

WELCOME TO ALDERSGATE!

Aldersgate United Methodist Church
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Today's Lesson from Scripture:

LUKE 15:11-32

The Parable of the Prodigal and His Brother

Then Jesus said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹²The younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.' So he divided his property between them. ¹³A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands." ' ²⁰So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹Then the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.' ²²But the father said to his slaves, 'Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ "Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷He replied, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.' ²⁸Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹But he answered his father, 'Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!' ³¹Then the father said to him, 'Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.' "



Diane Barfield is our **Social Media Coordinator**. Please pass along pictures and announcements so that we can let the community know how active and busy we are! Text Diane at **(917) 447-1708**.

This Month in Mission: For the month of March, our Missions project is to collect monetary contributions to the **Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen** (DDSK). DDSK is a local ministry that we have been working with for a very long time, both by sending them volunteers each month, and by making them our mission project!

DDSK is a vital local ministry aiding the hungry in our community.

As always, we ask that you make checks out to AUMC, and designate “missions” on the memo line. Likewise, if you give via envelopes in the offering plate or online.



Service Opportunity: **Plentiful Harvest Kitchen** is another local soup kitchen, this one located right next to us at Covenant Presbyterian Church. AUMC picks 4 Sundays out of the year on which we will send volunteers to assist with the prep & cooking and/or serving & cleaning (two two-hour shifts). Our second chance for 2025 is coming up **NEXT Sunday, April 6**. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board.

We would like to make a special plea to our church family to prayerfully consider volunteering. Our turnout to these events (Plentiful Harvest) in particular has waned recently, and we really hope to turn that around this time! You can sign up for just one of the shifts, or live on the wild side and work both! For more information, please contact Janice Miller or the church office.

Tell Us Your Preference: the Church Guidelines have been updated, and will be ready for distribution very soon. So, we need to know how you want to receive your copy: a physical printout brought to church, or a digital file emailed to you. If you don’t want one at all, you can ignore this, but we do hope everyone will look through them. Please write your name in the column corresponding to your preference when you find this “sign-up sheet” on the bulletin board, too!

The beautiful flowers you see in the chancel this morning have been given by Audrey Culp, in honor of Lyn Skews’s birthday. We’re thrilled to see more people have signed up for flowers in the near future. Thank you for participating in bringing some colorful joy into the sanctuary.

A gift has been given to the Glory of God, in honor of Fran Threatt, to the missions project (Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen), by John & Donna Hauenstein.

Join the Sunday Lunch Bunch!

Bunch up at 1219 River Run Court (RH) after worship!



Announcements

10:25am

Prelude

“Prelude on the Hymn Tune SLANE”† by Paul Fey

***Presentation of the Cross
and Lighting of the Candles**

“Melody in D” by Paul Fey

Call to Worship

“Jesus began his ministry to the world, led by the Spirit into the wilderness. In our Lenten journey, Lord, lead us by the Spirit, even into uncomfortable places. In those forty days, in that place, Jesus faced hunger, doubt, and temptation. Jesus left the wilderness, faithful and obedient to God, rejoicing in the One in whom he trusted. Lord, come and lead us, as we rejoice in the Lord our God. Amen.”

***Hymn #2197**

“Lord of All Hopefulness” (vv. 1, 3, 4) (†same tune)

***Affirmation of Faith #881**

“The Apostle’s Creed”

***Gloria Patri #70**

“Glory Be to the Father”

Young Minds Time

Audrey Culp

Congregational Response

“Jesus loves the little children—all the children of the world! Red and yellow, black and white; they are precious in his sight. Jesus loves the little children of the world!”

Anthem

“Jesus Walked this Lonesome Valley” arr. by Douglas E. Wagner

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

Rev. Steve Holler

Offertory

Meditation on “O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee”†† arr. by Gilbert M. Martin

***Doxology #95**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

***Hymn #2050**

“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth” (††same tune)

Psalter #766

Please read and sing responsively Psalm 32, led by Craig Weaver.

Scripture Lesson

Luke 15:11-32 (New Testament pg. 78 in pew bibles)

Sermon

“That’s No Way to Raise Children” by Rev. Steve Holler

***Hymn #384**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling” (vv. 1, 2, 4)

***Benediction**

Rev. Steve Holler

***Congregational Blessing and Amen**

“Make us one, Lord, make us one. Holy Spirit, make us one. Let Your love flow, so the world will know: We are one in You.”

Postlude

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy” by Marilyn Thompson

**Please stand, if able.*

Text in “italics & quotes” is read or sung aloud together.



This Week's Events:

SUNDAY, MARCH 30—4th SUNDAY OF LENT

- 9:15am..... Sunday School
- 10:25am..... Traditional Service

MONDAY, MARCH 31

- 10am..... Coffee & Conversation

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

- 6pm Pickers' Jam

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

- 9am Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen
- 6pm Chancel Choir Practice

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

- 10:30am..... Prayer Shawl Ministry
- 1pm Overeaters Anonymous
- 6pm Men's Bible Study

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

- *8:30am Seventh Day Adventists

SUNDAY, APRIL 6—5th SUNDAY OF LENT

- 9:15am..... Sunday School
- 10:25am..... Traditional Service
- 2/4pm Plentiful Harvest Kitchen

**Servicios religiosos hispanohablantes, aunque nadie lea estas palabras.*

- Apr. 9—UWF (10:30am)
- Apr. 13—PALM SUNDAY
- Apr. 14—United Methodist Men (6pm)
- Apr. 17—MAUNDY THURSDAY Service/Meal (6pm**)
- Apr. 20—EASTER SUNDAY
- Apr. 22—New Life Grief Support Group (2pm)
- Apr. 24—Prayer Shawl Ministry (10:30am)
- Apr. 24—Men's Bible Study (6pm)
- Apr. 27**—SPRC (6:30pm)
- May 1—Men's Bible Study (6pm)
- May 7—Dorothy Day Soup Kitchen
- May 11—Church Council (6:30pm)
- May 12—United Methodist Men (6pm)
- May 14—United Women in Faith (10:30am) **subject to change

AS MEMBERS OF THIS CONGREGATION, WE WILL FAITHFULLY PARTICIPATE IN ITS MINISTRY BY OUR PRAYERS, OUR PRESENCE, OUR GIFTS, OUR SERVICE, AND OUR WITNESS.

OUR PRESENCE 3/16/25:

Worship:	Online:	Sunday School:
70	12	8

OUR SERVICE TODAY:

Acolyte:	Norah Cordle	Harry Gibson
Altar Guild:	Bruce Farrington	Nancy Griffith
Blessing Box:	Fran Threatt	Judi Harper
Crucifer:	Harry Gibson	Steve Barfield
Greeters:	Fran Threatt	Charlotte Kilpatrick
Ushers:	Fran Threatt	Margie Perry

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS:

This Week:	Harry Gibson
Next Week:	Al Quarles

ARE YOU HERE?

If so, please let us know! You can do so through our website, using this link:

<https://bit.ly/AUMCAttendance>

or by scanning this QR code:



NEW LINKS: GIVING/CHURCH APP

To give online: www.aumcrockhill.com/give.

To download the new church app: <https://mobile.myamplify.io/landing/xK4J>.

did you know...?

John Wesley was only 5' 3" tall.

Bishop: Reverend Leonard Fairley.....rhdist@umcsc.org
 District Superintendent: Reverend Anthony Hodge.....rhdist@umcsc.org
 Pastor: Reverend Steve Holler.....pastor@aumcrockhill.com
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