

Offertory Prayer

Sheltering God, our refuge and relief, you draw near when the wilderness is too much, when the heat of the day drains our hope. Receive these gifts as signs of our trust in your abiding love, a love that does not always keep us from trouble but never leaves us to face it alone. May what we give today bring shade to the weary, hope to the hurting, and a glimpse of the salvation you are always working out in us and through us. In gratitude and faith, we offer these gifts. Amen.

Offertory

*Doxology UMH 94

*Hymn UMH 436
The Voice of God Is Calling

1. The voice of God is calling
its summons in our day;
Isaiah heard in Zion,
and we now hear God say:
"Whom shall I send to succor
my people in their need?
Whom shall I send to loosen
the bonds of shame and greed?"

2. "I hear my people crying
in slum and mine and mill;
no field or mart is silent,
no city street is still.
I see my people falling
in darkness and despair.
Whom shall I send to shatter
the fetters which they bear?"

3. We heed, O Lord, your summons,
and answer: Here are we!
Send us upon your errand,
let us your servants be.
Our strength is dust and ashes,
our years a passing hour;
but you can use our weakness
to magnify your power.

4. From ease and plenty save us;
from pride of place absolve;
purge us of low desire;
lift us to high resolve;
take us, and make us holy;
teach us your will and way.
Speak, and behold! we answer;
command, and we obey!

*Benediction Reverend Sepuloni Feleunga

*Alleluia UMH 186

Postlude Gordon Young (1919-1998)
Prelude in Classic Style

Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in honor of
Rev. Karen Paulsen's 80th birthday by Pamela Cutkosky and Carol Kumer.

**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

*Sixteenth Sunday
After Pentecost*

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28 2025

10:45 AM SERVICE



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PALO ALTO
SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 2025

Prelude *Cantilena* Florence Price (1887-1953)

Welcome Reverend Sepuloni Feleunga

Passing of the Peace

Life of the Community Emily King

*Call to Worship Emily King

We gather today to worship God, who listens when we call.
We gather to rest in the shadow of God's wings.
 We gather to pray to God, who answers us when we call.
We gather to lift our voices in the shadow of God's wings.
 We gather to praise God, who rescues us when we call.
We gather to rejoice in the shadow of God's wings.
 Beloved, come! Let us worship God, who covers and delivers us in Love.
We gather to worship in the shadow of God's wings.

*Opening Hymn *Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word* UMH 596

<p>1. Blessed Jesus, at thy word we are gathered all to hear thee; let our hearts and souls be stirred now to seek and love and fear thee, by thy teachings sweet and holy, drawn from earth to love thee solely.</p> <p>2. All our knowledge, sense, and sight lie in deepest darkness shrouded, till thy spirit breaks our night with the beams of truth unclouded. Thou alone to God canst win us; thou must work all good within us.</p>	<p>3. Glorious Lord, thyself impart! Light of light, from God proceeding, open thou our ears and heart; help us by thy spirit's pleading; hear the cry thy people raises; hear, and bless our prayers and praises.</p>
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Children's Moment Reverend Gerardo Garcia Palacios

Anthem *Poor Man Lazarus* Jester Hairston

*Scripture *Luke 16:19-31* Linda Grossman

Message *What Goes Around Comes Around* Reverend Sepuloni Feleunga

Moment of Silence

Prayers of the People Reverend Gerardo Garcia Palacios

Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.	Lord, for these gifts, we give you thanks!
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*Lord's Prayer Reverend Sepuloni Feleunga

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 *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy* UMH 340

<p>1. Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore; Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power.</p> <p>Refrain: I will arise and go to Jesus; he will embrace me with his arms; in the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.</p> <p>2. Come, ye thirsty, come, and welcome, God's free bounty glorify; true belief and true repentance, every grace that brings you nigh. (Refrain)</p>	<p>3 Come ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall; if you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all. (Refrain)</p> <p>4 Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream; all the fitness he requireth is to feel your need of him. (Refrain)</p>	
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Invitation to the Offering Emily King