

Invitation to the Offering

Cedric Fellows

Offertory Prayer

Unshakable and Holy God, we bring these gifts before you, not as mere offerings, but as acts of faith in your unshakable kingdom. Though the world around us trembles, we trust in your steadfast love, knowing that in Christ, we are welcomed, transformed, and sent forth to serve. Bless these gifts, that they may be used to build your justice and mercy, bringing hope to the broken and light to the weary. With grateful hearts, we offer ourselves alongside these gifts, that we may be signs of your grace in the world. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Offertory

*Doxology

UMH 94

*Hymn

For the Healing of the Nations

UMH 428

1. For the healing of the nations,
Lord, we pray with one accord;
for a just and equal sharing
of the things that earth affords;
To a life of love in action
help us rise and pledge our word,
help us rise and pledge our word.

2. Lead us forward into freedom;
from despair your world release,
that, redeemed from war and hatred,
all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness
fear will die and hope increase,
fear will die and hope increase.

3. All that kills abundant living,
let it from the earth be banned;
pride of status, race, or schooling,
dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice
may we hallow life's brief span,
may we hallow life's brief span.

4. You, Creator God, have written
your great name on humankind;
for our growing in your likeness
bring the life of Christ to mind,
that by our response and service
earth its destiny may find,
earth its destiny may find.

*Benediction

Diane Allen

*Alleluia

UMH 78

Postlude

Toccata classique

Dennis Janzer (b. 1954)

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in celebration of
Carol Gleason's 92nd birthday on August 22 by Curt Gleason.

Cover image: Illustration from the Ottheinrich Bible, Public Domain

**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

*Eleventh Sunday
After Pentecost*

SUNDAY AUGUST 24 2025

10:45 AM SERVICE



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SUNDAY AUGUST 24, 2025

Prelude *The Heart of Peace* Mons Leidvin Takle (b. 1948)

Welcome Diane Allen

Passing of the Peace

Life of the Community Cedric Fellows

*Call to Worship Cedric Fellows

Children of God, we gather today to encounter God.

We do not come expecting to be terrified or dismayed but to be welcomed and embraced.

We gather today to witness the gospel at work among us.

We come to join the assembly of the kingdom of God, to learn to live out God's kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

We gather today to declare our faith in God's unshakeable kingdom.

We come with grateful hearts, trusting in the secure foundation of God's steadfast love at work among us. Thanks be to God!

*Opening Hymn *O Spirit of the Living God* UMH 539

1. O Spirit of the living God,
thou light and fire divine,
descend upon thy church once more,
and make it truly thine.
Fill it with love and joy and power,
with righteousness and peace;
till Christ shall dwell in human hearts,
and sin and sorrow cease.

2. Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow
until our minds are free
from mists of error, clouds of doubt,
which blind our eyes to thee.
Burn, winged fire! Inspire our lips
with flaming love and zeal,
to preach to all thy great good news,
God's glorious commonweal.

3. Teach us to utter living words
of truth which all may hear,
the language all may understand
when love speaks loud and clear;
till every age and race and clime
shall blend their creeds in one,
and earth shall form one family
by whom thy will is done.

4. So shall we know the power of Christ
who came this world to save;
so shall we rise with him to life
which soars beyond the grave;
and earth shall win true holiness,
which makes thy children whole;
till, perfected by thee, we reach
creation's glorious goal!

Children's Moment Reverend Gerardo Garcia Palacios

Summer Choir Anthem *Heal Me, Hands of Christ* Gregory Anne

*Scripture Luke 13:10-17 Nancy Glaser

Message *Healing on the Sabbath* Diane Allen

Moment of Silence

Prayers of the People Diane Allen

Lord in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Lord, for these gifts,
we give you thanks!

*Lord's Prayer Diane Allen

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 *We Utter Our Cry* UMH 439

1. We utter our cry: that peace may prevail,
that earth will survive, and faith must not fail.
We pray with our life for the world in our care,
for people diminished by doubt and despair.

2. We cry from the fright of our daily scene
for strength to say "No" to all that is mean:
designs bearing chaos, extinction of life,
all energy wasted on weapons of death.

3. We lift up our hearts for children unborn;
give wisdom, O God, that we may hand on,
replenished and tended, this good planet Earth,
preserving the future and wonder of birth.

4. Creator of life, come, share out, we pray,
your Spirit on earth, revealing the Way
to leaders conferring round tables for peace,
that they may from bias and guile be released.

5. Come with us, Lord; love, in protest and march,
and help us to fire with passion your church,
to match all our statements and lofty resolve
with being, unresting, in action involved.

6. Whatever the ill or pressure we face,
Lord, hearten and heal, give insight and grace
to think and make peace with each heartbeat and breath,
choose Christ before Caesar and life before death!