

***THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF ALMADEN VALLEY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
OPENING AND AFFIRMING
July 16, 2017
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost***



An Order of Worship for July 16, 2017
Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Pastoral Greeting and Centering

Congregational Sharing and Announcements, Joys, and Concerns

Sounding of the Bell

Prelude

Lighting of the Peace Candle

God comes into our lives sowing seeds of mercy, justice, kindness, grace, and peace. May our lives be rich and open soil to receive God's seeds of peace and joy. May the seeds of peace bear fruit in and through all of God's creation.

~~~*Moments of Silence*~~~

**\*Call to Worship and Opening Prayer** *(Please rise in body or spirit.)*

(Based on Psalm 65:9-13)

Leader: God visits the earth and waters it

**People: Greatly enriching the earth.**

Leader: God waters the earth, softening it with showers,

**People: And blessing the earth.**

Leader: Along with the hills, the meadows, and the valleys,

**People: Let us shout and sing together for joy!**

Leader: Let us pray; Loving God, you created life in us and all around us.

Open us to receive your gifts of your world and your word  
that we may be not just hearers of the word, but doers also.

**People: Amen. \*\***

**\*Hymn**

**Christ Taught Us of A Farmer \*\*\***

*(sung to Aurelia, "The Church's One Foundation" CH NO. 272)*

Christ taught us of a farmer who went out sowing seeds.

A few had trouble growing among the rocks and weeds.

But others grew till harvest in soil that was so good

O God, you sow the gospel: The seed is your own word.

*Please silence phones, \*=Stand if you are able, Bold Print indicates congregation responds*

NOTE CH= Chalice Hymnal, NCH = New Century Hymnal

You sowed your word of love here so many years ago.  
Your message found a welcome; your word began to grow.  
By grace, this church was built here, by saints who followed you.  
The seed took root and flourished: we hear and follow, too.

We thank you for each member who lives in loving ways,  
For those who seek to serve you without expecting praise.  
For hearts and songs uplifted, for work and sacrifice.  
The see you planted grows here: we grow in Jesus Christ.

In times of joy we praise you, in struggling times we search,  
And always we are learning to be your faithful church.  
Your Spirit gives us vision, and hearts and lives made new.  
Your harvest is for sharing: sent out we work for you.

### **Reading of the Old Testament**

### **Isaiah 55:10-13 Common English Bible**

Just as the rain and the snow come down from the sky  
and don't return there without watering the earth,  
making it conceive and yield plants  
and providing seed to the sower and food to the eater,  
so is my word that comes from my mouth;  
it does not return to me empty.  
Instead, it does what I want,  
and accomplishes what I intend.  
Yes, you will go out with celebration,  
and you will be brought back in peace.  
Even the mountains and the hills will burst into song before you;  
all the trees of the field will clap their hands.  
In place of the thorn the cypress will grow;  
in place of the nettle the myrtle will grow.  
This will attest to the LORD's stature,  
an enduring reminder that won't be removed.

**Response**

**Thy Word**

**CH No. 326**

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.*

**Sermon**

**Seed, Sower, Soil**

**\*Hymn of Response**

**Seed, Scattered and Sown**

**CH No. 395**

## **Prayers of the People (your intercessions will be invited)**

### **Lord's Prayer (in unison)**

Our Father, 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

### **Call to Offering**

**Rev. Marty**

### **Offertory**

#### **\*Doxology** *OLD HUNDREDTH* (NCH, No 778)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

#### **\* Offertory Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Rev. Marty**

#### **\*Closing Hymn**

**For The Fruit of All Creation**

**CH No. 714**

#### **\*Benediction**

#### **\*Sung Response**

**Peace I Leave With You**

Peace I leave with you, my friends; Shalom, my peace in all you do;  
Peace I leave with you, my friends; I give to you, so you can give to others too.

### **Postlude (please be seated)**

### **Taking Out the Light and Words of Dismissal (please remain seated)**

\*\*Worship Materials adapted from Worship Ways: Written by the Rev. Ruth Garwood, ordained Minister in the United Church of Christ. Rev. Garwood is a certified leader of InterPlay, a system of forms in movement, story-telling and vocalizing that brings body and soul together, and brings communities together. Copyright 2017 Local Church Ministries, Faith Formation Ministry Team, United Church of Christ, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115-1100. Permission granted to reproduce or adapt this material for use in services of worship or church education. All publishing rights reserved.

\*\*\***Songs of Grace: New Hymns for God and Neighbor**, Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. Used by permission. Discipleship Resources, Nashville TN.

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**Welcome to our church, a sacred space where, indeed, all are welcome. A special greeting if you are a visitor with us today. Thanks for signing our guest register!**

**We welcome children in our service—activity boxes are available for children in the sanctuary. Our ushers are glad to help families locate the Nursery in case you have little ones who are in need of Nursery Care.**

**We appreciate those who are leading in our service today:**

**Worship Leader: Rev. Marty Williams**

**Readers: Carla Gerber**

**Greeters/Coffee Hosts: Kuang-lei Tsao**

**Music: Barry Ford**

**TODAY, 3pm in Fellowship Hall – "Through The Roof" Information Meeting**

Tom Gerber and Jim McPherson will be giving a presentation on the metal roof replacement project today at 3pm. This is the time to bring your questions and be a part of the conversation. Your JV Board has been working hard on this project and has done a thorough job of gathering facts, figures, job quotes, and pulling together the recommendations to move us forward. Your JV representatives are: Tom Gerber, Kathryn McAbee, Toh-bee Syn, Rev. Marty, and Debbie Bemis, who is the secretary of the JV Board in a non-voting position. We are well represented! There will be an alternate meeting date if you cannot come to the Sunday meeting. Tom Gerber will offer the presentation on Tuesday, July 18, at 6:30pm in the Learning Center.

**Hold the dates:**

**August 1 – National Night Out** CCAV and ECA are working together to participate in this event that seeks to build community relationships among neighbors and with law enforcement agencies. Watch for more details.

**August 27 – Silicon Valley Pride Parade and Festival** The Pride Parade is from 10-12pm on Sunday, August 27 and the Festival is from 12-6pm. The Council affirmed CCAV's participation and we will register and have a group who will march in the parade and then have a table or booth at the festival to interact with the community. This will include having information about our church available. We will still have worship that Sunday at the usual time and place, as well as a group of us who will be representing CCAV in the parade.

**Vacation ahead** Marty will be in Texas from July 19-27. Kelly Yamanishi will be preaching on July 23 and sharing about the theme of Annual Gathering. Kelly was the CCAV voting representative this year. If there is a pastoral concern, please contact Debbie Bemis, Debra Newcomb, or Phyllis Chai. I will be checking email and voicemail occasionally while away.

**Shelter Feeding** this month will be on Tuesday, 7/18/17; banana jell-o preparation will happen on Sunday, 7/16 after our service. If you are able to help in any way please contact Phyllis Chai at [408-226-7150](tel:408-226-7150) or at: [hidong@pacbell.net](mailto:hidong@pacbell.net).

**Back Pack Donations Needed** Monetary Donations needed for BackPacks and school supplies for children at the LifeMoves shelters (Georgia Travis/formerly Commercial St. Inn and the Villas). Please make checks out to: LifeMoves with BackPacks in the memo section and give/or send them to Phyllis Chai (6329 Snell Ave...SJ 95123-5529); they will all be forwarded to LifeMoves with the notation that they are from our congregants.

**Ted and Risa Feely shared their joy at welcoming their new grandchild -**

*Quinn Theodore Jacobson was born at 10:30 PM, Wednesday, July 12.*

*Mom and Quinn are doing just great. And speaking of great, he weighed 9.7 pounds and is 21.5 inches long. Risa and I couldn't be happier! We are truly blessed.*

**Information from CCAV Mid-Year Congregational Meeting – June 25**

*If you missed the congregational meeting on June 25th, the minutes of the meeting are posted on the CCAV bulletin board in fellowship hall. If you would like a printed copy of all the handouts from the meeting, just let Laura Hall know at [LMHALL@us.ibm.com](mailto:LMHALL@us.ibm.com) and she will mail them to you.*

**You are invited to serve on Sunday:** Contact Debbie Bemis at Coffee Hour or email her if you are able to serve as a Reader, Coffee Host/Greeter, or Communion Server. If want to view the matrix, you may go to our web site to see where there are openings for service.

If you would like to contribute to special music or be a part of it in some way this summer, please talk to John Hawes. There are still some open dates.

**Ongoing:**

Yoga, Mondays 9:30-10:30 a.m.

CCAV Council Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m.

Joint Venture Board Meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m.

AA Meeting, Tuesdays 8:15 - 9:15 p.m. at our church.

\*2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays--Folk Choir Sundays Potluck Brunch Sunday!

**BIRTHDAYS:** John Hawes 7/24

## JOINT VENTURE OPPORTUNITIES AND FELLOWSHIP WITH OUR ECA FAITH COMMUNITY

**Music in the Park on Thursdays in July** – Join ECA friends at Graystone Park for music and a picnic supper. Concert starts at 6:30 PM. ECA group gathers in a spot towards the back on the Camden side of the park. You can find us. Bring lawn chairs or blankets to sit on and your supper. Enjoy the fellowship and the music provided by local groups and sponsored by our Community Center.

**Village House Needs** We have all the basics, or they're promised. We could use 1-2 more TVs so each lady can have one in her room. Any money donations will go to TV antennas, start up supplies...TP, wax paper, spices, coffee, etc. Checks to Holy Spirit can be given to me. Everyone has been wonderfully generous! Many thanks! *Pat*

**Village House Daytime Warming Center** A warming center has just opened up at Willow Glen United Methodist Church and they need volunteers! Go to <http://shelter.wgumc.org/> to sign up for shifts at the day shelter.

**Centering Prayer, Wednesdays, 3:30pm in Sanctuary** Everyone is invited for 20 minutes of silent centering prayer beginning at 3:30pm each Wednesday. Centering Prayer is a method of silent prayer that prepares us to receive the gift of experiencing God's presence within us, and supplements more active forms of prayer. Join us!

**ECA Lectionary Bible Study** led by the Rector, continues on Thursdays from 10:00 -11:30am in The Center. This is an ongoing Bible study open to everyone and we will be studying the Gospel for the upcoming Sunday each week, which is referenced in the Sunday bulletin or at [www.lectionarypage.net](http://www.lectionarypage.net) **All are welcome**—bring a friend!

**JV Bridge Group** for all levels the last Wednesday of each month in Fellowship Hall, 2-4 pm. Everyone is welcome, bring a friend. Information call Amy Griffith, 408-268-0920.

**JV Book Group** 5:30 pm, at Marie Calendar's. A reminder will go out just before. The books for the remaining year are:

|           |                 |                                                     |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| July      | Amy Griffith    | "A Man Called Ove" by Fredric Backman               |
| August    | Sandra Mueller  | "The Book of Joy" by the Dali Lama and Desmond Tutu |
| September | Ardis Roseberry | "Spool of Blue Thread" by Anne Tyler                |
| October   | Leslie Rousseau | "Frankenstein" by Mary Shelley                      |

CCAV Interim Pastor ..... Rev. Dr. Marty Williams (revmartyccavucc@gmail.com)  
 Music Director/Organist/Pianist..... Maria Brodsky  
 JV Handbell Director..... Ruthanne Adams Martinez  
 CCAV Folk Music Director ..... John Hawes  
 ECA Children and Youth Ministry Director ..... Susie Ferguson  
 .....(christianed@jointventurechurches.org)  
 Webmaster www.ccavucc.org ..... Ted Feely  
 JV Administrative Assistant ..... Ruthanne Adams Martinez  
 .....(office@jointventurechurches.org)  
 Kalos (Newsletter) Editor ..... kathryn.mcabee7@gmail.com

**Church Address: 6581 Camden Ave, San Jose, CA 95120 www.ccavucc.org**

**Check out our Facebook page:** Congregational Church of Almaden Valley, UCC.  
<https://www.facebook.com/CCAVUCC>

**We extend a special welcome if you are a visitor with us. Please sign our guest book in the narthex and speak to our ushers regarding more information about our church. We share our “open and affirming statement” and want you to know that “wherever you are along your life’s journey, whatever your name, however you feel, you are welcome here.”**



Open and Affirming Statement

*We the members of The Congregational Church of Almaden Valley, United Church of Christ, seek a deeper understanding of God’s grace as it moves through the life of our church. We are called by Christ and empowered by God to love all people and affirm the sacred worth and dignity of each individual. We invite into the full life and ministry of our church all people, recognizing no boundaries of age, race, education, ethnic origin, gender identity, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, economic circumstance or family structure. We embrace our diversity of thought and scriptural understanding, and we respect and honor all who seek to be in covenant with us as we share in the joys and responsibilities of our church family.*

