

Central United Methodist Church

3700 Pacific Avenue, Stockton, CA 95204

ORDER OF WORSHIP



GATHERING

GATHERING MUSIC

Gianna Pedregon (violin)
Marwan Ghonima (bass)
Reyna Machado (drums)

WORDS OF WELCOME

Becky Cameron (8:30am)
Ronesha Jackson (11:00am)

CONGREGATIONAL CENTERING

Joel ben Izzy

INTROIT (11.00am)

From the Rising of the Sun

Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

Becky Cameron (8:30am)
Ronesha Jackson (11:00am)

Leader: We gather in love, in the name of God who loves each child.

All: We gather to hear stories that will inspire us

Leader: We gather with justice, called by the Spirit whom Jesus called Advocate

All: Come, let us worship on this Autumn@Central Sunday.

OPENING HYMN

Gather Us In

The Faith We Sing #2236

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Joel ben Izzy

PRAYER CARDS COLLECTED (11.00am)

ANTHEM

The Gospel of Grace

Chancel Choir

PASSING GOD'S PEACE

(Stand, bow or wave, with the word "Peace be with You!")

All Sing: Thy word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path (2x).

Becky Cameron (8:30am)
Ronesha Jackson (11:00am)

SCRIPTURE

Parable of the Mustard Seed and Shrub

Rev. Sungho Lee

A Godly Play Story based on Matthew 24:32, Mark 4.30-32, Luke 13:18-19

STORY

Joel ben Izzy

HYMN

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

The Faith We Sing #2193

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Becky Cameron (8:30am)
Ronesha Jackson (11:00am)

After a concern, the worship leader will say “Let us pray to the Lord,” the congregation will reply,
“Lord hear our prayer!”
After a joy the worship leader will say “Let us pray to the Lord,” the congregation will reply will
“Lord, we give thanks!”

PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD’S PRAYER

Rev. Sungho Lee

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

STORY

Joel ben Izzy

WORSHIP WITH TITHES & OFFERINGS

Rev. Sungho Lee

OFFERTORY

Gianna Pedregon (violin)
Marwan Ghonima (bass)
Reyna Machado (drums)

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow United Methodist Hymnal #94

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Sungho Lee

CLOSING HYMN

Shalom to You United Methodist Hymnal #666

BENEDICTION

Rev. Sungho Lee

POSTLUDE

Gianna Pedregon (violin)
Marwan Ghonima (bass)
Reyna Machado (drums)



Today we welcome storyteller Joel ben Izzy to Central United Methodist Church. Joel graduated from Stanford University with a degree in English, Creative Writing, and Storytelling in 1983. Following graduation, he set off traveling the world, gathering and telling stories. His first job took him to a village outside Rome, and just as one story leads to another, so one trip led to another. Joel traveled, teaching and telling stories in England, Wales, Ireland, France, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Austria, Hungary, Spain, Israel, Japan, Hong Kong and China. March 1990, he told stories at Storytelling in the Delta here in Stockton.

Joel’s story took a sharp twist in the summer of 1997, when he was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. Though usually a treatable form of the disease, in his case there was a strange complication: when he awoke from surgery he could no longer speak. So, Joel began an adventure as strange as any story ever told, which was to become the basis

for his book, *The Beggar King and the Secret of Happiness*. It took him a year and six months to regain his voice. He had given up on having his voice return, but it was miraculously restored to him.

In addition to his geographical travels, Joel ben Izzy's stories have taken him to many places rarely frequented by storytellers. His work as a story-consultant has him coaching and teaching story-skills to folks in fields ranging from film to high-tech from banking to advertising, from medicine to ministry.

A much sought-after storyteller, Joel ben Izzy tells stories at schools, libraries, camps and synagogues and now at Central United Methodist Church.

SERVING YOU TODAY

Rev. Sungho Lee, Minister
Joel ben Izzy, Storyteller
Becky Cameron, 8:30am Worship Leader
Ronesha Jackson, 11:00am Worship Leader
Ric Campero, Director of Music
Monica Adams, Organist/Pianist
Gianna Pedregon, Violin
Marwan Ghonima, Bass
Reyna Machado, Drums
David Campero, Media
Cherie Hudson, Facilities Coordinator
Rupert Cooper, Audio

"NOTING BUT ORGAN SUNDAY"

Next Sunday has been designated as "Nothing but Organ Sunday." On this day during the 11.00am worship service we will be blessed with fine organ music throughout the service. As part of the service, organists who have served Central in the past, in the present and who represent the future, will play.

Inez Pope, Central's longest serving organist at over 50 years, returns to play the Inez Pope Organ named in her honor. Mary Monroe, who served as interim organist, is back with beautiful offerings. Rebecca "Becky" Nelson who as interim organist, kept the music flowing during the pandemic online service, will also bless us again with music. We also welcome Lawrence Torres, the 2021 Organist Guild Scholarship recipient. Lawrence practiced on Central's organ for a year before presenting his recital in Sacramento last May. Monica Adams, our current organist, will also share her gifts with us.

Invite a friend to join you at the 11.00am service.

MEET AND GREET

Sunday, September 25 will be our last Meet and Greet gathering at the home of Patricia Hatton. This will be a great time to meet with Pastor Lee in a small group setting. If you would like to attend please email Alan Cook (acook@cumcstockton.org) or sign up today at the table in the Atrium.