



# CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH of AUSTIN

An Open & Affirming Congregation in the United Church of Christ

Order of Worship for 1/29/2023

***Fourth Sunday After the Epiphany***

Rev. Amelia Fulbright, Transitional Pastor

**Prelude:** Improvisation on “We Are Your People”

## **Welcome**

**Call to Worship** (Inspired by Psalm 15 and Micah 6:8)

One: Holy One, who may abide in your sanctuary? Who may dwell in your sacred creation?

**Many: Those who do justice. Those who confront inequities and uplift the oppressed.**

One: Holy One, who may abide in your sanctuary? Who may dwell in your sacred creation?

**Many: Those who love kindness. Those who love neighbor, friend and foe.**

One: Holy One, who may abide in your sanctuary? Who may dwell in your sacred creation?

**Many: Those who walk humbly with you. Those who follow your lead and answer your call.**

**\*Hymn of Celebration:** Black Hymnal #391 “In the Midst of New Dimensions”

**\*Invocation** (Unison)

*Just and Loving God, we enter into your sacred spaces,  
in sanctuaries and in homes, in public gatherings and private places.  
You bridge time and space to forge us as a beloved community.  
You, O Sovereign, make plain the way of life for us.  
Encourage us to join your journey, to love your children and creation,  
and to contribute to your kingdom on earth. Amen.*

**Listening To the Sacred Text:** 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

Listening for the Spirit in Silence:

*Word and words, O God. Help us to hear the One among the many.*

**Reflecting:** “Biodiversity”

**\*Hymn of Reflection:** Black Hymnal #309 “We Are Your People”

**\*Prayer for Transformation and New Life** (Unison)

**People: Holy Wisdom, you have expressed your hope for us and vision for life abundantly. Many times we settle for a temporary truce over real peace. We avoid confrontation and accountability that builds up and creates a more just world. We refuse to relentlessly pursue your will when discomfited by the cost of discipleship. Forgive us, O God, we pray.**

Leader: Receive the good news that each day presents a new opportunity to follow the way of Jesus—to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with God. The grace of the Holy One meets us. God embraces and supports us in the turning and will be faithful to strengthen us on the path of righteousness. Amen.

**Offering invitation**

A generous life counters the societal norms that depend on scarcity. Our Loving God creates in abundance so that all may live a full and flourishing life. When we give from our abundance, we proclaim our trust in God's provision and our love of neighbor.

Offertory Music: Rondo from Trio #2 F. Haydn

**\*Doxology** (Tune: *All Creatures Of Our God and King*)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.*

*Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

*Praise God for all that love has done. Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.*

*Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Amen.*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Announcements**

**\*Sending Song:** Black Hymnal #539 "Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant"

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude:** Tambourin J. Birkenstock

**\* Please rise as you are able, in body or in spirit.**

(Today's liturgy was written by The Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay,  
Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ.)

**Leading In Today's Service:**

Laura Martin, Director of Music

Jaime Hadley, Usher

Jonathan Geer, Piano

Liz Lee, Cello

Britt Hicks, Director of Online Ministries

Joy Penticuff, Liturgist

Amy Harris, Violin