

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
Victor Cardenas, Custodian

Amy Harris, Violin

Rev. Cecile Adam, Rev. Sarah Darter, Lynn Chavarria, Deacons
Liz Lee, Cello
Jeffrey Li, Piano

Laura Martin, Director of Music

Serge Martinez, Director of Online Ministries

Rev. Cecile Adam, 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.



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 3/2/2025

Transfiguration Sunday

Jazz Sunday

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

Words for Centering

Bishop Desmond Tutu

God places us in the world as [God's] fellow workers-agents of transfiguration.

We work with God so that injustice is transfigured into justice,

So there will be more compassion and caring, that there will be more laughter and joy,

That there will be more togetherness in God's world.

Ringing of the Bells

Prelude

Scherzo from Sonata

A. Dvorak

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

I Believe

Please see insert

* Call to Worship

Rev. Cecile Adam

Friends and neighbors, what do you bring with you this morning?

We bring our joys and our struggles, our hopes and our fears.

What do you seek as we gather in this sacred space?

We seek the light of Christ to lift the veil from our eyes, to soften what has been hardened within us.

The Spirit of the Lord is here, offering freedom and renewal! Where God's Spirit is, there is transformation—glory upon glory, love upon love!

Then come, with unveiled hearts and open hands. Let us step into God's presence and worship the One who calls us into transformation! Come, let us worship God.

Reading of the Hebrew Scriptures Exodus 34:29-35 Rev. Cecile Adam

Moses came down from Mount Sinai. As he came down from the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant in his hand, Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God. When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, the skin of his face was shining, and they were afraid to come near him. But Moses called to them, and Aaron and all the leaders of the congregation returned to him, and Moses spoke with them. Afterward, all the Israelites came near, and he gave them in commandment all that the Lord had spoken with him on Mount Sinai. When Moses had finished speaking with them, he put a veil on his face, but whenever Moses went in before the Lord to speak with him, he would take the veil off until he came out. When he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, the Israelites would see the face of Moses, that the skin of his face was shining, and Moses would put the veil on his face again until he went in to speak with the Lord.

Reading of the Christian Scriptures 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 Rev. Ginny

Since we have such a hope, we act with great boldness, not like Moses, who put a veil over his face to keep the people of Israel from gazing at the end of what was fading away. But their minds were hardened. Indeed, to this very day, when they hear the reading of the old covenant, that same veil is still there, since only in Christ is it set aside. Indeed, to this very day whenever Moses is read, a veil lies over their minds, but when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And all of us, with unveiled faces, seeing the glory of the Lord as though reflected in a mirror, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another, for this comes from the Lord, the Spirit.

Therefore, since it is by God's mercy that we are engaged in this ministry, we do not lose heart. We have renounced the shameful things that one hides; we refuse to practice cunning or to falsify God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we commend ourselves to the conscience of everyone in the sight of God.

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

***Hymn of Reflection** O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come **NCH175

Prayers for God's Beloved Community Rev. Ginny

Anthem When the Saints Go Marching In Larson

Reflecting in Community 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.

The Sacrament of Communion

Offertory Music By the Brook R. d Boisdeffre

***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. Cecile Adam

Holy One, with unveiled hearts, we offer these gifts, that your light may shine through us in love and justice. Transform what we give—our resources, our time, our very lives—so that they may reflect your love and bring freedom to those in need. May these offerings be a witness to the new life you reveal in Christ, lifting the veil so all may see and know your radiant presence. Amen.

***Sending Song** Sweet, Sweet Spirit NCH293

***Benediction** Rev. Ginny

Postlude Allegro from Sonata A. Dvorak

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!