



**Friends Church**  
*An Open & Affirming Congregation*



*Pilgrim bound by staff and faith, rest thy bones*  
Anonymous

July 7, 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 Leader: Tom Vogel  
Communion Steward: Charity Stokes  
Greeter: Adrian Capetillo

Next Sunday, July 14  
Lay Leader: Jackie Womack  
Greeter: Dwight Roblyer

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](mailto: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.

## *Seventh 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:**

"The day the power of love overrules the love of power, the world will know peace."

Mahatma Gandhi

### **CHIMING OF THE TRINITY**

### **WORDS OF WELCOME**

Brooke Dooley

### **PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES**

### **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Tom Vogel

One: We were created in relationship and for relationship.

**Many: We are created for community!**

One: God knew it was not right for us to be alone

**Many: We are created for community!**

One: Through Jesus Christ, God entered into human relationship with us.

**Many: We are created for community!**

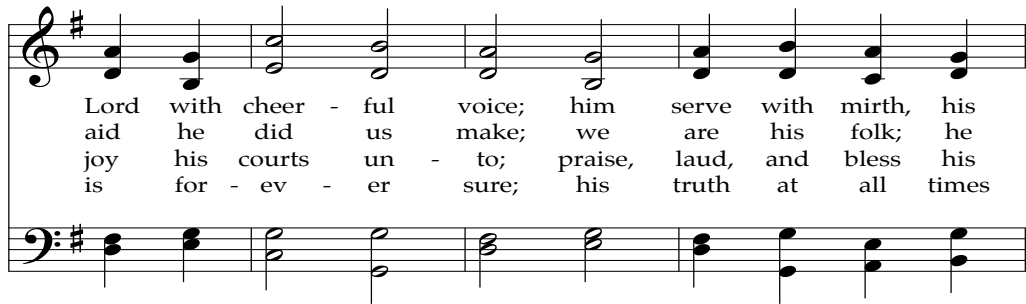
One: We rejoice in our unity with all humanity.

**All: We are created for community!**

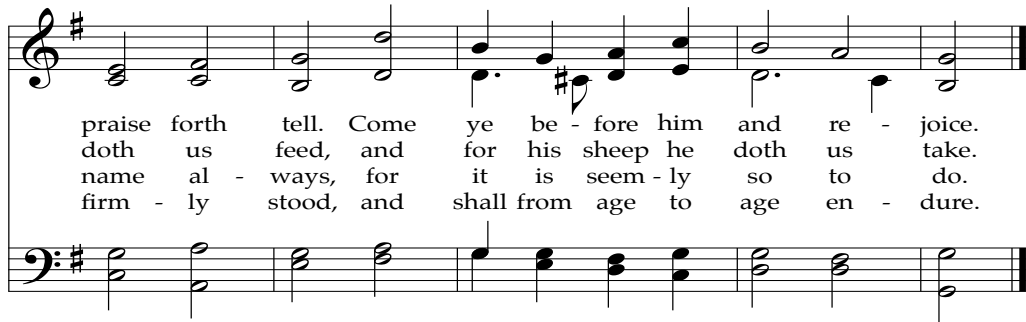
# \*OPENING HYMN - All People That On Earth Do Dwell



1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the  
2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our  
3 O en - ter then his gates with praise; ap - proach with  
4 For why? The Lord our God is good; his mer - cy



Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his  
aid he did us make; we are his folk; he  
joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his  
is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times



praise forth tell. Come ye be - fore him and re - jice.  
doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.  
name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.  
firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.

\*INVOCATION

Tom Vogel

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Brooke Dooley

*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

One: Merciful God, of what do we boast?

Can we truly say with Paul that we do not boast about ourselves  
or our achievements?

Does the danger in such thinking lie in the next step—  
the thought that we can do anything, or all things—by ourselves?

**All: Forgive us the times when we ignore you, O God,  
and depend on our own strength to do things our own way.**

One: Paul talks about power being made perfect in weakness.

**All: Forgive us for believing  
that we have to be hard and domineering  
if we want to get ahead in life.**

One: Paul says that he boasts of his weaknesses  
so that the power of Christ may dwell in him.

**All: Forgive us when we use our power selfishly or aggressively,  
ignoring that indwelling, Christ-given power  
which frees us to be vulnerable.**

One: Jesus says "My grace is sufficient for you,  
for power is made perfect in weakness."  
Permeate our lives with your grace, Lord,  
so that we can affirm with Paul  
that we are content with weaknesses for your sake,  
and fill us with the knowledge  
that it is when we allow ourselves to be empowered by you,  
that we are truly strong.

**All: 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!**

## **\*SONG OF RESPONSE - "10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)"**

Refrain:

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul

Worship your holy name.

Sing like never before, O my soul;

I'll worship your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning;

It's time to sing your song again.

Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,

Let me be singing when the evening comes. (Refrain)

You're rich in love, and you're slow to anger.

Your name is great and your heart is kind.

For all your goodness, I will keep on singing

Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. (Refrain)

And on that day when my strength is failing,

The end draws near, and my time has come,

Still, my soul will sing your praise unending

Ten thousand years and then forevermore! (Refrain)

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

**A MESSAGE**

Megan Alvear

**SPECIAL MUSIC** - “I Woke Up This Morning” Tami Dudo & Ryan Womack**GOSPEL READING**

Mark 6:1-13, NRSV

Michael Kennedy

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, “Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, “Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against

them.” So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

## **A MESSAGE**

Michael Kennedy

## **MOMENT FOR REFLECTION**

## **INVITATION TO SHARE**

Tom Vogel

## **OFFERTORY**

Secure online giving via Realm Giving at [bit.ly/givetofriendsucc](https://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**

Brooke Dooley

## **CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Trent Williams

## **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

Brooke Dooley

\***CLOSING HYMN** - #604 Hush, Hush, Somebody's Calling My Name

Tune: African-American spiritual

\***BENEDICTION**

Trent Williams

## POSTLUDE

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Scriptures for the Eight Sunday after Pentecost, July 14, 2024: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19; Ephesians 1:3-14

### 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](mailto:office@friends-ucc.org).

### EVENTS THIS WEEK

**FAITHFUL FRIENDS GATHERING GROUNDS, JULY:** Join folks in the sanctuary for fellowship, coffee, pastries, and nibbles before the 11 am services in July between 10:15am-10:45am.

**WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY WITH WOMEN, JULY 10:** Wonderful Wednesdays with Women will meet at Downtown Uncorked at 1551 Greens Prairie Rd., Suite 102, College Station, TX 77845 from 5-7 PM on Wednesday, July 10th

**GUYZ BREAKFAST, JULY 13:** 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.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL CANCELLED:** Unfortunately due to low registration, VBS is cancelled for this year. Sorry for any inconvenience this might bring!

**EARLY WORSHIP RETURNS, AUGUST 18:** The 9am worship service will resume on August 18.

**FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE:** Friends church hosting of Family Promise was a great success! We started last Sunday with one family of five which included two 2 month old twins! By Monday we added a second family of two. And we then added a family of three. So our reputation of hospitality must have spread! Family Promise center is up to capacity with lots of joyful children. A huge thanks to all of the dinner preparers who brought delicious dinner meals to our families. Also to the food providers who kept going back to purchase more breakfast and lunch food as families were added. Our overnight hosts were a comforting presence to the families. Next time for Friends to host rolls around in October. We would love to have you on the Friends care team.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://Friends-ucc.org)) ▶ Get **Involved** ▶ **Volunteer** or email [office@friends-ucc.org](mailto:office@friends-ucc.org) for more information or to volunteer.

## SAVE THE DATE

**LINDA COATS BOOK CLUB, JULY 25:** For July, 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

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## 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

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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.