

Offertory Prayer

Ever-faithful God, who calls us into the deep waters of faith and trust, we offer these gifts with open hearts. Transform our offerings into acts of love and service, so that we may catch glimpses of your kingdom and draw others into your embrace. Guide us to live deeply and follow Christ's call to be fishers of people in your abundant grace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Offertory

*Doxology UMH 94

*Hymn *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* UMH 384

1. Love divine, all loves excelling,
Joy of Heav'n to Earth come down,
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,
All thy faithful mercies crown;
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
Pure, unbounded love thou art;
Visit us with thy salvation,
Enter ev'ry trembling heart.

2. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit
Into ev'ry troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit,
Let us find thy promised rest;
Take away our bent to sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith as its beginning,
Set our hearts at liberty.
3. Come, Almighty to deliver;
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never,
Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray, and praise thee without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.

4. Finish, then, thy new creation;
Pure and spotless let us be;
Let us see thy great salvation
Perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory
Till in Heav'n we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee,
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

*Benediction Reverend Burke Owens

*Alleluia

Postlude *Soon I Will Be Done* Calvin Taylor (b. 1948)

Altar flowers are given by Lou and Patty Bellardo to the Glory of God and for all Federal Workers who are being brutalized in the work place.

**Please stand as you are able where indicated by an asterisk.*

Senior Pastor: Burke Owens
Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministries: Gerardo Garcia Palacios
Director of Music: Mark Shaull
Organist: Diane Keller
Head Usher: Daniel Fifita



FIRST PALO ALTO UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Fifth Sunday
After Epiphany

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 9 2025
10:45 AM SERVICE



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2025

Prelude *Adoration* Florence B. Price (1887-1953)

Welcome Reverend Burke Owens

Passing of the Peace

Life of the Community Sumith Kalas

*Call to Worship Sumith Kalas

Beloved, the Savior calls to you. Will you follow?

God, help us leave everything and follow.

Christ's call persists through the clouds of doubt, fear, and worry that descend on our path. Will you follow?

God, help us leave everything and follow.

Jesus calls us to shift our priorities, to leave behind the baggage of prejudice and the grasping for position so we can truly love God and our neighbors well.

Will you follow?

God, help us leave everything and follow.

Beloved, receive this good news: you are not alone! Today we answer Christ's call together!

God, help us leave everything and follow your path of Love everywhere we go! Amen.

*Hymn *Come, and Let us Sweetly Join* UMH 699

1. Come, and let us sweetly join,
Christ to praise in hymns divine;
give we all with one accord
glory to our common Lord.

2. Hands and hearts and voices raise,
sing as in the ancient days;
antedate the joys above,
celebrate the feast of love.

3. Jesus, dear expected Guest,
thou art bidden to the feast;
for thyself our hearts prepare;
come, and sit, and banquet there.

4. Sanctify us, Lord, and bless,
breathe thy Spirit, give thy peace;
thou thyself within us move,
make our feast a feast of love.

Children's Moment Reverend Gerardo Garcia Palacios

Anthem *Guide Me Ever, Great Jehovah* Dale Wood

Scripture *Psalms 34* Sandra Wilson

Message *Taking Refuge in the Buddha* Reverend Burke Owens

Moment of Silence

Prayers of the People Reverend Burke Owens

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord, for these gifts,
we give you thanks!

*Lord's Prayer Reverend Burke Owens

Our Creator who art in heaven, hallowed be your Name. Your kingdom come, your 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn *Nearer My God to Thee* UMH 528

1. Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!
E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me,
still all my song shall be,
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

2. Though like the wanderer, the sun gone down,
darkness be over me, my rest a stone;
yet in my dreams I'd be
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

3. There let the way appear, steps unto heaven;
all that thou sendest me, in mercy given;
angels to beckon me
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

4. Then, with my waking thoughts bright with thy praise,
out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;
so by my woes to be
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

5. Or if, on joyful wing cleaving the sky,
sun, moon, and stars forgot, upward I fly,
still all my song shall be,
nearer, my God, to thee;
nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee!

Invitation to the Offering Sumith Kalas