



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 10/6/2024

Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
World Communion Sunday

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

Words for Centering

Native American (Sioux) Proverb

With all things and in all things, we are relatives.

Ringling of the Bells

Prelude

Improvisation on "I Come with Joy"

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**

**NCH 526

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos' (We Are Marching in the Light of God)

***Call to Worship**

Robert Currie

Good morning, friends of the Congregational Church of Austin. It's the first Sunday of the month, which means it's Communion Sunday.

That's right, Robert! And this is not just any Communion Sunday; today is World Communion Sunday!

World Communion Sunday? What does that mean – that all Christians are going to have a piece of bread in their hand at precisely the same time all over the world?

Not quite. It means that today we celebrate that the Body of Christ is not confined to one town, country, or even continent. We are all one in Jesus Christ!

So, Christians in Indonesia are connected to Christians in California and Christians in Germany are connected to Christians in Brazil through the elements of communion which unite us together?

That's right. So come let us celebrate the many languages, cultures, and communions of Jesus Christ!

Reading of the Hebrew Scriptures Job 1:1, 2:7-13 Rev. Ginny

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Job took a potsherd with which to scrape himself, and sat among the ashes.

Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die." But he said to her, "You speak as any foolish woman would speak. Shall we receive the good at the hand of God, and not receive the bad?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

Now when Job's three friends heard of all these troubles that had come upon him, each of them set out from his home—Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. They met together to go and console and comfort him. When they saw him from a distance, they did not recognize him, and they raised their voices and wept aloud; they tore their robes and threw dust in the air upon their heads. They sat with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his suffering was very great.

Reading of the Christian Scriptures Galatians 3:26-29 Robert Currie
(Contemporary English Version)

All of you are God's children because of your faith in Christ Jesus. And when you were baptized, it was as though you had put on Christ in the same way you put on new clothes. Faith in Christ Jesus is what makes each of you equal with each other, whether you are a Jew or a Greek, a slave or a free person, a man or a woman. So, if you belong to Christ, you are now part of Abraham's family, and you will be given what God has promised.

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

Hymn of Reflection** Wakantanka Taku Nitawa *NCH3**

Prayers for God's Beloved Community Rev. Ginny

Anthem Bread of the World Pope

Reflecting in Community Rev. Ginny
Standing in Solidarity on World Communion Sunday

UCC Offering Moment Neighbors in Need Offering

Invitation to Generosity and Communion Rev. Ginny
*You are invited to financially give so that we can continue to serve our neighbors.
Your generosity can be with cash, a check, or scanning the QR code to give online.*

Communion

**An Invitation to Everyone
The Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup
A Prayer of Nourishing Love**

Offertory Music Serenade F. Schubert Arr. R. Klugescheid

***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** Robert Currie
Creator God, on this World Communion Sunday, we dedicate these gifts to serve our neighbors in need, trusting in your abundant love. May the Neighbors in Need offering bring justice, hope, and peace to those who suffer. Guide us to be your hands in the world, making your Beloved Community of love known to all. Amen.

***Sending Song** Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ NCH347

***Benediction** Rev. Ginny

Postlude Allegretto from Trio in D M. Clementi Arr. J. Haroutounian

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

Robert Currie, Worship Leader

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.
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.