



Sunday, November 16, 2025, 10 am

Castro Valley United Methodist Church

Welcome to Castro Valley United Methodist Church.

We are thankful and joyful you're here to worship and fellowship with God and one another.



Make your
tithes & offering
online

TODAY

Advent Book Study
"Faithful: Christmas Through
the Eyes of Joseph"

11:30 – 12:15 pm, Room 5

GATHERINGS THIS WEEK

**Committee on Lay Leadership &
Development Meeting**

Mon. 1 pm, Fireside Room

Food 2 Go

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

Tuesday Friends

Tue. 10:30 am Fireside Room

Choir Practice

Thur. 7pm, Fireside Room

Popcorn Ministry

Fri. 6 pm, Room 5
Movie: "Hacksaw Ridge"
2010 – Rated R for battle scenes

Clean Up Day – need your help

Sat. 9 – 1 pm
Followed by pizza lunch

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thanksgiving Feast

Thurs. 11/27, 12:30 Appetizers
1:30 pm Dinner
RSVP and/or volunteer in F'ship
Hall or contact the office

Church Conference

Sun. 12/7, 12:30 pm, Fireside Rm

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

(18) Tiffany Ahrens
(18) Uaine Siakumi



Order of Christian Worship Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost Dedication & Consecration of 2026 Commitment to Generosity

Chiming of the Hour

Karen Loughrige

Prelude

Matt Bourne

Words of Welcome

Pastor Akesa Po'oi Fakava

***Call to Worship**

Chuck Vejdovsky

Beloved in Christ, Jesus speaks of days when even mighty stones will fall and when the certainties of this world will be shaken. Yet He calls us to steadfast trust and holy endurance.

Our hope is in the Lord, whose faithfulness endures forever.

As we offer our pledges and commitments, we turn our hearts from what is passing to the mission that abides; the work of grace, mercy, and witness in Christ's name.

Strengthen us, O God, for faithful stewardship.

Let us come before the one who guides us through every trial, who equips us with courage, and who calls us to invest our lives in what truly matters.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

***Opening Prayer (unison)**

Chuck Vejdovsky

Eternal and unshakable God, we bless your holy name and gather to worship you. In a world where certainties crumble, you remain our refuge and strength. Call us again to enduring faith, unfailing courage, and hope rooted in your Son, our Savior. As we gather, renew in us a spirit of joyful stewardship, turn our eyes to what truly matters; your mission, mercy, and grace. By your Spirit, center our hearts and ready us to offer ourselves anew. In Christ's name. Amen.

***Opening Hymn: As a Fire Is Meant for Burning**

TFWS 2237

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

***Passing of the Peace**

Kathy Culwell

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

Hymn Response: *This Little Light of Mine*
(singing) *This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine,*
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
this little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

UMH 585

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

Luke 21:5-19 NRSVue

⁵When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, ⁶"As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down."

⁷They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?" ⁸And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them."

⁹"When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately."

¹⁰Then he said to them, "Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. ¹²"But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name."

¹³This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your souls.

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

Thanks be to God.

SERVING YOU TODAY

Rev. Akesa Po'oi Fakava, Pastor
Chuck Vejdovsky, Worship Leader
Kathy Culwell, Co-Lay Leader
Matt Bourne, Music Director
Karen Loughrige, Bells & Clarinet
Rev. Carrol Newquist, Horn
Noel Babu, Sound
Larry Taylor, Media Tech
Jim Rees, Usher

WORSHIP RESOURCES

UMH: United Methodist Hymnal
TFWS: The Faith We Sing
Discipleship Ministries
CCLI No. 21060178

Children's Moment

Hymn Response: *Father, I Adore You*

(singing) *Father, I adore you, lay my life before you, how I love you.*

Jesus, I adore you, lay my life before you, how I love you.

Pastor Akesa

TFWS 2038

Generosity Moment

Chuck Vejdovsky

Life of the Community

Chuck Vejdovsky

Prayers of the People

Chuck Vejdovsky

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.

Anthem: *He Is Exalted*

Chancel Choir

Scripture: Luke 21:5-19 NRSVue

Chuck Vejdovsky

Sermon: *Trust Beyond the Stones*

Pastor Akesa

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

Dedication & Consecration of Our 2026 Commitment to Generosity

The Doxology: Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

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:

Pastor Akesa

Faithful God, in a world where so much feels uncertain and temporary, you call us to place our trust in what truly endures; your love, your mission, and your kingdom. As we offer these pledges, set our hearts not on things that crumble, but on the work that lasts: sharing grace, serving neighbors, and bearing witness to Christ. Strengthen us with the endurance Jesus promised, so that our giving becomes an act of courage and hope. Use these commitments, and use us, for your purposes in this community and beyond. We dedicate our pledges, and we dedicate ourselves, in the name of Jesus, our rock and our redeemer. Amen.

Closing Hymn: *Freely, Freely

UMH 389

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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