Next Sunday we’ll be having a potluck lunch after worship to celebrate another year together! Please sign up on the clipboard being passed around today, or contact Lee MacDonell.

The Tide is in. Paper copies are available today. The latest issue is always available at aptosumc.org under the ‘News & Events’ tab.

Thanks Today to:
Our Liturgist: Joyce Rodgers
Our Ushers: Steve & Jane Green
Our Tech Team: Carolyn Collins, Roger Swenson
Our Coffee Volunteer: Paula LaHue
Our Altar Flowers: Given by Vicki Cull

This Week:
Monday, 7/31:      PACT 10 AM
Tuesday, 8/1:        Alive Now 10 AM
Wednesday, 8/2:  Village Santa Cruz 1 PM, Upper Room
                 Group 7 PM
Thursday, 8/3:      Senior Stretch 11 AM
Friday, 8/4:           Scott Group 10 AM

Comin Up:
Sunday, 8/6:    Potluck Picnic after Worship
Monday 8/7 - Friday 8/11 Summer Music Camp for Kids

Online giving is available. Go to aptosumc.org and click on the ‘GIVE NOW’ button, or scan this code using your smartphone.

~ In Our Prayers This Week ~
Greta Justus and the family and friends of Forrest Willcox on his death on July 6. Cards may be sent to the family and Greta at 184 Potter Road, Aptos, CA 95003

APTONS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
July 30, 2023 ~ 10 AM Worship
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Aptos UMC is an inclusive community that welcomes and encourages full participation of ALL PERSONS, regardless of race, culture, age, economic circumstance, sexual orientation, gender identity, or physical/mental abilities. We affirm our denomination’s motto, “Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors”
Order of Worship

Gathering Music

Call to Worship
The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed.
It is a small seed, but has some surprises in store for us.
When it is grown, it is a very large shrub.
Even the birds can find places in its branches for their nests.
God's transforming love begins in small ways to enter our hearts.
Lord, plant those amazing seeds of transforming love in us,
that they may grow into deeds of service to others in your name.

Prelude

Opening Prayer
Lord of mustard seeds and yeast, we come to you this day,
seeking your Word and will for us. Make us people who care
deeply about the well-being of others. Give us courage to be
yeast for the rising of hope and peace throughout the world.
Open our hearts to your redeeming love, for we ask this in
Christ’s Name. Amen.

Announcements

Hymn #144
“This Is My Father’s World”

Passing of the Peace

Children’s Time

Prayer for Illumination
Lord, open our hearts and minds, by the power of your Holy
Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read, and your Word
proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today.
Amen.

Scripture Matthew 13:31-33 NRSVue

Sermon “Hidden & Mixed In” Pastor Gabe

Hymn #145 “Morning Has Broken”

Prayers of the People

Confession and Pardon
Holy God, we confess that we are small. We wonder how we
can make an impact. But you have always chosen the small to
do great things. Remind us that you give us all we need to do
your work in the world. Remind us that you give us grace so
that we can be your people. Amen.

Offering

Doxology #94 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Prayer of Dedication

The Lord’s Prayer

Closing Hymn #2190 (v1,2,3) “Bring Forth the Kingdom”

Benediction

Postlude
Matthew 13:31-33 NRSVue

31 He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; 32 it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

33 He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”