



The Congregational Church of Austin, UCC,
an Open and Affirming Congregation

*Providing a nurturing, safe, and affirming community for all people to flourish
in God's love, justice, and peace!*

408 W. 23rd Street Austin, TX 78705

Order of Worship for 6/16/2024
Third Sunday After Pentecost
Father's Day
Juneteenth
Vision Celebration

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

Words for Centering

Ralph Ellison

*If the celebration of Juneteenth doesn't offer opportunities for deep reflection and
commitment to ongoing struggle for equality, then it is just another party.*

Ringling of the Bells

Prelude

Improvisation on "Lift Every Voice and Sing"

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** Fearfully, Wonderfully Made

Crabtree and Whitehill
Please see handout

***Call to Worship**

Sarah Darter

Today is a busy day in the life of the Congregational Church of Austin!

**That's right! We gather to celebrate Father's Day, honoring all men and
women who embody God's paternal example of unending love.**

We gather to celebrate the completion of our visioning process and
affirmation of our Vision Statement as we prepare to live into God's vision with
us!

We celebrate that we are the new creation of Christ's liberating love that Paul describes to the Corinthians.

We celebrate Juneteenth as the reminder of new life our black ancestors experienced in their liberation from enslavement.

May our worship of celebration be our testament to God's love, justice, and peace. Come let us worship our Fathering God.

Reading of the Hebrew Scriptures Psalm 20 Sarah Darter

***Hymn of Reflection** God Bless Our Homes **NCH429

Prayers for God's Beloved Community Rev. Ginny

Reading of the Christian Scriptures 2 Corinthians 5:6-17 Rev. Ginny

Anthem Built on a Rock Althouse

Reflecting in Community Reimagining Safety for Everyone Rev. Ginny

Silence

Invitation to Generosity Rev. Ginny

Offertory Music Deep River

***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** Sarah Darter

O God of celebrations, we ask for your blessings upon the gifts we offer today, that they may be used to nurture, uplift, and create a safe and affirming community for all. Amen.

Litany of Celebration ~ Vision Statement of the Congregational Church of Austin

Today we celebrate the conclusion of our visioning process at the Congregational Church of Austin! Woohoo!

We are grateful for the Holy Spirit moving through us in our discernment for who God envisions us to be at this moment of our ministry in West Campus of Austin.

We honor our vulnerability in which we shared the joys of our church's heritage, our sorrows of loss we continue to grieve, and our willingness to be uncomfortable in our conversations, process, and anxiousness about our future.

We give thanks for our Transition Team leaders, Rev. Ginny, and our small groups, who guided us along every step of our visioning journey.

And God is not through with us yet because we celebrate our Vision Statement that reflects our church today:

Providing a nurturing, safe, and affirming community for all people to flourish in God's love, justice, and peace. Woohoo!

Today we celebrate with woohos and a cookout as we recognize that our hard work continues as we authentically live out our Vision Statement in everything we do as a church!

From our development of our building for our church and the community to leasing our basement to SafeHorns;

From the music classes that practice in the sanctuary to our involvement with reproductive justice kits and Central Texas Interfaith; From our online worship to our onsite fellowship;

may we prayerfully be providing a nurturing, safe, and affirming community for all people to flourish in God's love, justice, and peace. This day and forevermore! Amen and woohoo!!!

***Sending Song**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

***GTG306

***Benediction**

Rev. Ginny

Postlude

You are invited to be seated and listen to the postlude as our gift to you from the Divine.

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!

Thank you for leading us in worship with your presence!

Leading In Today's Service:

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

Sarah Darter, Worship Leader

Jonathan Geer, Piano

Amy Harris, Violin

Roberto Hernández, Usher and Deputy Deacon

Liz Lee, Cello

Laura Martin, Director of Music

Reuel Nash, Sound and Worship Streaming

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

*** When we refer to the Glory to God Hymnal, we use the acronym, GTG



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 net to remind us that God holds the collective prayers of creation together in God's love for all of creation.

If you would rather remain seated and participate, simply lift your hand and an usher will bring you an offering plate and prayer ribbon. Please participate as much or as little as you choose.