



**Congregational Church of Austin,
United Church of Christ**
An Open and Affirming Congregation

An Open & Affirming Congregation in the United Church of Christ
Order of Worship for 4/14/2024
Third Sunday of Easter

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

Words for Centering

Dalai Lama

*“Generosity is the most natural outward expression of an inner attitude
of compassion and loving-kindness.”*

Ringings of the Bells

Prelude

Improvisation on "Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain"

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Ginny Brown Daniel

*If you are visiting for the first time, we are so glad you have joined us!
Thank you for leading us in worship with your presence!*

***Hymn of Celebration**

New Life UCC Sing! Prayer and Praise #156

***Call to Worship**

Rev. Ginny

We gather in your presence, compassionate Christ.

Flow through this time of worship with your grace and wisdom.

Nourish us with words of truth and challenge.

**And strengthen us to go forth in humility and love, as your servants in
the world. Amen.**

Reading of the Hebrew Scriptures

Psalm 4

Rev. Ginny

Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me and hear my prayer. How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies? But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him. When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent. Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord. There are many who say, 'O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!' You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound. I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.

***Hymn of Reflection**

Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day

****NCH241**

Reading of the Christian Scriptures Philippians 2:1-13 Rev. Dave Sigmund
Common English Translation

Therefore, if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort in love, any sharing in the Spirit, any sympathy, complete my joy by thinking the same way, having the same love, being united, and agreeing with each other. Don't do anything for selfish purposes, but with humility think of others as better than yourselves. Instead of each person watching out for their own good, watch out for what is better for others. Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus: Though he was in the form of God, he did not consider being equal with God something to exploit. But he emptied himself by taking the form of a slave and by becoming like human beings. When he found himself in the form of a human, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.

Therefore, God highly honored him and gave him a name above all names, so that at the name of Jesus everyone in heaven, on earth, and under the earth might bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Divine Parent. Therefore, my loved ones, just as you always obey me, not just when I am present but now even more while I am away, carry out your own salvation with fear and trembling. God is the one who enables you both to want and to actually live out God's good purposes.

This is the spirit of God's love. **Thanks be to God.**

Prayers for God's Beloved Community

Rev. Ginny

Anthem

Abide With Me

Monk/Colman

Reflecting in Community "Blessed and Grateful...We Create Community"

Rev. Dave Sigmund

Silence

Invitation to Generosity

Rev. Ginny

You are invited to financially give so that we can continue to serve our neighbors in Austin and throughout the world. Your generosity can be with cash, a check, or scanning the QR code to give online (see the back of this bulletin). Thank you for your generosity.

Offertory Music

Romance sans Paroles

D. van Goens

***Doxology**

Tune, All Creatures of Our God & 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**

Rev. Ginny

***Sending Song**

Your is the Glory, Resurrected One!

NCH 253

***Benediction**

Rev. Dave Sigmund

Postlude

Rhythmically and Humorously from Suite for Violin and Piano

W. G. Still

You are invited to be seated and listen to the postlude as our gift to you from the Divine. After the postlude, we will have a time of joys and concerns and prayer. If you are visiting with us, you are invited to stay for as much or as little as you choose. We are grateful for your presence with us today!

Welcome to the Congregational Church of Austin, UCC!

If you are visiting for the first time, we are so glad you have joined us! We invite you to join us after worship for a time of fellowship so that we can learn more about you and share more about our church with you!

Lunch and Conversation after worship today!

Please join us for lunch and then a conversation with Rev. Dave Sigmund about planned giving and our Church! Regardless of your age or socio-economic background, it's always helpful to be intentional about how we give of our time, talents, and financial resources!

Leading In Today's Service:

Rev. Dr. Ginny Brown Daniel, Interim Pastor and Teacher

Jonathan Geer, Piano

John Goff, Sound and Worship Streaming

Amy Harris, Violin

Roberto Hernández, Usher and Deputy Deacon

Liz Lee, Cello

Laura Martin, Director of Music

Rev. Dave Sigmund, Guest Preacher

** *When we refer to the New Century Hymnal, we use the acronym, NCH.*



*Welcome, Rev. Dave Sigmund, Generosity Officer for the
Southern Region of the United Church of Christ!*

Rev. Dave Sigmund is our guest preacher this morning. He will lead us in a conversation about planned giving after worship. Rev. Sigmund is the Generosity Officer for the Southern Region of the United Church of Christ. Welcome, Rev. Sigmund!