



# CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH of AUSTIN

An Open & Affirming Congregation in the United Church of Christ  
Order of Worship for 3/12/2023

## ***Third Sunday in Lent***

Rev. Amelia Fulbright, Transitional Pastor

### **Prelude**

Improvisation on the Hymn “At the Font We Start Our Journey”

### **Welcome**

### **Call to Worship**

Leader: We gather together—

**People: the seekers, the dreamers, the shooting-star wishers, in hopes of seeing God.**

Leader: We gather together—

**People: the curious, the hungry, the loving, the lonely, in hopes of finding peace.**

Leader: We gather together—

**People: those who are thirsty and those with water to spare, in hopes of finding justice.**

Leader: So come to the well, come drink of the Living Water. Amen.

### **\*Hymn:**

“O God, How We Have Wandered”

New Century Hymnal #202

### **\*Invocation** (Unison)

*God of conversation,*

*We come to you today thirsty—*

*thirsty for hope,*

*thirsty for good news, thirsty for a glimpse of you.*

*So today we pray,*

*move in these words like a current.*

*Give us the courage to wade into your story with open eyes and open hearts.*

*Give us the courage to drink this moment in.*

*We are listening. We are grateful.*

*Amen.*

### **Listening To the Sacred Text:** John 4:5-42

Listening for the Spirit in Silence:

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

**Reflecting:** “Will you give me a drink?”

**\*Hymn of Reflection:** “We All Come Thirsty” See Handout.

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

Leader: We believe that a glass of water given to us by a stranger can taste like justice.

**People: We believe that honest conversation has the power to change us.**

Leader: We believe that all God’s children have a voice and something to say.

**People: We believe that Jesus loves the outcast, the ignored, the shamed, and the abandoned.**

Leader: We believe in asking questions.

**People: We believe in curiosity.**

Leader: We believe in giving people a drink.

**People: May we be brave enough also to receive one. Amen.**

**Invitation to Generosity**

**Offering our gifts and our prayers**

Offertory Music: “As Water to the Thirsty”

**\*Doxology** (Tune: *Old Hundredth, New Century Hymnal #780*)

*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.*

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Announcements**

**\*Sending Song:** “What Wondrous Love is This?” New Century Hymnal #223

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude:** Allegro from Sonata No. 4 G. F. Händel

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

(Today’s prayers are adapted from liturgy by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org)

**Leading In Today’s Service:**

Laura Martin, Director of Music

CJ Wood, Deacon

Jonathan Geer, Piano

Liz Lee, Cello

Britt Hicks, Director of Online Ministries

John Goff, Usher

Amy Harris, Violin