



Sunday, December 28, 2025, 10 am

Castro Valley United Methodist Church

Welcome to Castro Valley United Methodist Church.

We are excited that you are here to join us as we gather to adore Him who was born that first Christmas morning so we can share the love of God. We wish you joy and peace.



Make your
tithes & offering
online

GATHERINGS THIS WEEK

UMM – Men's Club Breakfast
Sat. 9:30 am, Fireside Room

OF NOTE

Spire Articles & Photos
Now Due for January

The Office will be closed
1/1 and 1/2/26

Unhanging of the Greens
Need more hands to help please
Sun. 1/4/26 after worship

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

(28) Parker Farago
(29) John Driver
(29) Siotame Fakava
(31) Karen Loughrige

SERVING YOU TODAY

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

WORSHIP RESOURCES

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

Order of Christian Worship First Sunday after Christmas Day

Chiming of the Hour

Karen Loughrige

Prelude

Matt Bourne

Words of Welcome

Pastor Akesa

***Call to Worship**

Chéri Harris
Certified Lay Servant

After the joy of Christmas, the story continues; not with ease, but with journey and trust.

God is with us, even when the road is uncertain.

Joseph listened, rose in the night, and protected the child. God guided the family through danger and fear.

God is faithful, even when life is disrupted.

Christ came into a world both beautiful and broken, and God's love moved with Him.

We come to worship the God who goes with us.

All: Let us worship the God who is present in every journey.

***Opening Prayer (unison)**

Chéri Harris

Faithful and Loving God, as we stand at the close of this year and the beginning of another, we remember the holy family's journey; their flight into the unknown, their trust in your voice, and your protecting presence along the way. Like Joseph, we have listened and moved forward without always knowing what the road would bring.

We carry gratitude for where you have been faithful, and we release the fears, losses, and unfinished stories of this year into your care. As we step toward a new year, grant us courage to follow where you lead, wisdom to listen for your guidance, and trust that you go before us and remain with us. Hold us in your peace, shelter us in your love, and shape us by the light of Christ, who journeys with us always. We pray in the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us. Amen.

***Opening Hymn: O Come, All Ye Faithful**

UMH 234 vv 1,3&4

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

***Passing of the Peace**

Chéri Harris

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

Hymn Response: *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

UMH 251

(singing) *Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere; go, tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born.*

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

Matthew 2:13-23 NIV

¹³When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up," he said, "take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him." ¹⁴So he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, ¹⁵where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I called my son." ¹⁶When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. ¹⁷Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: ¹⁸"A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more."

¹⁹After Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt ²⁰and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child's life are dead." ²¹So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. ²²But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, ²³and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.

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

Thanks be to God.

**Children's Moment &
Special Presentation**

Pastor Akesa & Robles Grandchildren
Emi & JJ Badarello and Gabrielle & Helena Wray
Hymn Response: *Emmanuel, Emmanuel*
UMH 204
(singing) *Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.*
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.

Solo: *In the Bleak Midwinter*

Chéri Harris

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.

Anthem: *Glory to God*

Chancel Choir

Scripture: *Matthew 2:13-23 NIV*

Chéri Harris

Sermon: *Faith on the Run*

Pastor Akesa

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

Special Music

David Miller

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:

Chéri Harris

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:** *Joy to the World*

UMH 246 vv 1,2&4

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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