

***THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF ALMADEN VALLEY
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
An Open and Affirming Congregation
February 18, 2018
First Sunday in Lent***



An Order of Worship for February 18, 2018
First Sunday of Lent
Folk Sunday

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Pastoral Greeting and Centering

Congregational Sharing and Announcements, Joys, and Concerns

Sounding of the Bell

Prelude I'd Like to Teach the World to Sing

Lighting of the Peace Candle

*“The first peace, which is the most important, is that which comes within the souls of people when they realize their relationship, their oneness with the universe and all its powers, and when they realize at the center of the universe dwells the Great Spirit, and that its center is really everywhere, it is within each of us.” — **Black Elk**
May the light of this peace candle burn bright in the center of our lives.*

~~~*Moments of Silence*~~~

\* Call to Worship

*(Please rise in body or spirit)*

\*\*

Leader: May you be strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit;

**People: Spirit of God, enter us and fill us with compassion and justice.**

Leader: May you be encouraged by Jesus Christ to love one another,

**People: Christ Jesus, enter our hearts and fill us with your love.**

Leader: May you be renewed by our Creator God;

**People: Ancient of Days, re-create in us a sense of awe and wonder at your works. We come to be renewed and prepared to do your work.**

Leader: May we enter this time of worship, rooted and grounded in love.

\* Invocation

\*Hymn

He/She's Got the Whole World

Insert

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

NOTE CH= Chalice Hymnal , NCH = New Century Hymnal

**Reading from the Old Testament Genesis 9:8-17 Common English Bible (CEB)**

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, “I am now setting up my covenant with you, with your descendants, and with every living being with you—with the birds, with the large animals, and with all the animals of the earth, leaving the ark with you. I will set up my covenant with you so that never again will all life be cut off by floodwaters. There will never again be a flood to destroy the earth.”

God said, “This is the symbol of the covenant that I am drawing up between me and you and every living thing with you, on behalf of every future generation. I have placed my bow in the clouds; it will be the symbol of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will remember the covenant between me and you and every living being among all the creatures. Floodwaters will never again destroy all creatures. The bow will be in the clouds, and upon seeing it I will remember the enduring covenant between God and every living being of all the earth’s creatures.” God said to Noah, “This is the symbol of the covenant that I have set up between me and all creatures on earth.”

**Response** **Thy Word** **CH No. 326**  
*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.*

**Sermon** **Roots** **Rev. Marty**

**\*Hymn of Response** **Rooted and Grounded** **Insert**

**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** **Blest Be the Tie that Binds**

**\*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**

**Fill the World With Love**

**Insert**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sung Response** (the congregation joins hands around the sanctuary and sings)

**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)**

**When You Pray**

**Insert**

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

*Worship has ended, let the service begin!*

**\*\* Call to Worship adapted from: Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell, <http://rev-o-lution.org>.**

**Service Prayers for the First Sunday of Lent** was written by the Rev. Rosemary McCombs Maxey, a citizen of the Muscogee (Creek) Nation and is retired clergy and a member of Fellowship Congregational United Church of Christ, Tulsa, Oklahoma. Copyright 2018, 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.

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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 this Sunday!**

**Worship Leader: Rev. Marty Williams**

**Reader: Carla Gerber**

**Greeters/Coffee Hosts: Laura Hall, Bessie Hutchins**

**Music: CCAV Folk Choir**

**Flowers: Karen Smith**

*Dear Congregation,*

*Have you noticed that Lent begins on St. Valentine's Day and ends on April Fools Day? Rev. Diane Weible, our Conference Minister, wrote about this in her article for the NCNC-UCC news this past Thursday. The title is *Let's Talk About: The Season of Lent.* She wrote about how Lent begins with Love and ends with Laughter. I love this notion! Rev. Diane wrote:*

*Love and Laughter... Yes, Lent is meant to be a time of reflection and a journey towards deeper faith. And, yes, that journey will mean even more when it is framed in love and laughter. So, as we deepen our faith and bravely face the heaviness of the work that is before us, let us always remember to love much and laugh often.*

*Last Tuesday night several of us gathered for a Glitter+Ash service – a time of celebration and preparation for the season that invites us more deeply into a reflective place where we open our hearts more fully to God and find ways to pour our compassion and work for justice into the broken and hurting places in the world.*

*My prayer for each of you is to receive the gift of this season, which is time to reflect and know God ever more deeply. My prayer for the church is to be attentive to listening to God's Spirit – calling you to the next faithful thing. May God's abundant grace fill your hearts.*

*Blessings and Peace,  
Rev. Marty*

### **February 25 – Mark your Calendars for a visit from Rev. Daniel Ross-Jones**

**“Let’s Talk About...” sessions:** March 18th, April 22nd, and May 20th.  
Details will come as we get closer to each one, but I want to make sure these are on your calendar. We need each of you as we discuss our future together.

**JV Board Position** We need one more representative from CCAV to be on the Joint Venture Board. This entails a monthly meeting the third Tuesday of each month. It is important for CCAV to have equal responsibility on JV as well as to have equal voice in the decisions made about our building and grounds. Won't you consider being on the JV Board this year?

**Care Ministry Team Coordinator** We are looking for a coordinator for the Care Ministry team. This is someone who will coordinate meetings for the team and be the liaison with Rev. Marty as needs from our congregation arise. There are many of you on the team. Won't one of you consider being the coordinator this year? Please let Debbie Bemis know if you are willing to fill either of these two vacancies. Thank you!

## **Santa Clara Association – seeking volunteers to serve on the Association Council**

The Santa Clara Association Spring Meeting is coming up on April 21, 2018- location and time to be announced soon. Watch for updates. This is also the time of year that the Association Nominating committee is at work to fill vacancies for this important work. Please let Pastor Marty know if you have an interest or have questions.

**Matrix Sign-Ups** - Carolyn Crowley is the new Matrix Keeper. Her job is to fill in the tasks for each Sunday and your job is to go find her and the Matrix and put your name down. The task is so much easier with everyone working together!

**Rummage Sale** A small group is considering the feasibility of a CCAV church Rummage Sale perhaps in April. Before much planning is done, we would like to know what items we would have to sell! If you have items to contribute, please give Connie the list with your name, list of items, & estimated sale price. We would like to have this information before the end of January. Thanks!!

**You are invited to serve on Sunday:** Contact Carolyn Crowley at Coffee Hour or email her if you are able to serve as a Reader, Coffee Host/Greeter, or Communion Server. We particularly need people to sign up! Your service is greatly appreciated! If you want to view the matrix, you may go to our web site to see where there are openings for service.

**Second Harvest Food Bank Bin** Second Harvest Food Bank is truly grateful for all the gifts of food (and is always thankful, too, for checks...) Please contact Phyllis Chai at 408-442-5098 or hidong@pacbell.net for questions... Thank you!

### **Ongoing:**

CCAV Council Meeting 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays, 11:30 a.m.

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

Quest, Wednesdays 9:30 a.m.

JV Handbell Rehearsal, Wednesdays 4:30 p.m.

CCAV Choir Rehearsal, Wednesdays 7:00 p.m.

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

**BIRTHDAYS:** Patty Johnson 2/03, Lynn Widman 2/07, Phyllis Green 2/19,  
Shirley Lind 2/24

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Debbie Bemis & Jan Blake 2/14

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

**SEMINAR FOR LENT: A Spiritual Journey with the Mystics - The Rev. David Starr** In this seminar, we will explore the spirituality of the Christian Mystics, John of the Cross, Teresa of Avila, and Mother Teresa through reading and discussion. The course will meet on **Saturdays at 9:30 AM until 11:00 AM** at ECA beginning February 17, 2018. Please register online - go to the front page of the website: <http://www.eca-sj.org/welcome/seminar-for-lent-a-spiritual-journey-with-the-mystics> In the email portion of the online registration, provide your full name and email address. Course materials will be on this site and will be passed out in class. It will be important to read class materials before class to be prepared to participate in class discussions. You may also take this course only online, without attending the class sessions. Register online as above, and follow the class discussions online and by submitting your own reflections on the site website. The course is open to both ECA and CCAV members. If you do not want to register online, or have any other questions, please contact David at [admin@moodle.starnet.com](mailto:admin@moodle.starnet.com)

**Spring Cleaning Needed for Nursery and Preschool Room** – Help is need to scrub the nursery and preschool room furniture and some of the toys. Could you help? Can be done on your own schedule. These rooms are very inviting for new families and we would like to keep them that way. We never know when families will find their way to our churches. Let's be ready. Let Susie know your availability: [christianed@jointventurechurches.org](mailto:christianed@jointventurechurches.org) Do it with a friend and make it a fellowship time!

**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.

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.*

