

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

Jonathan Geer, Piano

John Goff, Sound and Worship Streaming

Amy Harris, Violin

Roberto Hernández, Usher and Deputy Deacon

Liz Lee, Cello

Joy Penticuff, Worship Leader

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



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.



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

An Open & Affirming Congregation in the United Church of Christ

Order of Worship for 7/14/2024

Eighth Sunday After Pentecost

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

Words for Centering

Sister Dorothy Day

*We cannot love God unless we love each other,
And to love we must know each other.
We know God in the breaking of bread,
And we know each other in the breaking of bread,
And we are not alone anymore.
Heaven is a banquet and life is a banquet, too,
Even with a crust, where there is companionship.*

Ringling of the Bells

Prelude

Ashokan Farewell

Jay Ungar

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**

At This Table

Menzel and Myrin

***Call to Worship**

Joy Penticuff

Siblings in Christ, what a wonderful day to worship God.

The birds are chirping, and we continue to slow down our busy lives during these summer months.

Even during the summer, God calls us to join in God's re-creation. God calls the simple, the weak, the powerless.

God calls the hopeless, the lonely, the lost.

God calls each of us no matter who we are or where we are on life's journey.

So come, let us worship the God who calls us as the Source of our lives!

Reading of the Hebrew Scriptures

Psalm 24

Joy Penticuff

Please join Joy in a responsive reading of Psalm 24 found on New Century Hymnal page 634. Please read the indented lines and sing the refrain together.

***Hymn of Reflection**

Graced with Garments of Great Gladness

**NCH334

Prayers for God's Beloved Community

Rev. Ginny

Reading of the Christian Scriptures

Gospel of Thomas, saying 64

Rev. Ginny

Jesus said, "A man had received visitors. And when he had prepared the dinner, he sent his servant to invite the guests. He went to the first one and said to him, 'My master invites you.' He said, 'I have claims against some merchants. They are coming to me this evening. I must go and give them my orders. I ask to be excused from the dinner.' He went to another and said, 'My master has invited you.' He said to him, 'I have just bought a house and am required for the day. I shall not have any spare time.' He went to another and said to him, 'My master invites you.' He said to him, 'My friend is going to get married, and I am to prepare the banquet. I shall not be able to come. I ask to be excused from the dinner.' He went to another and said to him, 'My master invites you.' He said to him, 'I have just bought an estate, and I am on my way to collect the rent. I shall not be able to come. I ask to be excused.' The servant returned and said to his master, 'Those whom you invited to the dinner have asked to be excused.' The master said to his servant, 'Go outside to the streets and bring back those whom you happen to meet, so that they may dine.' Businesspeople and merchants will not enter the places of my Parent."

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

Special Music

Old Devil Time

Lucy Erda

Reflecting in Community

"Dinner Guests, Hurricanes, and a Noncanonical Gospel!"

Rev. Ginny

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

Andante from Symphony No. 9

Schubert

***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**

Joy Penticuff

Gracious God, we dedicate these offerings to your work of justice, peace, and love. Bless these gifts to bring hope, comfort, and empowerment to those in need, reflecting your radical hospitality. May our giving extend your invitation to the feast of life, building a community where all people can flourish. In Jesus' name, Amen.

***Sending Song**

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life vs. 1-3, 6

NCH543

***Benediction**

Rev. Ginny

Postlude

Cristal

Mariano

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!