

## **:Announcements:**

### *Celebrations and Thanksgiving*

- East Asian Thanksgiving day – 9/8

### *Communal Activities and Missions*

- Leaders Meeting for the month of September – 9/13 (Sat) 9:00am

### *General Announcements*

- Please remember to clean up and vacate the sanctuary as there is a service that follows ours.
- If any of you have the heart to serve either in Sunday school or Youth, please talk to Tim.
- If you have any suggestion or feedback about Sunday Service or Friday Activity, feel free to contact Pastor Travis.

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### *Spiritual Gatherings:*

- \* Small Groups (varies)
- \* Friday Night Meeting for September 12th: Bible study Q & A

# Offering for July: \$1,950.50

**Sunday Worship at 2 PM in the main sanctuary.**

**260 Walnut Avenue Walnut Creek, CA 94598**

# **Aletheia Ministries**



# ***WELCOME!***

▲ (Please rise if you are able)

**Gather**

▲ Praise

Praise Team

**Word**

Scripture Reading

Soyoung

**Reader:** The passage for today is Judges 16:15-22

15 Then she said to him, "How can you say, 'I love you,' when you won't confide in me? This is the third time you have made a fool of me and haven't told me the secret of your great strength." 16 With such nagging she prodded him day after day until he was tired to death. 17 So he told her everything. "No razor has ever been used on my head," he said, "because I have been a Nazirite set apart to God since birth. If my head were shaved, my strength would leave me, and I would become as weak as any other man." 18 When Delilah saw that he had told her everything, she sent word to the rulers of the Philistines, "Come back once more; he has told me everything." So the rulers of the Philistines returned with the silver in their hands. 19 Having put him to sleep on her lap, she called a man to shave off the seven braids of his hair, and so began to subdue him. And his strength left him. 20 Then she called, "Samson, the Philistines are upon you!" He awoke from his sleep and thought, "I'll go out as before and shake myself free." But he did not know that the LORD had left him. 21 Then the Philistines seized him, gouged out his eyes and took him down to Gaza. Binding him with bronze shackles, they set him to grinding in the prison. 22 But the hair on his head began to grow again after it had been shaved.

▲ Closing Praise

Praise Team

**Sending**

▲ Benediction

Pastor Travis

Ministry Leaders

Andy K. (Small Groups and Mission)  
Andrew, Micky, Hee Jun, David (Praise)  
Jenny, Jong Duk, Andy Y. (Worship)  
Jennifer (Finance)  
Chris, Stephanie (Activities)  
Tim, Young (Communications)  
Aaron Ting (Community Life)

We are proud members of Contra Costa United Methodist Church.  
Visit us on our website at: [www.aletheiaministry.org](http://www.aletheiaministry.org)

## Prayers of the People

Everyone

**Pastor:** Almighty God, in a world of change you placed eternity in our hearts and gave us power to discern good from evil. Grant us sincerity, that we may persistently seek the things that endure, refusing those which perish, and that, amid things vanishing and deceptive, we may see the truth steadily, follow the light faithfully, and grow ever richer in that love which is the life of all people.

**Pastor:** Let us pray together in silence our communal prayers:

\* Pray for people who are suffering in the world:

Nation and would-be nation bargain over beheaded journalists in the Middle East, Basic institutions like schools and hospitals in Gaza explode, Territorial integrity in Ukraine suffers attacks, Somalia reels

\* Pray for our family members (East Asian Thanksgiving day: 9/8)

\* Pray for our Aletheia Ministries, for the new pastor, for leaders, and for all members

**Everyone:** We believe in you, O God, for you have made the suffering of humanity your suffering. You have come to establish a kingdom of poor and humble. Today we pray because you are alive, you have saved us, you have made us free, Amen.

## Confession

### ▲ The Apostle's Creed

Everyone

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
Creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, died, and was buried;  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again;  
He ascended into heaven,  
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and He will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.

### ▲ Confession of Sins

Everyone

**Pastor:** Have mercy upon us, O God, according to your lovingkindness. According to the multitude of your tender mercies, blot out our transgressions. Wash us thoroughly from our iniquities, and cleanse us from our sins. For we acknowledge our transgressions, and our sin is ever before us. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and renew a right spirit within us; , through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Everyone:** The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. May the almighty and merciful Lord grant us remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## Sharing

### ▲ Sharing of Peace

Pastor Travis

**Pastor:** The Peace of Christ be always with you

**People:** And also with you

## Announcements

Tim

(Please refer to page eight)

### ▲ Offering Praise

Praise Team

### ▲ Offering Prayer

David

### ▲ Eucharist (*Every first Sunday*)

Everyone

*Presider:* The Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Presider:* Lift your hearts.

*People:* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Presider:* We praise you and we bless you... lifting our voices to magnify you as we say:

***Presider and People:* Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.**

*Presider:* Glory and honor and praise to you... as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray:

***Presider and People:*** (The Lord's Prayer)

***Presider:*** Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

***People:*** **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!**

### **:Post-communion Prayer:**

***Presider and People:*** God of abundance, we give you thanks for uniting us and restoring us in your image. You have graciously nourished us with spiritual food, and now, send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

**Reader:** This is the Word of God for the people of God

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## Message

Pastor Travis

### :Sermon Notes for Small Group Discussions:

\* Why did Samson live a decadent and lustful life, even though he identified himself as a Nazirite?

\* According to the author of Judges, after he was imprisoned, Samson's hair began to grow again (16:22). What does it mean?

\* Have you ever experienced a downfall in your life? How did you overcome it? In the experience, what did God play a role? Where was God when you had the hard time?