

# FRIENDS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



Trinity Sunday  
May 26, 2024  
9:00am

*An Open & Affirming  
Congregation*

## QUOTE FOR MEDITATION:

You Bring many names, beautiful and good,  
celebrate in parable and story,  
holiness in glory, living, loving God,  
Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names!

“Bring Many Names,” Brian Wren (New Century Hymnal #11)

## CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

## WORDS OF WELCOME

Trent Williams

## PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Susan Fontaine

One: In mystery and grandeur,

**All: We see the face of God.**

One: In earthiness and the ordinary,

**All: We know the love of Christ.**

One: In heights and depths, and life and death,

**All: The Spirit of God is moving among us. Let us praise God!**

**\*OPENING HYMN - #275** Come Now, Almighty God

Tune: Italian Hymn

**\*INVOCATION**

Susan Fontaine

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Brooke Dooley

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

Many: **And also with you.**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

Brooke Dooley

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Tami Dudo

*Children in the sanctuary are invited to come to the front. 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.**

## GOSPEL READING

John 3:1-17, NRSV

Trent Williams

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?”

Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? “Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. “Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

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

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

## THE MESSAGE

Trent Williams

## SILENT PRAYER & MEDITATION

*One chime calls us into silence, and two chimes call us out of silence.*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & LIGHTING OF CANDLES FOR INTERCESSIONS

Brooke Dooley

## INVITATION TO SHARE

Susan Fontaine

## OFFERTORY

Secure online giving via Church Office Giving at [bit.ly/givetofriends](https://bit.ly/givetofriends)  
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

## 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 - #473 Blessed Assurance

Tune: Assurance

## \*BENEDICTION

Trent Williams

## POSTLUDE

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*Instrumental Music:*

Prelude: Come, Thou Almighty King - Felice de Giardini

Offertory: All Glory Be to God On High (Allein Gott in der Höh) - Nikolas Decius

Postlude: O God, Our Help in Ages Past - William Croft, arranged by Lloyd Larson

Scriptures for the Second Sunday after Pentecost, June 2, 2024: Deuteronomy 5:12-15; Mark 2:23-3:6

## 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

**LINDA COATS BOOK CLUB, MAY 30:** For May, the book club will be reading Sue Monk Kidd’s *The Dance of the Dissident Daughter*. Join us for discussion at 6:30pm.

**BRAZOS CHURCH PANTRY, JUNE 1:** First Saturday of each month (June 1). Volunteer at <https://bit.ly/3yx9BIG>. Contact Becky Burks for more info.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING, JUNE 2:** The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held after the 11:00 service on June 2.

**GRILLA PRIDE PALOOZA 2024, JUNE 2:** Grilla Pride Palooza returns!!! Mark your calendars for the evening of June 2 and come enjoy burgers and hotdogs grilled by Eli, and Friends’ own unique celebration to kick off Pride month! Plan to bring a side or dessert to share, your lawn chairs, outdoor games and rainbow paraphernalia. Volunteer here <https://bit.ly/3QXoZo2> to set up or clear away. Family friendly event!

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BACK BAY HYGIENE KIT FINAL WORD:** A team of about 20 Friends including our youth who stepped up to pack up the 102 hygiene kits after worship last Sunday. We finished the job in under 30 minutes breaking our record from last year! Anne Wehrly will deliver the hygiene kits this weekend to the home of a Back Bay board member who lives in Houston who plans to take them to Biloxi to the mission on June 3rd. Soon they will be in the hands of folks who can use them for survival. The Justice & Mission Ministry of Friends sends a huge thank you to all who participated in sharing your love.

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

**EARLY WORSHIP END FOR SUMMER, JUNE 30:** The last 9am worship service for the summer is on June 30. The 9am service will resume on August 18

## 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? Sign up 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

**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](mailto:pastortrent@friends-ucc.org)), or Associate Pastor Brooke Dooley ([pastorbrooke@friends-ucc.org](mailto: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.

**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 at 512.289.5290.

## 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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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.