

**FRIENDS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 9, 2024
9:00am



*An Open & Affirming
Congregation*

QUOTE FOR MEDITATION:

“God weeps with us so that we may one day laugh with him.”

Jurgen Moltmann

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

WORDS OF WELCOME

Brooke Dooley

PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Sydney Zentell

One: Happy are those whose hope is in God, maker of heaven and earth—

All: For God keeps faith forever!

One: God executes justice for the oppressed and gives food for the hungry.

All: God sets the prisoners free and opens the eyes of the blind.

One: God lifts up those who are bowed down.

All: God watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow.

One: People of God, sing praise to the One who is your help—

All: For God keeps faith forever!

***OPENING HYMN - #539** Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant Tune: Servant Song

***INVOCATION** Sydney Zentell

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** Trent Williams

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

Many: **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION Trent Williams

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Brooke Dooley

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.**

INTRODUCTION OF GUEST PREACHER

Trent Williams

EPISTLE READING

II Corinthians 4:13-5:1, NRSV

Amy Klinkovsky

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—“I believed, and so I spoke” —we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

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

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

THE MESSAGE

Amy Klinkovsky

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

Trent Williams

INVITATION TO SHARE

Sydney Zentell

OFFERTORY

Secure online giving via Church Office Giving at 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 - #391 In the Midst of New Dimensions**

Tune: New Dimensions

***BENEDICTION**

Amy Klinkovsky

POSTLUDE

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Instrumental Music:

Prelude: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty - Music from *Erneuerten Gesangbuch*
Offertory: Rock of Ages - Augustus Toplady, arranged by Melody Bober
Postlude: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee - Ludwig van Beethoven, arranged by Becki Slagle Mayo

Scriptures for the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, June 16, 2024: 2 Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17; Mark 4:26-34

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

“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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

2ND ANNUAL GRILLA PRIDE PALOOZA A GREAT SUCCESS!: Sixty or so old friends and new gathered on Sunday evening to enjoy burgers and hotdogs and all manner of rainbow-colored sides and desserts, to celebrate Pride month, sing karaoke, line dance, applaud our resident drag king and raise \$450 for the youth mission trip to D.C. Thanks to Eli and Alex for grilling, Kim and Larry for organizing, Martha and Doug for the Pride merch table and all the volunteers who helped set up, serve, take down and clean up!!

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

O.W.L. SEXUALITY EDUCATION CLASSES INFORMATIONAL MEETING, JUNE 18 & 29: Our Whole Lives is a comprehensive and secular sexuality education program that centers scientifically accurate, inclusive, and age appropriate information taught by trained facilitators. Classes for 7th & 8th grade will begin in August and run through May 2025. Classes will be held at Friends Congregational Church and the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Brazos Valley. If you would like to learn more about the Brazos Valley OWL program, join us for our upcoming informational meetings on June 18 and June 29. Reach out to brazosvalleyowl@gmail.com for questions.

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 Church Staff

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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.