



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 9/29/2024

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

New Member Sunday

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

Words for Centering

Rachel Held Evans

*Imagine if every church became a place where everyone is safe,
But no one is comfortable.*

*Imagine if every church became a place where we told one another the truth.
We might just create sanctuary.*

Ringling of the Bells

Prelude

Improvisation on "God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian"

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**

One Foot/Lead with Love

Melanie DeMore

***Call to Worship**

Bill Beardall

Good morning, friends! Come, all who seek God's justice in our world today.
The God of love calls us to patience, perseverance, and hope.

**Today is a special day as we welcome new affiliate members into our
congregation. Woohoo!**

As we become a new church, the writer of James reminds us to be patient
because the coming of God's justice is near.

**Like farmers waiting for their harvest, we patiently persevere for the
fullness of God's justice to be realized for our neighbors.**

In our patience, we come to worship, ready to pray, sing, and support each other in all seasons of life.

Come, let us worship God as a new congregation, where we are providing a nurturing, safe, and affirming community for all to flourish in God's love, justice, and peace. Woohoo!

Reading of the Hebrew Scriptures

Psalm 124

NCH page 706

Reading of the Christian Scriptures James 5:1-8

Rev. Ginny

Come now, you rich people, weep and wail for the miseries that are coming to you. Your riches have rotted, and your clothes are moth-eaten. Your gold and silver have rusted, and their rust will be evidence against you, and it will eat your flesh like fire. You have laid up treasure for the last days.

Listen! The wages of the laborers who mowed your fields, which you kept back by fraud, cry out, and the cries of the harvesters have reached the ears of the Lord of hosts. You have lived on the earth in luxury and in pleasure; you have fattened your hearts in a day of slaughter. You have condemned and murdered the righteous one, who does not resist you.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near.

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

***Hymn of Reflection**

Renew Your Church

**NCH311

New Member Litany

See insert

UCC Statement of Faith in the Form of a Doxology

NCH page 885

Prayers for God's Beloved Community

Rev. Ginny

Anthem

What a Fellowship

Cherwein

Reflecting in Community Hurry Up and Wait! God's Justice is Near!

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

Tango

M. Elman

*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

Bill Beardall

Generous God, we dedicate these offerings as a reflection of our commitment to your justice and peace. May these gifts be used to create spaces where all can flourish. Bless the hands that give and the lives that will be touched by these offerings, as we continue to embody your love in this place and beyond. Amen.

*Sending Song

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

**GTG306

*Benediction

Rev. Ginny

Postlude

Allegro

F. Schubert

You are invited to be seated and listen to the postlude as our gift to you from the Divine. After the postlude, you are invited to stay for our joys and concerns and then a time of fellowship. 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:

Bill Beardall, Worship Leader

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

Jonathan Geer, Piano

Amy Harris, Violin

Roberto Hernández, Usher and Deputy Deacon

Liz Lee, Cello

Laura Martin, Director of Music

Serge Martinez, Director of Online Ministries

** 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.
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.