH GROUPs • Our new Youth Group schedule for 1st–12th graders is officially underway! We now meet every Sunday from 12:00 to 1:00 PM in the Community Room. Kids and youth are connecting faith to daily life through games, service projects, and creative ideas in a fun, flexible environment. Plus, don't forget our Sunday morning lineup: **Joyful Noise Choir at 9:45 AM** and **Faith Formation at 10:45 AM**.

BLESSING BOX VOLUNTEERS • The Ministry of Service and Justice needs volunteers to keep our Blessing Box stocked! You can help either on a regular Sunday morning schedule or as an on-call backup when others are away. To sign up or learn more, please email Sharon Tobin, sharonrn30@hotmail.com.

HELP KEEP COFFEE HOUR GOING • We need co-hosts to bring sweet or savory treats to share. We have openings the remainder of the year. It's a simple, wonderful way to welcome newcomers and bless our community. To sign up, please email **Melodie Lew** boygie.m2000@yahoo.com and she'll send you a sign up link.

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. A weekly events list is posted on the pillar in the Narthex.

Our Guiding Principles:

We are a Spiritual Community

We are Christian

We are God's Hands, Feet and Face

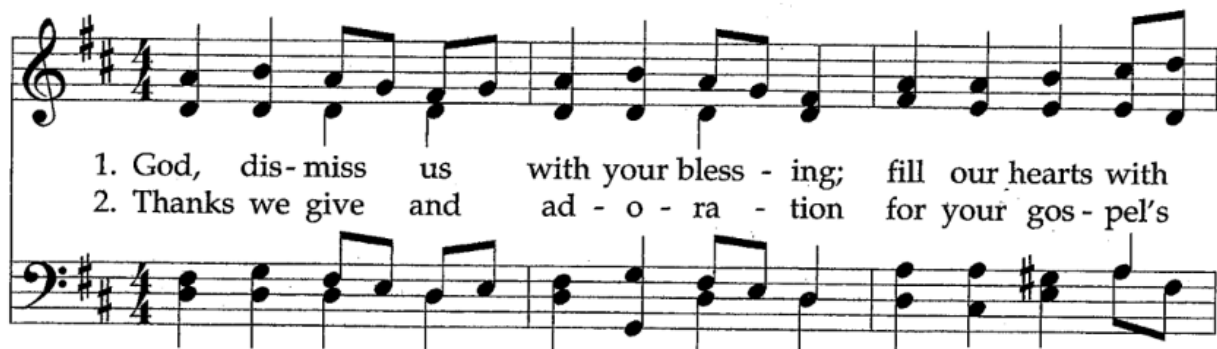
We are Inclusive

We are Open Minded

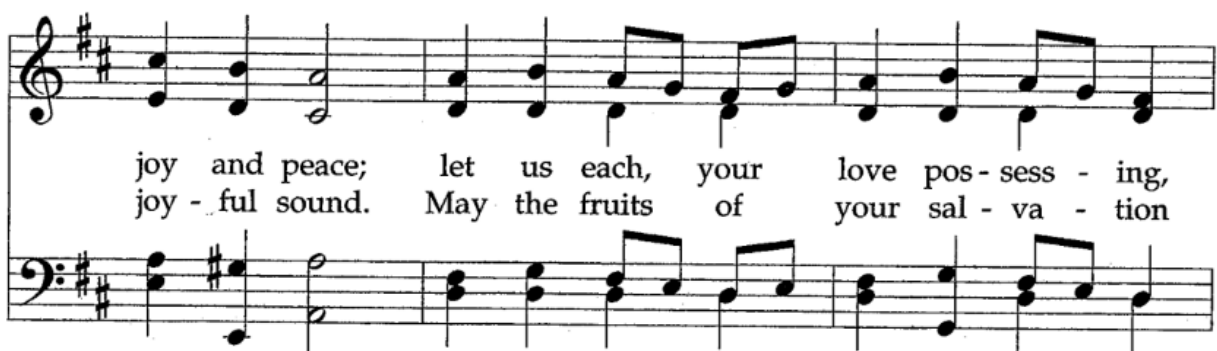
We are Evolving



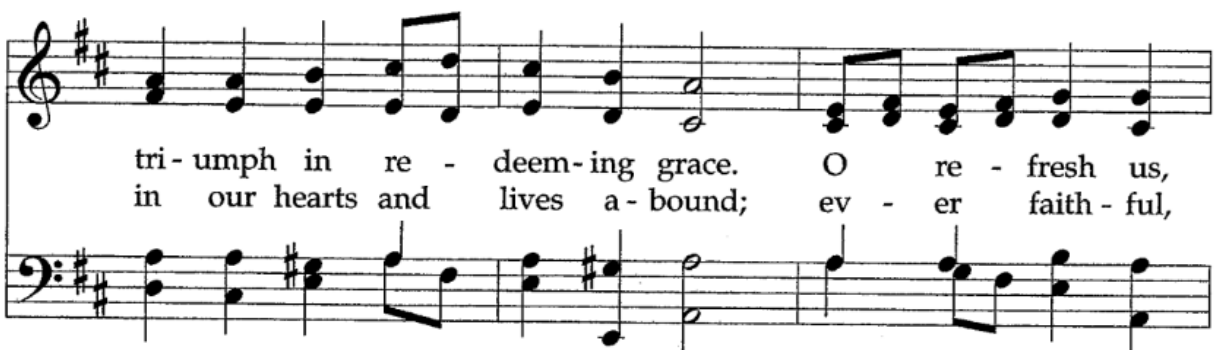
439 God, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing



1. God, dis-miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with
2. Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for your gos - pel's



joy and peace; let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,
joy - ful sound. May the fruits of your sal - va - tion



tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace. O re - fresh us,
in our hearts and lives a - bound; ev - er faith - ful,



O re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
ev - er faith - ful to the truth may we be found.

WORDS: Attr. John Fawcett, 1773, alt.

MUSIC: *The European Magazine and Review*, 1792; harm. *The Methodist Hymn and Tune Book*, 1889, alt.

SICILIAN MARINERS

.87.87.87