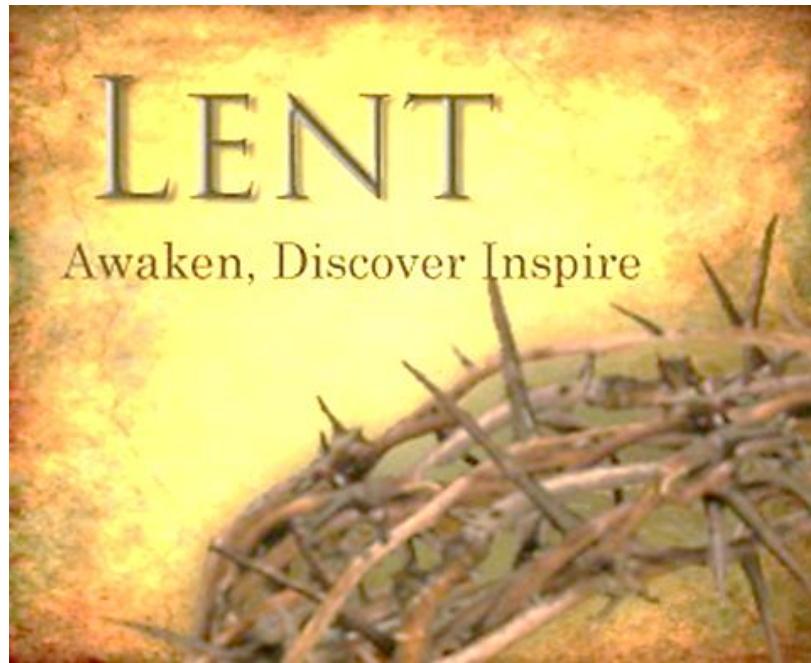


ST ALBAN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT



SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026  
9:00AM

THE REV. DR. RICHARD VEVIA, JR.  
PRIEST-IN-CHARGE

JUSTIN HANSEN  
ORGANIST AND CHOIRMASTER

St. Alban's Episcopal Church  
490 Farragut Circle  
El Cajon, CA 92020  
Phone: 619-444-8212  
E-mail: [generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info](mailto:generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info)  
Website: [www.st-albans-church.org](http://www.st-albans-church.org)

## Welcome Newcomers!

We are blessed to have you with us today. Please sign our newcomer's book at the back of the church, introduce yourself to the priest, and join us for coffee hour in the Parish Hall immediately after the service, just across the courtyard.

Our hope is that you find a home among us, in a place where the love of God is shared, the mystery of grace is experienced, and the joy and laughter of the Christian life is taught.

To learn more about St. Alban's call the office at (619) 444-8212 or email us at: [generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info](mailto:generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info). Also, check out our website at [www.st-albans-church.org](http://www.st-albans-church.org).



Sunday School meets in the building across the courtyard at 9:00am. The children return to their parents at the church for the Communion service. Sunday School starts **Sundays at 9:00 am**. The children will be attending in-person at St. Alban's Church in the Education Room.

**Please Note:** There is no Sunday School on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month. Children are welcome to the service with their families.

### PRAYERS

**Please remember in your prayers:** Ahlam Westeen, Angelynn Than & family, Bishop Susan Brown-Snook, Bob & family, Branda Moua, Chris Miller & family, Christine Peters, friends & family of Cynthia Nyblade, Diaa, Don Mitchell, Dyvid Elias, Gavin Bishop, George Elia & Ibtisam Bashee, Georgina & Phil Loveless, Hilda Ro & family, Jamal Shorees, Joy Bishop, Judith Taylor, Judy Brown, Kent Crothers, Mike & Molly, Mike & Penney Park, Marion Weist & family, Mu Tay, Pa Lae, the family and friends of Ralph McMillen, Ricardo, the Rodriguez family, and Samir Matta.

**Pray for those serving in the military:** Christopher Ibanez, Joshua Ibanez, Clarence Thompkins, Donovan Burns, Jacob Swerdfeger, Lindzy Macias, Phoenix Locken, Riley McMillen, and Travis Warner.

We pray for peace in the Holy Land most especially for our Christian brothers and sisters in Ukraine, Haiti, Myanmar (known as Burma), Indonesia, Sri Lanka, India, Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Egypt, Pakistan, Tunisia, Eritrea, Yemen, Nigeria, Somalia, Israel and Palestine, and all places on the earth where people are in danger and treated unfairly, who are suffering deprivation, torture, and death for confessing Christ as their Lord.

**In our Diocesan cycle of prayer:** We give thanks today for the clergy and people of Sts. Peter and Paul in El Centro.

**In the Anglican cycle of prayer,** we give thanks today for the Church of Ireland.

**Prayer Requests:** To make a request or to update requests, please call the St Alban's office: 619-444-8212, or email: [generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info](mailto:generalbusiness@stalbanschurch.info). You are also invited to add a prayer request in the narthex to be read in our Sunday public prayers. We can also receive prayer requests through our website: [www.st-albans-church.org](http://www.st-albans-church.org)



**ACCESSIONABLE RESTROOMS ARE LOCATED IN THE PARISH HALL ACROSS THE COURTYARD.**  
**Please ask the usher if you need assistance.**

# The Word of God

## Prelude

## Welcome

*Please rise in body or spirit.*

## Opening Hymn – *Hymnal 150, “Forty Days and Forty Nights”*

### Opening Acclamation

**Celebrant:** Almighty God,

**People:** to You all hearts are open, all desires known, and from You no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major, 4/4 time. The lyrics are integrated into the music. The first stanza is: "Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho-ly name." The second stanza is: "Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in-to life." The music consists of quarter and eighth notes, with a bass line providing harmonic support. The source information at the bottom of the music page reads: "Music: Adoration and thanksgiving, #100, 1986, adapted by Francis de Sales. ©1986, Ignatian Books, GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive North American agents. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission." and "Printed by www.SingafLangelyHymns.com".

## The Collect of the Day –

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Celebrant:** Let us pray.

Almighty God, Whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as You know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find You mighty to save; through Jesus Christ Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

*A period of silence is kept.*

## The Lessons

### The First Lesson – Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

**Lector:** A reading from the book of Genesis.

The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, “You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die.”

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, “Did God say, ‘You shall not eat from any tree in the garden’?” The woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.’”

But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

**Lector:** The Word of the Lord.  
**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## The Psalm

*Read responsively by verse.*

### Psalm 32

1 Happy are they whose transgressions are forgiven, \*  
and whose sin is put away!  
2 Happy are they to whom the LORD imputes no  
guilt, \*  
and in whose spirit there is no guile!  
3 While I held my tongue, my bones withered  
away, \*  
because of my groaning all day long.  
4 For Your hand was heavy upon me day and  
night; \*  
my moisture was dried up as in the heat of  
summer.  
5 Then I acknowledged my sin to You, \*  
and did not conceal my guilt.  
6 I said, "I will confess my transgressions to  
the LORD." \*  
Then You forgave me the guilt of my sin.

7 Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to  
You in time of trouble; \*  
when the great waters overflow, they shall not  
reach them.  
8 You are my hiding-place;  
You preserve me from trouble; \*  
You surround me with shouts of deliverance.  
9 "I will instruct you and teach you in the way that  
you should go; \*  
I will guide you with my eye.  
10 Do not be like horse or mule, which have no  
understanding; \*  
who must be fitted with bit and bridle,  
or else they will not stay near you."  
11 Great are the tribulations of the wicked; \*  
but mercy embraces those who trust in  
the LORD.  
12 Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice in the LORD; \*  
shout for joy, all who are true of heart.

### BCP Page 624-625

## The Second Reading – Romans 5:12-19

**Lector:** A reading from the Paul's letter to the Romans.

As sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned-- sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the One who was to come.

But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the One Man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many. And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the One Man, Jesus Christ.

Therefore, just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so One Man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the One Man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

**Lector:** The Word of the Lord.  
**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## Sequence Music – Hymnal 654 “Day By Day”

## The Gospel — Matthew 4:1-11 (Reading in Arabic)

### Sequence Music – Hymnal 654 “Day By Day”

#### The Gospel – Matthew 4:1-11(Reading in English)

Celebrant: The holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

People: **Glory to You, Lord Christ.**

Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterwards He was famished. The tempter came and said to Him, “If You are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But He answered, “It is written,

‘One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Then the devil took Him to the holy city and placed Him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to Him, “If you are the Son of God, throw Yourself down; for it is written,

‘He will command His angels concerning You,’  
and ‘On their hands they will bear You up,  
so that You will not dash Your foot against a stone.’”

Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’”

Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and their splendor; and he said to Him, “All these I will give You, if You will fall down and worship me.” Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God,  
and serve only Him.’”

Then the devil left Him, and suddenly angels came and waited on Him.

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, Lord Christ.**

### Sequence Music – Hymnal 654 “Day By Day”

#### Sermon – The Rev. Dr. Richard Vevia, Jr.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

Lord Christ, You came and dwelled among us and through Your Holy Spirit You dwell among us still.

Use Word and Sacrament this day to help us know this truth more deeply in our hearts  
and live its reality more fully in our lives. **Amen.**

### Sequence Music – Hymnal 654 “Day By Day”

*A period of silence is kept.*

Celebrant: Please rise in body or spirit and join me in saying the Nicene Creed.

#### The Nicene Creed

*All say together.*

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,

**God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
    by the power of the Holy Spirit  
    he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
    and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
    he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
    he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
    and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
    who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.**

### **The Prayers of the People**

**Intercessor:** With all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord, saying "Lord, have mercy."

**Intercessor:** For the peace from above, for the loving-kindness of God, and for the salvation of our souls, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** For the peace of the world, for the welfare of the Holy Church of God, and for the unity of all peoples, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** For the **Church of Ireland**. With thanksgiving, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** We give thanks today for the **clergy and people of Sts. Peter and Paul in El Centro**.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** For **Sean our presiding bishop, Susan our bishop, Richard our priest-in-charge**, and for all bishops, priests and deacons, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** For **President Donald Trump; Governor Gavin Newsom; Mayor Bill Wells**; and all the men and women who serve our country, state, and city in leadership positions, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** For **El Cajon, Lakeside, Santee, and San Diego**, for every city and community, and for those who live in them, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** For seasonable weather, and for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** For the good earth which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to conserve her, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** For those who travel on land, in or on water, in the air or through outer space, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** For the aged and infirm, for the widowed and orphans, and for the sick and the suffering, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** For those with particular concerns:

Ahlam Westeen
Angelynn Than & family
Bishop Susan Brown-Snook
Bob & family
Branda Moua
Chris Miller & family
Christine Peters
<b>Friends and Family of Cynthia Nyblade</b>
Diaa
Don Mitchell
Dyvid Elias
Gavin Bishop
George Elia & Ibtisam Bashee
Georgina & Phil Loveless

Hilda Ro & family
Jamal Shorees
Joy Bishop
Judith Taylor
Judy Brown
Kent Crothers
Mike & Molly
Mike & Penney Park
Marion Weist & family
Mu Tay
Pa Lae
<b>Friends and Family of Ralph McMillen</b>
Ricardo
the Rodriguez family
Samir Matta

**Intercessor:** Let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** For what else would the people of God pray:

*(Please take a few moments to express thanks or offer your own concerns to God either vocally or silently.)*

**Intercessor:** Let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** For the health and safety of those serving in the military, particularly:

Christopher Ibanez
Joshua Ibanez
Clarence Thompkins
Donovan Burns
Jacob Swerdfeger

Lindzy Macias
Phoenix Locken
Riley McMillen
Travis Warner

**Intercessor:** and with thanksgiving for all our veterans, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Intercessor:** For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the destitute, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Celebrant:** For **Polycarp of Smyrna**, Bishop & Martyr, **Saint Matthias**, Apostle, **Emily Malbone Morgan**, Lay Leader & Contemplative, **Photini**, the Samaritan Woman, **George Hebert**, Priest & Poet, **Anna Julia Haywood Cooper**, Educator, and all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, and for all the departed, let us pray to the Lord.

**People:** **Lord, have mercy.**

**Celebrant:** Lord, hear the prayers of Your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of Your name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**People:** Amen.

## Confession of Sin

**Celebrant:** Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*A period of silence is kept.*

**All say together:**

Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against You  
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved You with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in Your will,  
and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Name. Amen.

## Absolution

**Celebrant:** Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep You **+** in eternal life.

**People:** Amen.

## The Peace

**Celebrant:** The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**People:** And also with you.

*At this time you are invited to greet others with a handshake, a wave or hug in peace as you are comfortable.*

## Announcements

### OFFERING PRAYER

**Celebrant:** Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:14*

**Celebrant:** All things come from You O Lord.

**People:** And of Your own we have given You.

### Offertory – “Peace Among Earth’s People”

### Offertory Response – *Hymnal 309, “O Food to Pilgrims Given”*

## The Holy Communion

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

## The Great Thanksgiving

**Celebrant:** The Lord be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Celebrant:** Lift up your hearts.

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

**Celebrant:** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**People:** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

**Celebrant:** It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to You, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who was tempted in every way as we are, yet did not sin. By His Grace we are able to triumph over every evil, and to live no longer for ourselves alone, but for him who died for us and rose again. Therefore, we praise You, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of Your Name:

## Sanctus S130

**Celebrant:** Holy and gracious Father: In Your infinite love You made us for Yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, You, in Your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, Your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to You, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to Your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night He was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when He had given thanks to You, he broke it, and gave it to His disciples, and said,

"Take, eat: This is My Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of Me."

After supper He took the cup of wine; and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, and said,

"Drink this, all of you: This is My Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of Me."

Therefore, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**All:**

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

**Celebrant:** We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling His death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer You these gifts.

Sanctify them by Your Holy Spirit to be for our people the Body and Blood of Your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in Him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve You in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all Your saints into the joy of Your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through Your Son Jesus Christ. By Him, and with Him, and in Him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is Yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

**People:** Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer – (please see insert)**

*A moment of reverence is kept.*

### **The Breaking of the Bread**

#### **The Invitation**

**Celebrant:** This is the table, not of the church but of Jesus Christ.  
It is made ready for those who love Him and who want to love Him more.  
So come, you who have much faith and you who have little;  
you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time;  
you who have tried to follow and you who have failed;  
come, not because the church invites you;  
it is Christ, and He invites you to meet Him here.

**Celebrant:** The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on Him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

### **Communion Hymn – Hymnal 149, “Eternal Lord of Love”**

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**Celebrant:** The Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus strengthen you and keep you in His grace.  
**People:** Amen.

### **Post Communion Prayer**

**All:** Eternal God, heavenly Father,  
You have graciously accepted us as living members  
of Your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,  
and You have fed us with spiritual food  
in the Sacrament of His Body and Blood.  
Send us now into the world in peace,  
and grant us strength and courage  
to love and serve You with gladness  
and singleness of heart;  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **Blessing**

### **Recessional Hymn – Insert, “Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song”**

### **Dismissal**

**Celebrant:** Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.  
**All:** Thanks be to God.

### **Postlude**

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## Participants in Today's In-Person and Online Worship

**Priest-in-Charge:** The Rev. Dr. Richard Vevia, Jr.

**Assisting in Worship:** Mary Zori

**Lectors/Intercessors:** Colette Hurd, Joanne Bishop, Eileen McMillen, Tracy Vevia

**Organist/Choirmaster:** Justin Hansen

**Streaming Tech:** Hsa Blu Moo, Nahrien Patak

**Gospel Readers:** Arabic Nawal Yousif, Mary Zori, Jamil Shorees, Ibtisam Bashee, Nahrien Patak, Intissar Razoq, & Musa  
Karen Angelynn Than

**Ushers:** Sharon Hathaway and Lisa Hilliker

**Report Misconduct:** The Episcopal Diocese of San Diego considers the reporting and investigation of misconduct to be of critical importance. Reporting enables the diocese to protect the complainant, the respondent, and the larger community. It also allows the diocese to assist with the spiritual, psychological, and emotional needs of all concerned during and after the report of misconduct.

Intake Officers: Ms. Megan Callan, [megan@mecallan.com](mailto:megan@mecallan.com), The Rev. Willy Crespo, [frcrespo@gmail.com](mailto:frcrespo@gmail.com), and Ms. Meredith Hardy, [mlh8180@gmail.com](mailto:mlh8180@gmail.com)

Get your 2026 Kalendar! The new Episcopal Kalendar is now available for 2026 for just \$5.00!



A convenient size, and all the important dates relevant to the Episcopal calendar year are clearly designated with helpful information on the back of each month's page. Visit or call the St Alban's office, (T-Th, 9am-1pm, 619-444-8212) and get yours today!

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CCLI #1373137

### Community Garden Meeting

*Tuesday, 24 February, 12:00 (noon), Snacks provided*

