



Castro Valley United Methodist Church



Sunday, March 15, 2026, 10 am

The Season of Lent

Welcome to Castro Valley United Methodist Church.
We are thankful you are here! May your Lenten journey towards Easter be a meaningful time.



Make your tithes & offering online

TODAY:

Lenten Book Study
11:30 am, Room 5

GATHERINGS THIS WEEK

Food 2 Go
Tue. 10:00 am, Fellowship Hall
Help needed & food available

Tuesday Friends
Tue. 10:30 am Fireside Room

SPRC Meeting
Tue. 6:30 pm, Fireside Room

All Teams Meeting
Wed. 10 am, Room 5

Choir Practice
Thur. 7 pm, Fireside Room

UPCOMING

Generosity Team Meeting
Sun. 3/22, 11:45 am, Fireside Room

Trustees Meeting
Tue. 3/24, 7 pm, Fireside Room

New Member Class – CVUMC 101
Wed. 3/25, 1-3 pm, Fireside Room

Popcorn Ministry
Fri. 3/27, 6 pm, Room 5

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

- (16) Callan Chu
- (16) Charlotte Chu
- (16) Sela Failaunga
- (16) Bob Vernagallo
- (17) Joel Rees
- (18) Carol Sugimura

Order of Christian Worship Fourth Sunday of Lent & UMCOR Sunday

Chiming of the Hour Karen Loughrige

Prelude Matt Bourne

Words of Welcome Pastor Akesa

***Call to Worship** Larry Birdsey

Once we were darkness, but now we are light in the Lord.

We come to walk as people of the light.

The fruit of the light is found in all that is good, right, and true.

We seek what pleases the Lord.

Christ's light shines upon us.

We come to worship, to grow in wisdom, and to shine God's light in the world.

Come, let us worship the Lord.

With grateful hearts, we walk in the light of Christ.

***Opening Prayer (unison)** Larry Birdsey

Loving God, you have called us out of darkness into the light of Christ. As we gather in worship, awaken our hearts to your presence. Help us walk as children of the light, bearing the fruit of goodness, righteousness, and truth. Open our eyes to what pleases you and grant us wisdom to live faithfully, loving and serving others. Shine your light upon us through your Word, our prayers, and our fellowship, that we may leave renewed and ready to live as your people. In the light and hope of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

***Opening Hymn: Gather Us In** TFWS 2236, vv 1,2&4
Please use the black hymnal or follow along on the screen.

***Passing of the Peace** Larry Birdsey

Peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Hymn Response: *Hosanna Rock*
(singing) *Hosanna! Ho! Ho! Hosanna!*
Everybody praise the Lord!

So clap your hands and wave your arms, you can play the drums, then rock the guitar.

Hosanna! Ho! Ho! Hosanna!

Children's Moment Pastor Akesa

Hymn Response: *Hosanna! Hosanna!*
(singing) *Hosanna! Hear the people say Hosanna!*
Save us today. Hosanna! It's a faithful song. Hosanna!
Sing it all night long!

TFWS 2109

*You may stand. ***Bold** text indicates congregational response.

Ephesians 5:8-14 NIV

⁸For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth) ¹⁰and find out what pleases the Lord. ¹¹Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them. ¹²It is shameful even to mention what the disobedient do in secret. ¹³But everything exposed by the light becomes visible—and everything that is illuminated becomes a light. ¹⁴This is why it is said: “Wake up, sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

This is the Word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERVING YOU TODAY

Rev. Akesa Po’oi Fakava, Pastor
Kathy Culwell, Co-Lay Leader
Larry Birdsey, Worship Leader
Matt Bourne, Music Director
Karen Loughrige, Bells & Clarinet
Rev. Carrol Newquist, Horn
Eva Tanaka, Sound
R. Tanaka & L. Taylor Video Techs
Jim Rees, Usher

WORSHIP RESOURCES

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal
TFWS: The Faith We Sing
W&S: Worship and Song
Discipleship Ministries
CCLI No. 21060178

Anthem: *The Remembering*

Chancel Choir

American folk melody arranged by Joseph M. Martin

UMCOR Special Sunday Sharing

Bobbi Wheatley

Life of the Community

Kathy Culwell

Prayers of the People

Kathy Culwell

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**
Loving God, **we give you thanks.**

Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer

Pastor Akesa

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Scriptures: Ephesians 5:8-14 NIV

Larry Birdsey

Sermon: *Live in the Light of Christ*

Pastor Akesa

***The Offering of Our Tithes and Gifts**

The Doxology No. 94: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Unison Prayer of Dedication:

Kathy Culwell

Almighty God, giver of every good and perfect gift, teach us that we may praise you, not with our lips only, but with our whole lives, turning the duties, the sorrows, and the joys of all our days into a living sacrifice to you, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Closing Hymn:** *Awake, O Sleeper*

UMH 551, vv 1,2,4&5

Please use the red hymnal or follow along on the screen.

***Benediction**

Pastor Akesa

Postlude

Matt Bourne

Please reflect in silence on today’s message or exit quietly.



FOLLOWING JESUS • THRIVING IN COMMUNITY • HEALING THE WORLD

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