

## GATHERING WITH SONG AND PRAYER

### WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

### SHARING OUR ANNOUNCEMENTS

### ACCEPTING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Trio *Andante con moto*

Weber

### \*GATHERING AS THE BODY OF CHRIST

God of perfect love,

we gather as imperfect people,  
praying to love you perfectly,  
and not only you.

We realize perfect love is impossible

for imperfect people,  
yet we pray for the impossible nevertheless,  
with faith that for you all things are possible,  
and with hope that our love, though imperfect,  
will transform, heal, reconcile, unite, and make whole.

Embrace us, your imperfect people, in your perfect love,  
and help us love you, and every other imperfect person,  
in a more whole-hearted fashion.

\*SINGING A HYMN *Hope of the World*

Red Hymnal 734

## PRAYING FOR OURSELVES, ONE ANOTHER, AND THE WORLD

### REFLECTING SILENTLY UPON OUR LIVES

In silence and stillness, reflect on who has arrived for worship this morning.  
What thoughts and feelings, joys and concerns, have you brought with you?

### SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

If the Spirit is moving you to share a thought or feeling, joy or concern,  
please do so now, so we may lift it together in prayer.

### LIFTING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS IN PRAYER

### PRAYING TOGETHER AS JESUS PRAYED

(debts and debtors)

### RECEIVING A WORSHIP GIFT

Lucy Erda

## READING AND REFLECTING

### READING FROM THE BIBLE

2 Corinthians 6: 1-13

### REFLECTING

Rev. Amelia Fulbright

By engaging in practices that strengthen our own inner presence as spiritual beings, we will approach others as spiritual beings. Robert Sardello

Love lives in persons not ideas. Love is not a concept but a powerful, transforming energy that heals, reconciles, unites, and makes whole. Love draws together— heart to heart, center to center. Love is not what God does; love is what God is. Love is the Godness of God. Ilia Delio

## OFFERING OURSELVES THROUGH OUR GENEROSITY

### OFFERING OUR LIVES AND GIFTS IN SERVICE TO GOD

Trio "Scherzo" from *Trio in Bb*

Köher

\*PRAISING GOD Tune Tallis Canon (sung once together, then as a round)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God for all that love has done. Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

\*DEDICATING OUR LIVES AND POSSESSIONS TO GOD

## DEPARTING TO PRACTICE CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

\*SINGING A HYMN *Lift Every Voice and Sing*

Red Hymnal 339

\*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

\*SENDING WITH A SONG *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

Red Hymnal 543

\*PARTING WITH A SONG *Our God Our Help In Ages Past*

When we pray to love God perfectly,  
surely we don't mean only.  
(Lord, see how well I have done).

Mary Oliver

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our **Adult Christian Education** group is studying the relationship between racism and our nation's criminal justice system. A listing of the readings for this study can be found at our church web site under the Ministry and Adult Ed links.

Our Board of Trustees has made arrangements for members and friends of the Congregational Church of Austin to **contribute electronically** through a program called **Tithe.ly**. Members and friends can install the app on a smart device or contribute to CCA on the Tithe.ly website. **For more information** about Tithe.ly and how to use the service, please pick up an information sheet in the sanctuary or Fellowship Hall, or ask our Office Administrator, Donna Cravens, to send you one electronically.

Please prayerfully consider joining one of our new vision Task Forces. **Task Force 1 is Strengthening Our Community**, with John Goff serving as the organizer. **Task Force 2 is Broadening Our Community and Outreach**, with Whit Bodman serving as the organizer. **Task Force 3 is Accessibility and Flexibility of our Facilities**, with Jim Howicz serving as the organizer. **Task Force 4 is Our Future in a Changing Neighborhood**, with Bill Beardall serving as the organizer. Talk to the organizers to get a better sense of these four task forces, and sign up on the sign-up sheets in Fellowship Hall.

The **Micah 6 Food Pantry** needs 12 to 15 **volunteers** every Saturday to serve the 250 people who depend on the pantry's food, but it currently only has around 5 volunteers signed up for some Saturdays. If you can volunteer, please do so at the following site:  
<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/1324908/false#/invitation>

## PARTICIPATING TODAY

Ushers Keith and Darcy Beresheim  
Fellowship Host The Deacons

## CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The **Adult Christian Education Group** meets Sundays at 10:00 am on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.

**Middle School and High School Students** remain in the service the first Sunday of each month; other Sundays their Sunday School begins after the Choral Anthem.

**Elementary Sunday School** is held during the 11:00 am service, immediately following "Time With Children." The children will be escorted from the Sanctuary to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Christian Education room, and can be picked up from there after the service.

**Infant and Toddler Care** is available throughout the service in the Nursery.

Children's bulletins and crayons are available on the table in the back of the Sanctuary.

## THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN, UCC

408 West 23<sup>rd</sup> Street (512) 472-2370 office  
Austin, TX 78705-5214 (512) 472-1175 fax  
ucausti@swbell.net  
<http://congregationalchurchofaustin.org>

Rev. Thomas J VandeStadt	Pastor
Nodie Murphy	Music Director
Rev. Amelia Fulbright	Labyrinth Student Ministry
Jonathan Geer	Piano
Amy Harris	Violin
Tony Rogers	Cello
Amy Rivera	Sunday School Teacher
Sam Clubb	Nursery Attendant
Donna Cravens	Office Manager
Victor Cardenas	Custodian

## THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN

an Open and Affirming Church  
of The United Church of Christ

**June 24, 2018**  
**The Season of Pentecost**



## ROUSING OURSELVES, AND BRINGING OUR IMPERFECT STONES TO THE PILE

It has become a common feeling,  
I believe,  
as we have watched our heroes  
falling over the years,  
that our own small stone of activism,  
which might not seem to measure up  
to the rugged boulders of heroism  
we have so admired,  
is a paltry offering  
toward the building of an edifice of hope.  
Many who believe this  
choose to withhold their offering  
out of shame.  
This is the tragedy of the world.  
For we can do nothing  
toward changing our course on the planet,  
a destructive one,  
without rousing ourselves,  
individual by individual,  
and bringing our small, imperfect stones  
to the pile.

Alice Walker

## UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Trustees, Thu, June 21, 7:15 pm, at Which Craft Tap Room