



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 8/4/2024
Eleventh Sunday After Pentecost

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

Words for Centering Marcella Althaus-Reid, The Queer God (2003)
The search for love and for truth is a bodily one.
Bodies in love add many theological insights to the quest for God and truth.

Ringing of the Bells

Prelude Warum? R. Schumann

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** Let it Shine Sing! Prayer and Praise 196

***Call to Worship** Rev. Dr. CJ Wood
Friends and neighbors of the Congregational Church of Austin, why have you
come to worship this morning?

**We come to make sense out of the political division, bans on people's
personhood, and personal turmoil so many of us face in our lives.**

This month we will focus on Rainbow Stories of God's love, justice, and
peace to remind us that God is with us in the hardest and scariest of times as a
community.

**As Austin Pride kicks off this week, Rainbow stories come from those
who are created in God's image as LGBTQIA+ and have lived in God's love,
justice, and peace throughout history – including the sacred scriptures.**

Today we begin with the story of David and Jonathan, whose relationship was so close that they made a covenant together as a symbol of their love for one another.

So come, let us celebrate the Rainbow Stories of God's love, justice, and peace in the midst of difficult times. Come, let us worship God!

Reading of the Hebrew Scriptures 1 Samuel 18:1-4 Rev. Ginny

When David had finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was bound to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul. Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house. Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul. Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that he was wearing, and gave it to David, and his armor, and even his sword and his bow and his belt.

***Hymn of Reflection** Somos Pueblo Que Camina **NCH340

Prayers for God's Beloved Community Rev. Ginny

Reading of the Christian Scriptures John 6: 32-35 Rev. Dr. CJ Wood

Then Jesus said to them, 'Very truly, I tell you, it was not Moses who gave you the bread from heaven, but it is my Divine Parent who gives you the true bread from heaven. For the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.' They said to him, 'Sir, give us this bread always.' Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

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

Anthem There is More Love Somewhere Adam & Matt Podd

Reflecting in Community Soul Man ~ A Rainbow Story of Jonathan
Rev. Ginny

Silence

Communion

An Invitation to Everyone

The Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

A Prayer of Nourishing Love

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 Cantabile

G. Tartini

***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. Dr. CJ Wood

***Sending Song**

Let Us Break Bread Together

NCH330

***Benediction**

Rev. Ginny

Postlude

Rigaudon

J. P. Rameau

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!

Leading In Today's Service:

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

Rev. Sarah Darter, Usher and Deputy Deacon

Lucy Erda, Sound and Worship Streaming

Amy Harris, Violin

Liz Lee, Cello

Laura Martin, Director of Music

Hannah Mindeman Shuman, Guest Piano

Rev. Dr. CJ Wood, Worship Leader

***When we refer to the New Century Hymnal, we use the acronym, NCH.
CCLI# is 11086713*



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.