Congregational Church
of San Mateo
Iglesia Congregacional de San Mateo

Sunday, November 15
25th Sunday after Pentecost

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

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 after church.

- **No Youth Group today** as Corinn has an Innovation Lab meeting. We're excited to see everyone next week!

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 *Prelude in G minor BuxWV 149* C.J. Briggs
Dietrich Buxtehude

Introit *We Are Walking* Joyful Noise & Chancel Choir

Welcome Rev. Jessica Vacketta

↑ **Call to Worship** Martha Bronitsky

Leader: In a world where fear and uncertainty weigh heavily upon us,

All: **We gather in faith, love, and hope.**

Leader: When the troubles of the world threaten to overwhelm us,

All: **We will not turn away from one another.**

Leader: We are called to stay awake, to notice, to care, and to love.

All: **For we are children of light.**

Leader: So come, beloved, let us encourage one another and build each other up.

All: **Together, we will shine with God's love!**

↑♬ **Opening Hymn** *The Church of Christ, In Every Age* #306

The church of Christ, in every age beset by change, but Spirit led,
Must claim and test its heritage and keep on rising from the dead.

Across the world, across the street, the victims of injustice cry
For shelter and for bread to eat, and never live before they die.

Then let the servant church arise, a caring church that longs to be
A partner in Christ's sacrifice, and clothed in Christ's humanity.

↑ **Sharing the Peace** Rev. Jessica Vacketta

♬ **Centering Song** C.J. Briggs

Invitation to Offering Homework Central Benjamin York

Homework Central provides free after-school tutoring, 1-on-1 homework help, and enrichment activities to students right here in San Mateo. By partnering with local schools and families, they help children build confidence and achieve academic success. Community volunteers are at the heart of their mission. Today we welcome the new director Ben York. To learn more, visit homework-central.org.

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.

If you made a pledge for 2026, this is a good moment to check in on it. With just a couple of months left in the year, every pledge fulfilled helps us finish well.

2026 Annual Giving Update:

Pledged for this year: $507,409.28
Received to date: $451, 683.69

Offertory *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace* Chancel Choir
Templey/Neary

Scripture Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 Martha Bronitsky

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober, for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober and put on the breastplate of faith and love and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Sermon Children of the Light Rev. Jessica Vacketta

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. 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.

Thanksgiving for the Innovation Team Rev. Jessica Vacketta

Team Members: Rev. Álvaro Durán, Corinn Morrison, Frank Garritano, Imelda Navarro, Rev. Jessica Vacketta (co-lead), Julien Phillips (co-lead), Kim Rey, Matthew Bunn, Rocío Perez
Former Members: Holly Allen and Kibbie Ruth

In May 2025, our Innovation Team began an eighteen-month journey with the Ministry Transformation Lab, listening to families and shaping a new Family Connections Café. Today we give thanks for their work and promise to carry it forward together.

Team response: **God has journeyed with us. Thanks be to God.**

Congregation response: **We will, and we ask God to journey with u**

↑♬ Closing Song *This Little Light of Mine* #524

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 shine...let it shine...let it shine.

This...joy I have, the world didn't give it to me. This...joy I have, the world didn't give it to me.
This...joy I have, the world didn't give it to me.
No the world didn' t give, the world can't take it away.

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 shine...let it shine...let it shine.

↑Sending Forth & Benediction Rev. Jessica Vacketta

Postlude *Fugue in G minor BWV 578* C.J. Briggs
J.S. Bach

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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: Pam Ridlehuber & Marilyn Cintel
Coffee Hour Hosts: Gary White & Betty Till; Linda Stoick
Musicians leading worship: C.J. Briggs, Dr. Ondine Young, Joyful Noise and the Chancel Choir



Make your Estimate of Giving pledge today and invest in CCSM's ministry and mission. 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

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.

Please pray for all who are impacted by ICE activity in our community, especially those living in fear, those detained, and families separated. May they know safety, comfort, and the support of neighbors who stand beside them.

Linda Skromme is proud to announce the birth of her grandson **Benjamin O'Hara** on October 30. Parents, Kristin O'Hara and Greg O'Hara, and big brother Lucas are overjoyed by the new family addition.

Ongoing prayers: Ondine Young and Family**; Pablo Rubio; Connie Harris; Terri and Gary Bullis,** Sue Bullis' family members; **Lena Respess,** Rylee Corradini's family member; **Nicolasa**, Josefina's mother; **Jerry Nugent; Andrew Lind**; **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

TOMORROW! THE EXAMINED LIFE SPEAKER SERIES • Mon, November 16 • 7PM - 8:30PM • We are excited to launch our new series, *The Examined Life*, featuring Stanford Psychology Professor Gregory Walton, PhD, author of *Ordinary Magic*. Dr. Walton's work invites us to reimagine the everyday moments of our lives to unlock deeper purpose. Go here, to buy tickets! https://tinyurl.com/4xvb6a5t

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING • Tuesday, Nov 17, at 6:30pm Hybrid • All are welcome to attend the next Board of Directors meeting, which will be held in the Buckham room and via Zoom: tinyurl.com/ycka2zcw

IM4HI'S 25TH ANNIVERSARY BENEFIT CONCERT CCSM • Thursday, Nov 19 • CCSM is proud to help sponsor **Love Over Fear**, celebrating Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity standing alongside immigrants and formerly incarcerated neighbors. For more info, https://tinyurl.com/3vfype75

MUSIC & ART GUILD • Friday, Nov 20 • 12pm • Bring your lunch and enjoy provided desserts and drinks as we listen to another great performance by Bella Voce, a women's choral group featuring many CCSM members. The group will sing a range of music, from sacred and 40's tunes to Broadway musical hits and current compositions.

THANKSGIVING POTLUCK SERVICE • Wednesday, Nov 25 • 7:00 • Join us for a special bilingual event led by Revs. Jessica and Álvaro. 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 side dish or dessert!

2ND ANNUAL FAMILY TREE LIGHTING FESTIVAL • Sunday, Nov 29 • 5 - 7pm • 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 with a live tree. Help make this event a success by signing up here https://tinyurl.com/45xye236

MUSICAL HOLIDAY TAPAS • Saturday, Dec 5 • 6:30 - 9pm • Join us for the 3rd Annual Musical Tapas Program featuring CCSM's Chris Yeh on violin alongside a festive mix of Irish tunes, chamber works, and Christmas carols. The evening begins with a welcome reception, followed by the concert and cookies.

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP • Join Rev. Dr. Kim Engelmann for a six-week, faith-based grief support group meeting Wednesdays, Jan. 20–Mar. 3, from 6:30–8PM in the CCSM Library. Just come as you are. Pick up a brochure at the welcome table or email office@ccsm-ucc.org to register in advance.

CHRISTMAS "GLITTER" NEEDED • We're seeking donations of festive decor—like extra-wide ribbon, spare ornaments, holiday trim, and artificial flowers—to make our annual wreath-making tradition shine. Please drop off any extra supplies in the church office prior to the Family Tree Lighting Festival.

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.

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS
Samaritan House Meals: Mon–Fri, 3:30 PM, Kloss Hall
Zumba: Tue & Thu, 7:00 PM, Kloss Hall

Sunday, Nov 15
- 9:15 AM – Chancel Choir, Sanctuary
- 9:45 AM – Joyful Noise Choir, Fireplace Rm
- 10:30 AM – Worship (In-Person & Online)
- 10:30 AM – 60 minutes for high schoolers, Fireplace Rm
- 10:45 AM – Faith Formation, CE Bldg
- 11:30 AM – Coffee Hour, Kloss Hall

Monday, Nov 16
- 11:00 AM – Slow Read Book Club, Fireplace Room Bldg
- 12:30 PM – Burlingame Music Club, Fireplace Room Bldg
- 7:00 PM – Gregory Walton Event, Sanctuary

Tuesday, Nov 17
- 10:00 AM – Men's Coffee, SM Library Patio
- 6:30 PM – Board of Directors Mtg, Buckham Room & via Zoom tinyurl.com/ycka2zcw

Wednesday, Nov 18
- 7:15 PM – Worship in Spanish, Sanctuary

Thursday, Nov 19
- 9:00 AM – Casual Bike Riders, Parking Lot
- 10:15 AM – Women's Coffee, Fireplace Room
- 6:30 PM – IM4HI's Benefit Concert, Berkeley
- 7:00 PM – Choir Rehearsal

Friday, Nov 20
- 12:00 PM – Music & Art Guild

Saturday, Nov 21
- 8:30 AM – CC Riders Bike Ride

Sunday, Nov 22
- 9:15 AM – Chancel Choir, Sanctuary
- 9:45 AM – Joyful Noise Choir, Fireplace Rm
- 10:30 AM – Worship (In-Person & Online)
- 10:45 AM – Faith Formation, CE Bldg
- 11:30 AM – Coffee Hour, Kloss Hall
- 12:00 PM – Youth Group, CE Bldg

We are a certified Cool Congregation of Interfaith Power & Light

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