



Friends Church

An Open & Affirming Congregation



Ordinario B9
Cerezo Barredo

June 2, 2024
II:00am

WELCOME TO FRIENDS CHURCH!

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.

FIRST TIME AT FRIENDS? If you are a guest with us today, please let us know. Welcome cards are located in the chair backs to fill out and leave in the offering plate during today's offertory. If you are joining us online for today's service, you will find an Online Visitor Card at <https://www.friends-ucc.org/your-first-visit>. We are so glad you are here, so please let us know if there is anything we can do for you.

CHILDCARE: We invite children to participate fully in our community and worship life. Children of all ages are welcome in worship or you may choose childcare, offered for ages 1-5 in the nursery down the hall through the piano side double doors. We currently have Covid Protocols in place, which you can find posted outside the nursery door.

WiFi: To access church WiFi, please use this login information:
WiFi – The Promised LAN Password: stillspeaking

RESTROOMS are located through the double doors on the piano side of the sanctuary. Gender assigned restrooms are straight down at the end of the hall, and a gender neutral restroom is to the immediate right.

LEADING IN TODAY'S SERVICE:

Lay Leaders: Dinah Anderson & Linda Fitzwater
Communion Stewards: Susan Fontaine & Larry Dooley
Greeters: Sydney Zentell & Lanette Schulte

Next Sunday, June 9
Lay Leaders: Sydney Zentell & Tyler Baker-Wilkinson
Greeters: Eli Vasquez & Adrian Capetillo

We give God thanks for our volunteers sharing their gifts. To volunteer for a Sunday as a lay leader, communion steward, or greeter, email worship@friends-ucc.org.

COMMUNION ON REQUEST: While the sacrament of communion is observed in worship on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month at Friends, communion is available any Sunday on request. If you would like to receive communion on a 2nd, 4th, or 5th Sunday, please find one of our pastors to serve you at the conclusion of the worship service.

Second Sunday after Pentecost

The season after Pentecost is also considered Ordinary Time. It indicates the parts of the liturgical year that are not included in the major seasons of the church calendar. Ordinary Time can be understood in terms of the living out of Christian faith and the meaning of Christ's resurrection in ordinary life. It may be referred to as the "green season," as green is the liturgical color for this period of time in the church year.

QUOTE FOR MEDITATION:

"God rested on the seventh day. God did not show up to do more. God absented God's self from the office. God did not come and check on creation in anxiety to be sure it was all working. God has complete confidence in the fruit-bearing, blessing-generating processes of creation that have been instituted. God exhibits no anxiety about the life-giving capacity of creation. God knows the world will hold, the plants will perform, and the birds and the fish and the beasts of the field will prosper."

Walter Brueggemann

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WORDS OF WELCOME

Trent Williams

PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Linda Fitzwater

One: Let go of the demands of this day. Rest in the quiet of this sanctuary.

All: The noise of those demands rings in our ears.

One: Rest for a minute. Take a deep breath and let it out slowly. There will always be needs to be met, demands on our time, but now is a time to rest.

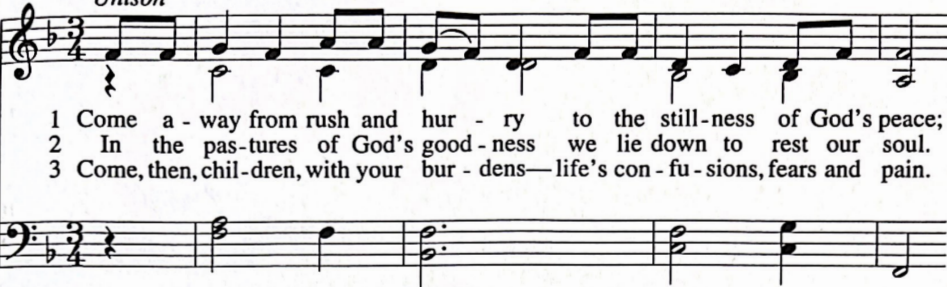
All: Help us to understand the sabbath, that it is a time to be at peace and grow in God's love.

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*OPENING HYMN - Come Away from Rush and Hurry

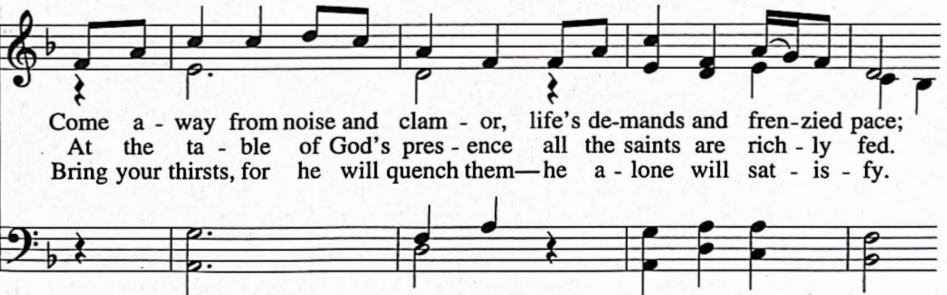
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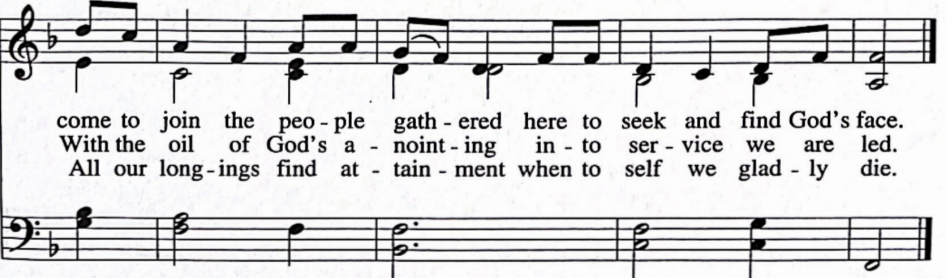
1 Come a - way from rush and hur - ry to the still-ness of God's peace;
2 In the pas-tures of God's good-ness we lie down to rest our soul.
3 Come, then, chil-dren, with your bur - dens— life's con - fu - sions, fears and pain.



from our vain am - bi-tion's wor - ry, come to Christ to find re - lease.
From the wa - ters of God's mer - cy we drink deep - ly, are made whole.
Leave them at the cross of Je - sus; take in - stead his king-dom's reign.



Come a - way from noise and clam - or, life's de-mands and fren-zied pace;
At the ta - ble of God's pres - ence all the saints are rich - ly fed.
Bring your thirsts, for he will quench them—he a - lone will sat - is - fy.



come to join the peo-ple gath - ered here to seek and find God's face.
With the oil of God's a - noint - ing in - to ser - vice we are led.
All our long - ings find at - tain - ment when to self we glad - ly die.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Trent Williams

Children in the sanctuary are invited to come to the front, and children watching online are invited to get closer to their screen. All are invited to sing a verse of NCH #524 "This Little Light of Mine" to begin the children's message.

**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.**

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Trent Williams

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

Trent Williams

**Rabbi, Teacher Jesus,
You who taught thousands and yet were willing to learn from the least of these,
We confess that we pretend to know when in truth we still wonder.
Forgive our pretense, that we may open ourselves to unexpected teachers,
To fresh ideas, to one another, to you.
You who lived in generous love,
We confess that we have closed ourselves off, that we have seen so much suffering
That we stop looking rather than see and respond to those in need.
Forgive our neglect so that we may care for one another
And follow the example you set for us.
In your name we pray, amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Trent Williams

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Trent Williams

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

*HYMN OF RESPONSE - #478 I've Got Peace Like a River

Tune: Peace Like a River

Keep the Sabbath day and treat it as holy, exactly as the Lord your God commanded: Six days you may work and do all your tasks, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God. Don't do any work on it—not you, your sons or daughters, your male or female servants, your oxen or donkeys or any of your animals, or the immigrant who is living among you—so that your male and female servants can rest just like you. Remember that you were a slave in Egypt, but the Lord your God brought you out of there with a strong hand and an outstretched arm. That's why the Lord your God commands you to keep the Sabbath day.

CHORAL ANTHEM: Be Still, and Know That I Am God - David Lantz III
(Kim Dooley, alto)

Be still, and know that I am God, the God of strength, the God of truth; I am your refuge
in your time of fear, and you will know that I am near.

Be still, and know that I am God, the God who gave My only Son to you; you will find
hope in His great sacrifice. Your faith leads to eternal life.

Though waters may roar and mountains may shake, and danger fills your heart with deep
despair, with faith and hope and love, you'll find Me through your prayers, and know that
I am near.

Be still, and know that I am God. In times of pain, in times of war; in Me, find solitude
and perfect peace. Keep faith, My wonders never cease.

Be still, and know that I am God, the God of strength, the God of truth. With love, I speak
the heavenly words you hear so you will know that I am near. Trust in me, for I am here.

Be still and know that I am God. Be still and know that I am God.

GOSPEL READING

Mark 2:23-3:6, NRSV

Brooke Dooley

One sabbath he was going through the grainfields; and as they made their way his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. The Pharisees said to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the sabbath?" And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did when he and his companions were hungry and in need of food? He entered the house of God, when Abiathar was high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and he gave some to his companions." Then he said to them, "The sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the sabbath; so the Son of Man is lord even of the sabbath."

Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there who had a withered hand. They watched him to see whether he would cure him on the sabbath, so that they might accuse him. And he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come forward." Then he said to them, "Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the sabbath, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. He looked around at them with anger; he was grieved at their hardness of heart and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. The Pharisees went out and immediately conspired with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.

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

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

THE MESSAGE

Brooke Dooley

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

INVITATION TO SHARE

Linda Fitzwater

OFFERTORY

Secure online giving via Realm Giving at bit.ly/givetofriendsucc
Venmo to 979-307-8860 or @friendsucc

*DOXOLOGY

**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

Trent Williams, Brooke Dooley

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Brooke Dooley

**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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Trent Williams

***CLOSING HYMN - #407** How Firm a Foundation

Tune: Foundation

*BENEDICTION

Brooke Dooley

POSTLUDE

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Instrumental Music:

- Prelude: How Firm a Foundation - Early American Melody (arranger unknown)
Offertory: Down to the River to Pray (*with* Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying) -
Arranged by Mary McDonald
Communion: Make Me a Channel of Your Peace (Prayer of Saint Francis) - Sebastian Temple,
arranged by Jane Holstein
Postlude: Redeemed - William J. Kirkpatrick, arranged by Larry Shackley

Scriptures for the Third Sunday after Pentecost, June 9, 2024: Psalm 138:1-8; II Corinthians 4:13-5:1

GETTING CONNECTED AT FRIENDS

GET CONNECTED! On Fridays we email out a newsletter called “This Week at Friends” that shares important information and all of the activities and events going on at Friends. Subscribe by contacting office@friends-ucc.org.

EVENTS THIS WEEK

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH, TODAY: On June 2, Friends Church will collect the Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering. This offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. Please bring a donation to the service on this date or give online through our website (select “Giving”, “Make a Donation”, and choose “SCC Strengthen the Church” in the “Fund” drop-down menu). Join us as we build up the Body of Christ together!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, TODAY: The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held after the 11:00 service today. You can also join via Zoom:

Meeting ID: 891 4126 2099

Passcode: 763179



GRILLA PRIDE PALOOZA 2024, JUNE 2: Grilla Pride Palooza returns THIS EVENING, 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm! Come enjoy Friends’ own unique celebration to kick off Pride month! Feast on burgers and hotdogs grilled by Eli, and bring a side or dessert to share, your lawn chairs, outdoor games and rainbow paraphernalia. Drinks are provided but you may want to BYOAB (Adult Beverages). Entertainment line-up includes a special drag performance by Pastor Brooke. Bring your dollar bills (or your 20 dollar bills!!!). It’s a fund-raiser for the youth mission trip to Washington D.C. Family friendly event!

FIRST FRIDAY WITH FRIENDS, JUNE 7: First Friday with Friends is held in conjunction with Downtown Bryan’s First Friday activities. We have a meet up at Blackwater Draw and always have a few people there for the 5:30-7:30 timeframe. Some folks stay at Blackwater all evening and others stop by on their way to or from dining and playing in downtown Bryan.

FIRST FRIDAY BOOTH CELEBRATING PRIDE MONTH, JUNE 7: Help set up, staff or take down the Friends Church table celebrating Pride Month at Downtown Bryan’s First Friday event on June 7th. It’s a great opportunity to share the love and spread the word about Friends Church! Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/44H9je4>.

GUYZ BREAKFAST, JUNE 8: Guyz Breakfast brings together fellowship, fun and great food. Join us at the church on the second Saturday of the month 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. Bring your favorite breakfast food or drink to share. Pancakes and coffee are provided.

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY, JUNE 9: June 9 is our next New Member Sunday, when we welcome our newest members into the life of Friends Congregational Church. If you are interested in joining Friends on that Sunday, please contact Executive Pastor Trent Williams (pastortrent@friends-ucc.org), or Associate Pastor Brooke Dooley (pastorbrooke@friends-ucc.org).

“42” PROGRESSIVE DOMINO PARTY AND DESSERT POTLUCK, JUNE 9: Come one, come all to the 2024 Friend’s Congregation “42” Progressive Domino* Night complete with Dessert Potluck on Sunday, June 9. Play will begin at 6:00 and end at 8:00. Never played 42? Come at 5:30 for a lesson. Bring your favorite dessert to share. Beverages will be provided.*Progressive Dominoes involves place assignments and moving after 3 hands in a tournament-like configuration. Sign up to volunteer: <https://bit.ly/3V5yhiU>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUNDAY SCHOOL ENDS FOR SUMMER BREAK, May 26: Sunday School will end for summer break beginning May 26th & return on August 18th.

WELCOME OUR NEW SUMMER INTERN!: Meet our Historian Team summer intern, Emma Bacak. She is the daughter of members Jenn & Rusty Bacak, and is a grad student in English at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville. She has recently completed a course in archival research and brings technological expertise, good communication skills, and an interest in historical preservation to our new church history project!! She’ll be in the office most Mondays and Tuesdays through Aug. 10 and will be aiding in the completion or progress on all our historian projects, so we are very, very lucky to have her! You can reach her at historian@friends-ucc.org.

OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AND SHARE

SUPPORT OUR PODCAST: The “Friends Congregational Church Sermons” podcast is getting downloads across the country and even overseas! Each episode, featuring a sermon and introduced by a different church member, is an evangelism and outreach tool for all of us at Friends. Support the podcast by sharing it widely. So far the record number of downloads for an episode is 69. With your help we can hit at least 100 every week! You can also support the podcast by lending your voice to it. Contact A/V Tech Jeremy Dudo to record the intro for an episode: av@friends-ucc.org.

Be a Greeter and Communion Steward: To help in the 9am and 11am services, please contact Worship Committee Chair Ryan Womack: worship@friends-ucc.org.

Youth Group Looking for Extra Help: We are still looking for volunteers to help with the Youth Group events for the new year, including the June Mission Trip. Contact Pastor Brooke at pastor-brooke@friend-ucc.org.

Sunday School Teachers Needed: Are you feeling called to teach our children or youth? Contact Pastor Dan for more information: pastor@friends-ucc.org.

Coffee Crew/Kitchen Angel: Do you enjoy having coffee/hot beverages available at Sunday morning services? Signup via sheet on counter in kitchen, or Sign-up Genius (link provided in Friday church email) or by contacting [Fellowship@ friends-ucc.org](mailto:Fellowship@friends-ucc.org). Training available by request.

Be a Curbside Steward: Recycling occurs once every two weeks early on Fridays and trash pick-up is weekly, early on Mondays. Bins need to be placed at the curb the afternoon or evening before the scheduled pick up day and returned to the side of the church after pick-up. Contact Property@Friends-ucc.org

Serve the Community: Help out at the Brazos Church Food Pantry, the Friday food distribution at Peace Lutheran, or Brazos Interfaith Immigration Network (BIIN) as an English or citizenship class tutor. And more! Visit the Friends Church website (Friends-ucc.org) ▶ Get **Involved** ▶ **Volunteer** or email office@friends-ucc.org for more information or to volunteer.

SAVE THE DATE

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY WITH WOMEN, JUNE 12: Wonderful Wednesdays with Women will meet on Wednesday, June 12th from 5:00 to 7:00 PM at Anthem Kitchen + Bar @ BigShots Golf at 400 W. Villa Maria Rd, Bryan, TX 77801. This is a casual, come-and-go event. All are welcome! Contact Stacy De Leon if you need more information

LINDA COATS BOOK CLUB, JUNE 27: For June, the book club will be reading Carolina De Robertis' *Radical Hope: Letters of Love and Dissent in Dangerous Times*. Join us for discussion at 6:30pm.

Friends Congregational Church United Church of Christ

Vision:

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

Mission:

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

Friends Church Staff

Senior Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Dan De Leon (*he, him*)
pastor@friends-ucc.org

Director of Music Ministries

Chris Hoffman (*he, him*)
choir@friends-ucc.org

Executive Pastor

The Rev. Trent Williams (*he, him*)
pastortrent@friends-ucc.org

Associate Pastor to Youth & Young Adults

The Rev. Brooke Dooley (*she, her, they, them*)
pastorbrooke@friends-ucc.org

Administrative Assistant

Michael Rangel (*he, him*)
office@friends-ucc.org

2200 Southwood Drive College Station, Texas 77845
979-693-7021 • office@friends-ucc.org
www.friends-ucc.org • Office Hours: Monday–Friday, 9:00–3:00
Pastor Dan's weekday off is Friday. Pastor Trent's weekday off is Monday.