



Friends Church

An Open & Affirming Congregation



June 21, 2020

11:00am

Online

WELCOME

We are honored that you have chosen to spend your Sunday morning with us.

Friends Congregational Church is an **Open & Affirming** congregation of the United Church of Christ. We welcome all people into the full life and ministry of our church—people of all ages, races, sexual orientations, gender identities, and abilities. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Third Sunday after Pentecost

The Season after Pentecost, also called Kingdomtide, Dominiontide, or Ordinary Time, begins the day after Pentecost and ends the day before the First Sunday of Advent. Regardless of the name given to this season, its basic color is green, symbolizing growth in Christ. In most churches, the general theme of the Bible readings and sermons concerns Jesus' ministry the church's mission in the world.

Words in **BOLD** are yours to speak out loud

Psalm for Meditation: Psalm 46, *Psalms for Praying*, Nan C. Merrill

*The Beloved is our refuge and our strength,
a Loving Presence in time of trouble.
Therefore we need not fear though
the earth should change, though the mountains
shake in the heart of the sea;
Though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.
Be still and know that I am Love.
Awaken! Befriend justice and mercy;
Do you not know you bear my Love?
Who among you will respond?
O Blessed One, You know all hearts,
You are ever with us;
may Love ever guide our lives!*

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

INTRODUCTION OF ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

Trent Williams

PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Emma Kate Wimberly

*One: We gather to worship our God,
who has done wonders in our lives.*

***Many: God anoints us with joy and light,
gifts from the treasures of God's heart.***

*One: We gather to follow Jesus,
who bears our lives with grace and hope.*

***Many: Jesus sends us into the brokenness
of the world to bring healing.***

*One: We gather to be touched by the Spirit,
who brings gentleness and peace for all.*

***Many: The Spirit empowers us to offer
reconciliation and justice to everyone we meet.***

One: Let us worship!

OPENING HYMN — Loving Spirit

*Virtual Quartet

1 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—
 2 Like a moth - er you en - fold me, hold my life with - in your own,
 3 Like a fa - ther you pro - tect me, teach me the dis - cern - ing eye,
 4 Friend and lov - er, in your close - ness I am known and held and blessed:
 5 Lov - ing Spir - it, lov - ing Spir - it, you have cho - sen me to be—

you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.
 feed me with your ver - y bod - y, form me of your flesh and bone.
 hoist me up up - on your shoul - der, let me see the world from high.
 in your prom - ise is my com - fort, in your pres - ence I may rest.
 you have drawn me to your won - der, you have set your sign on me.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Daisy Montalvo

WORDS OF WELCOME

Daisy Montalvo

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Sally Kate Humphries

"This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, (oh let it shine!)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Amy Klinkovsky

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Amy Klinkovsky

One: The Peace of Christ be with you all.
***Many:* And also with you!**

HYMN OF PRAISE — Venimos (We Come)

REFRAIN:

Cantor: ¡Ve - ni - mos, we come! All: ¡Can - ta - mos, we sing!

Cantor: ¡Ser - vi - mos, we serve you! All: ¡Te que - re - mos, Dios! ___

All: We love _ you, O God! ___

1-4 to Verses

Final All: ¡Te que - re - mos, Dios! ___ *Fine*

VERSES:

Cantor: 1. Ev - 'ry na - tion on earth ___ will be one great peo - ple; _

2. As we gath - er this day ___ may we sing God's prais - es _
3. All your chil - dren will sing ___ of your ten - der mer - cy; _

All: 1. for - ev - er peace will rule ___ the land! ___

2. with ev - 'ry crea - ture on ___ the earth! ___
3. may love be ev - er in ___ our hearts! ___

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING — Genesis 21:8-21 (NRSV)

Kayleigh Shumaker

The child grew, and was weaned; and Abraham made a great feast on the day that Isaac was weaned. But Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian, whom she had borne to Abraham, playing with her son Isaac. So she said to Abraham, “Cast out this slave woman with her son; for the son of this slave woman shall not inherit along with my son Isaac.” The matter was very distressing to Abraham on account of his son. But God said to Abraham, “Do not be distressed because of the boy and because of your slave woman; whatever Sarah says to you, do as she tells you, for it is through Isaac that offspring shall be named for you. As for the son of the slave woman, I will make a nation of him also, because he is your offspring.” So Abraham rose early in the morning, and took bread and a skin of water, and gave it to Hagar, putting it on her shoulder, along with the child, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered about in the wilderness of Beer-sheba.

When the water in the skin was gone, she cast the child under one of the bushes. Then she went and sat down opposite him a good way off, about the distance of a bowshot; for she said, “Do not let me look on the death of the child.” And as she sat opposite him, she lifted up her voice and wept. And God heard the voice of the boy; and the angel of God called to Hagar from heaven, and said to her, “What troubles you, Hagar? Do not be afraid; for God has heard the voice of the boy where he is. Come, lift up the boy and hold him fast with your

hand, for I will make a great nation of him.” Then God opened her eyes and she saw a well of water. She went, and filled the skin with water, and gave the boy a drink.

God was with the boy, and he grew up; he lived in the wilderness, and became an expert with the bow. He lived in the wilderness of Paran; and his mother got a wife for him from the land of Egypt.

SPECIAL MUSIC — The King of Love My Shepherd Is - Ancient Irish Melody, arranged by Dan Forrest
Maggie Gartner, soprano;
Chris Hoffman, piano

GOSPEL READING — Mark 2:23-3:6 (CEB) Trent Williams

Jesus went through the wheat fields on the Sabbath. As the disciples made their way, they were picking the heads of wheat. The Pharisees said to Jesus, “Look! Why are they breaking the Sabbath law?”

He said to them, “Haven’t you ever read what David did when he was in need, when he and those with him were hungry? During the time when Abiathar was high priest, David went into God’s house and ate the bread of the presence, which only the priests were allowed to eat. He also gave bread to those who were with him.” Then he said, “The Sabbath was created for humans; humans weren’t created for the Sabbath. This is why the Human One is Lord even over the Sabbath.”

Jesus returned to the synagogue. A man with a withered hand was there. Wanting to bring charges against Jesus, they were watching Jesus closely to see if he would heal on the Sabbath. He said to the man with the withered hand, “Step up where people can see you.” Then he said to them, “Is it legal on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?” But they said nothing. Looking around at them with anger, deeply grieved at their unyielding hearts, he said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” So he did, and his hand was made healthy. At that, the Pharisees got together with the supporters of Herod to plan how to destroy Jesus.

One: The word of God for the people of God.

***All:* God is still speaking. Thanks be to God.**

THE MESSAGE Trent Williams

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

ANNOUNCEMENTS Trent Williams

MISSION MOMENT — Strengthen the Church Offering Jon Maxwell

INVITATION TO SHARE Lucy Harper

OFFERTORY

Secure online giving via GivePlusOnline at bit.ly/friendschurchoonlinegiving

GivePlus Text to 833-421-0009

Venmo to 979-446-5746 or @friendsucc

DOXOLOGY

Hymn Tune No. 27

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below: alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts,
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts,
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit,
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Trent Williams

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Amy Klinkovsky & Trent Williams

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Amy Klinkovsky

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God Cre - a - tor, there is no
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon and
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thy own dear

shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright

pas - sions they fail not; as thou has been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy and love.
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!

Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy

hand hath pro - vid - ed — great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

POSTLUDE

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**Virtual Quartet*, Opening & Closing Hymns:

Chris Mabe, soprano; Jennie Adams, alto;
Andy Ambrus, tenor; Tom Vogel, bass

Instrumental Music:

Prelude: A Prayer of Need - Penny Rodriguez

Offertory: Abide with Me - William H. Monk, arranged by Cindy Berry

Communion: Bread of the World - Based on "Eucharistic Hymn" by Stanley E. Saxton, arranged by John S. B. Hodges

Postlude: Promenade *from* Pictures at an Exhibition - Modest Musorgsky

Scriptures for Sunday, June 21, 2020: Mark 2:23-3:6 & Genesis 21:8-21

YOUTH GROUP ON SUNDAYS, 2PM: A global pandemic can't keep our youth group from staying socially engaged. All youth, grades 6-12, are invited to meet on Sundays at 2pm via Zoom with each other and our adult volunteers. Contact Pastor Dan for the link: pastor@friends-ucc.org.

ONLINE GATHERING INFORMATION: We will be offering Noonday Check-In & Prayer Times on Monday and Friday, and on Wednesday evening, we will offer a Prayer & Communion Service at 6:30pm. And, as always, the Sunday morning service can be accessed on Facebook live (Friends Congregational Church – UCC) or through the website's streaming service: <http://friendscongregationalchurchucc-preview.cloversites.com/watch>. Mark your calendar, we'll see you online.

TUTORIAL FOR USING ZOOM: For the last couple of weeks we've been gathering online for noonday check-in and prayer times and for midweek evening services via zoom. Zoom is new for many of us, and we might be having a difficult time getting started using it. Here is a helpful YouTube tutorial to walk you through using Zoom: <https://youtu.be/9isp3qPeQ0E>. Please share this tutorial with anyone having difficulty joining us for our online gatherings.

CHURCH DIRECTORY ONLINE (ChMS): Need a Friends Church online directory? Download the free Church Office Online app and contact the Church office for the domain name and password. It's an easy way to have quick access to the names and contact info for Friends Church people, as well as birthdays and anniversaries! Don't see your info in the online directory? Give us your updated information: office@friends-ucc.org.

REDIRECTING STIMULUS CHECKS: The CARES Act provides most individuals earning less than \$75,000 with a one-time cash payment of \$1,200, with married couples each receiving a check in that amount, and families with children receiving \$500 per child. These stimulus checks reveal systemic inequity and present the Church with a justice issue where we might help the most vulnerable among us. Therefore, consider giving a portion or all of your stimulus check to Friends Church. Ninety percent of all contributions will be dispersed equally to two non-profits in our community, and to a local effort assisting our neighbors who are struggling with homelessness. Following the model of a traditional

tithe, ten percent will go to the general operating budget of Friends Church. One of the non-profits is Scotty's House. Scotty's House helps children suffering domestic abuse with in-person counseling services and forensic reports. The other non-profit is the Brazos Interfaith Immigration Network (BIIN). BIIN helps undocumented immigrants in the Brazos Valley who—despite many being essential workers and all being essential community members—are ineligible to receive assistance from the CARES Act. The local effort assisting some of our friends from Pilgrims in the Park (a ministry to and with our housing-insecure neighbors) pools monetary contributions to provide those in need with motel lodging and groceries.

FRIENDS CHURCH CARES FUND (FCCF): Friends Church recently received a donation of \$10,000 for the purpose of helping those suffering financial hardships resulting from COVID-19 measures. Friends Church members needing financial assistance are encouraged to request one-time assistance for up to \$1,500 from the FCCF. The FCCF request form can be found on the church's website (www.friends-ucc.org) or by contacting Church Council Vice Moderator Cathy Hansen at vice-moderator@friends-ucc.org. Requests are kept in discretion between the requester and the Vice Moderator, Treasurer, and Senior Pastor.

FRIENDS CHURCH CRISIS FUND: While the FCCF is set aside exclusively to assist with COVID-19-related hardships, the Crisis Fund, established several years ago, is designated to help Friends Church members in financial need for any reason. Should the FCCF run out, our congregation has this fund to further help one another. To contribute to the Crisis Fund, contact Treasurer Theresa Walker at treasurer@friends-ucc.org. To request Crisis Fund assistance, contact the pastors at pastor@friends-ucc.org or pastortrent@friends-ucc.org. Requests remain confidential between the requester and members of Church Council.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR ONLINE GIVING FOR SPECIAL OFFERINGS: We have the opportunity to redirect stimulus checks from the CARES Act to help Scotty's House, the Brazos Interfaith Immigration Network, and our friends from Pilgrims in the Park in need of lodging. Ten percent of that effort will also benefit the Friends Church general budget. We can also give at any time to the Friends Church Crisis Fund. To give online to these special offerings, go to the Church's website at www.friends-ucc.org. Under the Giving tab, click on "Online Giving (legacy page)." That will direct you to the online giving page where you will need to select "Other-Special." Next to that line, fill in the blank box next to the amount with either "Redirect Stimulus Check" or "Crisis Fund." Your contribution will be allocated accordingly. Thank you for your generosity.

SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT: Some members of our congregation own a small business. During these times, we want to "Be the church," and find out how we can provide support to these business owners. If you are a Small Business Owner, please email the office and provide a brief description of your business and let us know how we can support your business (buy gift cards, spread the word to our neighborhoods, etc.). The email address is: office@friends-ucc.org.

EPT (EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS TEAM) UPDATES: A survey has been sent out by email to everyone on our email list asking for answers to 4 short questions. Your EPT is seeking to identify who might need help (health issues, live alone, etc.) and who might be able to offer help to others (obtain groceries, drive to medical appointments, do phone check in's etc.). We also hope to establish telephone trees by geographic area so we can stay in touch if needed.

Please Complete the Survey (here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/JMC75YG>)

Tell us where you live and your potential needs in the event of an emergency, disaster, or pandemic

- It's QUICK! There are only 4 questions or less than 5 minutes

- Only used in an emergency
- Only used if you have given permission and expressed interest

Help us by encouraging others to complete the survey!

1. To assist our church community in times of crisis!
2. To identify resources and needs for different emergencies
2. To create response teams by geographic area or neighborhood

STAY CONNECTED WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FRIENDS!: Subscribe to This Week at Friends published every Friday to your email address, and the E-Connection Newsletter published monthly to your email address. You can sign up on our website: www.friends-ucc.org or email the church office: office@friends-ucc.org. Please add e-connection@friends-ucc.org and office@friends-ucc.org to you email address book to ensure delivery.

UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION: If you are not currently receiving Church email correspondence, and would like to, please send a message to the Church office with your name and email address: office@friends-ucc.org, and add e-connection@friends-ucc.org and office@friends-ucc.org to you email address book to ensure delivery.

FRIENDS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Our Vision:

Rooted in the way of Christ, we strive to be a community of God's radical inclusion and extravagant welcome.

Our Mission:

United by the example of Jesus, we live faithfully, love limitlessly, and serve boldly.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

Online at 11:00am

FRIENDS CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Dan De Leon, *Senior Pastor*
pastor@friends-ucc.org

The Rev. Trent Williams, *Associate Pastor*
pastortrent@friends-ucc.org

Chris Hoffman, *Director of Music Ministries*
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