

GATHERING TOGETHER

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

ACCEPTING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Trio *Andante*

Kalinnikow

GIVING THANKS TO GOD

God, Unimaginable One,

*You exist beyond our imaginations,
and you exist within our imaginations.*

With our imaginations,

*we create images of you, and we imagine you
as the imageless one.*

With our imaginations,

*our finite minds can imagine infinity,
our time-bound minds can imagine eternity.*

With our imaginations,

*we can imagine a life free of aches and pains,
sorrow and despair, anger and hatred.*

With our imaginations,

*we can imagine a land of milk and honey,
a new creation, peace on earth.*

We give you thanks, God,

*for our imaginations, our dreams, our visions,
the ones we hold deep within, the ones we share together.*

And we pray, God,

*may we take the steps we need to take,
to live the lives and to create the world that we imagine.*

***SINGING A HYMN** *God of Abraham and Sarah*

Black Hymnal 20

SHARING A WORSHIP GIFT

Whit Bodman

READING, REFLECTING, AND PRAYING

READING FROM THE BIBLE

Exodus 3: 1-8 and Isaiah 65: 17-25

All ideals are imaginative projections. Though we can conceive of them, they can't exist in this imperfect world. Yet they are valuable nevertheless. We need ideals to propel us forward into better futures, to inspire us to be better people in a better world. Religions are always idealistic, asking us to be more than we are, more than we could ever be. Norman Fisher

But there is something that I must say to my people...I have a dream that one day... Martin Luther King, Jr.

REFLECTING SILENTLY

SHARING INSPIRATION, JOYS, AND CONCERNS

LIFTING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS IN PRAYER

PRAYING TOGETHER AS JESUS PRAYED

debts and debtors

OFFERING OURSELVES THROUGH OUR GENEROSITY

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND GIFTS IN SERVICE TO GOD

Trio *Passepied*

Delibes

***PRAISING GOD** Tune: Tallis (sing once together, then once as a canon)

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. Amen.

***DEDICATING OUR LIVES AND POSSESSIONS TO GOD**

DEPARTING TO PRACTICE CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

***SINGING A HYMN** *Be Thou My Vision*

Red Hymnal 450

***TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD**

***SENDING SONG** *Sent Forth By God's Blessing*

Black Hymnal 76

***PARTING WITH A SONG** *I Want to Be Ready*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tom has a **new e-mail address**. For church-related e-mails, please contact him at pastorccaucc@gmail.com

Our **adult Christian education class** meets at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings in the adult CE room on the second floor.

Task Force 4 members will meet with members of University Baptist Church and University Christian Church after worship today at UBC.

The Building Community Task Force (**Task Force 1**) is planning to roll out the "**Activity Directory**" on September 8. The Activity Directory is based on the survey many (over 40!) of us filled out near the start of the year, and will provide groupings of folks by common interest in various activities in order to facilitate group interactions outside of Sunday services. Before doing so, we wanted to give everyone one last chance to fill out the survey so that they can be included (if they wish) in the directory. We continue to have paper copies at usher's station which you can give to Faye Dierksen or John Goff.

Please join us in the **United Church of Christ's All-Church-Read: *Evicted, Poverty and Profit in the American City*, by Matthew Desmond**. *Evicted* won the Pulitzer Prize in 2017, and Matthew Desmond was the keynote speaker at the UCC General Synod this summer. Read the book over the summer, and we'll discuss it in the fall.

You can make your **financial contribution** to the Congregational Church of Austin **electronically** through **Tithe.ly**. You 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.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Coord Council, Wed, Aug 21, 7:15 pm, Whit Bodman's Trustees, Thurs, Sept 5, 7:15 pm, Reuel Nash's Deacons, Wednesday, Sept 11, 7:15 pm, Joy Penticuff's

PARTICIPATING TODAY

Ushers Ruth Koenig and Jo Jensen
Nursery Assistant Rachel Dietz

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The Adult Christian Education Group meets Sundays at 10:00 am on the 2nd floor.

The Youth Group meets every Sunday (except the first Sunday of the month) after church with the youth from University Christian and University Baptist, to go out for lunch and enjoy a program. Middle and High Schoolers welcome. If you would like to be on the email list for more details, please see Reuel Nash.

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 2nd 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. Child care begins at 9:15 am for the parents of children attending choir practice or the Adult Christian Education Group.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN, UCC

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Nodie Murphy Music Director
Rev. Amelia Fulbright Labyrinth Student Ministry
Jonathan Geer Piano
Amy Harris Violin
Tony Rogers Cello
Amy Kent 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



August 18, 2019

Season of Pentecost

A Land Flowing
With Milk and Honey

IMAGINATION AND CONVERSION

Often an entire culture
or a Christian community
is called to conversion
at the level of the imagination.

This is happening today
with our images of God.

We know how powerful these images are
in determining our vision of reality.

Deeper than the statements we make about God
or the concepts we formulate about the divine
is the power of the images of God
we hold personally and communally.

They engage us not only on the level of mind
but of emotion as well.

Conversion at the level of these images
strikes at the heart of our spiritualities
as individuals and communities.

Kathleen Fisher