



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 5/12/2024
Seventh Sunday After Easter

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

Words for Centering

Anne Lamott

*As a Christian and a feminist, the most important message I can carry and fight
for is the sacredness of each human life,
And reproductive rights for all women are a crucial part of that.*

Ringling of the Bells

Prelude

Arabesque No. 1

Debussy

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Dr. Ginny Brown Daniel

If you are visiting for the first time, we are so glad you have joined us!

***Hymn of Celebration**

One Foot/Lead with Love

Please see insert

***Call to Worship**

Rev. Ginny

On this Mother's Day we remember those women and men, who have been mothers to us in our lives.

For the women who have birthed us, we are grateful for God's creative presence.

For the women, who have been like mothers and have nurtured our spirits, we are grateful for God's nourishing presence.

For the men, who have been mothered and affirmed us, we are grateful for God's comforting presence.

For God's maternal example of unending love, we are grateful.

May we receive that maternal love and offer it to others around us. Come let us worship the Mothering God.

***Hymn of Reflection**

God Made From One Blood

**NCH427

A Litany for Reproductive Justice

Rev. Ginny

Written by Rev Amy Johnson, UCC Minister for Sexuality Education and Justice

Holy Mother God, Author of Life, Healer of all, we come to you humbly in prayer. We pray for all those who mother us, nurture us, believe in us, and love us unconditionally.

We pray every one of your Beloved children knows that kind of love.

We pray for those who are pregnant, carrying: Joy at the possibility of new life in their wombs, anxiety and fear of a pregnancy not planned or desired, the weight of choice, the burden of no choice where there once was one, and the terror of no bodily autonomy.

We pray every one of your Beloved children knows you are with them on their journey.

We pray for those mothering and parenting others; Who soothe cries, lose sleep, kiss wounds, sing lullabies...Who make ends meet, go without, battle systems of oppression, sacrifice...

We pray every one of your Beloved children is cared for abundantly.

We pray for those in power, who make decisions about Child care subsidies, funding for food, affordable housing, health care, and access to education.

We pray every one of your Beloved children has enough to eat, safe place to live and learn, and abundant care for their bodies, minds and spirits.

God of Many Names, stir us into action, to fight for these basic human rights, to advocate with organizations like Just Texas, to tell the stories and pierce the hearts of those whose privilege and greed withhold equity and care for Your Beloved Children.

Annoy us, agitate us, accompany us in this holy and sacred work. Amen.

Reading of the Christian Scriptures John 17:6-19

Rev. Ginny

‘I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you

gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Parent, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

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

Anthem O Love Divine Wagner

Dialogical Sermon Reflecting in Community Shan Schaffer and Rev. Ginny

Silence

Mission Moment Just Texas

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 Waltz Op. 64 No. 2 Chopin

***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** I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry NCH351

***Benediction** Rev. Ginny

Postlude Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum Debussy

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.

Welcome to the Congregational Church of Austin, UCC!

If you are visiting for the first time, we are so glad you have joined us!

Leading In Today's Service:

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

Jonathan Geer, Piano

John Goff, Sound and Worship Streaming

Laura Martin, Director of Music

Shan Schaffer, Guest Worship Leader

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

Please join us after worship for a Mothering Day Brunch. Shan will share more about Just Texas and how CCA can collaborate together for reproductive justice!



Invitation to Baptismal Bowl and Prayer Net During Offertory

You are invited to bring your offering forward and place in the offering plate. You are also invited to the table near the prayer net. Our baptismal bowl is there for you to dip your fingers in God's Living Water as a baptismal reminder that you are created in God's image and loved wholly just as you are! You are also invited to take a prayer ribbon (symbolizing the prayers you bring with you today) and tie it to the prayer.

Welcome, Shan Schaffer of Texas Freedom Network's Just Texas!

Shan Schaffer is the Faith Strategist at Texas Freedom Network. Born and raised in Austin, Shan is dedicated to ensuring all Texans have access to the health care they want and need. Shan loves calling Texas home and hopes to make Texas more equitable and just for all of those who live here. Just Texas is a program of Texas Freedom Network that is building a grassroots movement of progressive people of faith and faith leaders to speak publicly and politically in support of reproductive freedom, including the right to abortion, and LGBTQIA+ equality for all Texans.