



**Friends Church**

*An Open & Affirming Congregation*



*The Good Samaritan*  
JESUS MAFA (1973)

October 20, 2024  
II:00am  
Children's Sabbath Sunday

## 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 & Tyler Baker-Wilkinson  
Communion Stewards: Susan Fontaine & Charity Stokes  
Greeters: Carolyn Young & Lanette and Rick Schulte and Stacy De Leon

Next Sunday, Oct 27:

Lay Leaders: Susan Fontaine & Dwight Baker  
Greeters: Kathy Yeager & Martha Newsome and Doug Lewis

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.

## *Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost/Children's Sabbath Sunday*

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

"When I say 'it's you I like,' I'm talking about that part of you that knows that life is far more than anything you can ever see or hear or touch. That deep part of you that allows you to stand for those things without which humankind cannot survive. Love that conquers hate, peace that rises triumphant over war, and justice that proves more powerful than greed."

—Fred Rogers

### CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

Aiden G., piano

### WORDS OF WELCOME

Brooke Dooley

### PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

Noah and George Verdegaal, violin

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Tyler Baker-Wilkinson

One: It's a beautiful day in this neighborhood—

All: **A beautiful day to be gathered with friends.**

One: In God's neighborhood, all are welcomed with joy—

All: **And God's love binds us together as one.**

One: So since we're together, we might as well say,

All: **Would you be mine, could you be mine, won't you be my neighbor?**

**\*OPENING HYMN** - No. 252 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

*Bradbury*

**\*INVOCATION**

Tyler Baker-Wilkinson

**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**

Brooke Dooley

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)**

Brooke Dooley

**God,  
we confess that we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
You embodied yourself in a human body.  
You lived out your life among those who were sick—  
reaching out to touch them,  
speaking words to comfort them,  
performing miracles to heal them.  
Heal us and liberate us  
from our forgetfulness and lack of love.  
Heal us and help us to work  
for the healing and wholeness of our neighbors as well.  
Just speak the word of your peace, and we shall be healed.  
Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Brooke Dooley

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Brooke Dooley

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

Many: **And also with you!**

### \*HYMN OF RESPONSE: No. 541 They Asked, "Who's My Neighbor?"

*Neighbor*

## HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING

Deuteronomy 30:9-14, NRSV

Tyler Baker-Wilkinson

And the Lord your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the Lord will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, when you obey the Lord your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, "Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

**CHORAL ANTHEM** - Children Will Listen (from Into the Woods) - Stephen Sondheim, arranged by Jacob Narverud (Chancel Choir and A Joyful Noise; Brooke Dooley, alto)

How do you say to a child in the night “Nothing’s all black, but then nothing’s all white?”  
How do you say “It will all be all right” when you know that it might not be true? What do  
you do?

Careful the things you say, children will listen. Careful the things you do, children will see  
and learn. Children may not obey, but children will listen. Children will look to you for  
which way to turn, to learn what to be! Careful before you say “Listen to me.” Children  
will listen!

Careful the wish you make, wishes are children. (Wishes are children.) Careful the path  
they take, wishes come, true, not free. Careful the spell you cast (careful the spell you  
cast), not just on children (not just on children). Sometimes the spell may last past what  
you can see and turn against you! Careful the tale you tell, that is the spell (that is the  
spell). Children will listen!

Guide them but step away (oh guide us), children will glisten (we’ll glisten)! Temper with  
what is true, and children will turn if just to be free! Careful before you say “Listen to me.”  
Children will listen, children will listen! Children, children will listen.

**GOSPEL READING**

Luke 10:25-37, NRSV

Trent Williams

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. “Teacher,” he said, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?” He said to him, “What is written in the law? What do you read there?” He answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.” And he said to him, “You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live.” But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, ‘Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.’ Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?” He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

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**

Galia A. Ortiz

**INVITATION TO SHARE**

Tyler Baker-Wilkinson

**OFFERTORY**

Alex Brunstedt, piano

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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

**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** - No. 327 Jesus Loves Me

*Jesus Loves Me*

\***BENEDICTION**

Trent Williams

**POSTLUDE**

Aiden G., piano

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**Instrumental Music:**

Prelude: Melody 5 - William Fitzpatrick

Offertory: Dance Theme and Variation - Jean Hotteterre, arranged by Nancy & Randall Faber

Communion: Jesus Loves Me - William B. Bradbury, arranged by Joel Raney

Postlude: Trumpet Song - Jeremiah Clarke, arranged by Nancy & Randall Faber

Scriptures for the Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost, October 27, 2024: Psalm 34: 1-8; Job 42:1-6, 10-17

## 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

**YOUTH GROUP DISCUSSION & LUNCH, OCT 20:** Grades 6-12 will NOT be meeting for Sunday school at 10am this Sunday, 10/20. We will instead be meeting in the double classroom following the 11am service for a discussion over that morning’s scripture with lunch provided. We will also take some time to prepare for the upcoming CROP Hunger Walk on 11/3. For more information, contact Pastor Brooke: [pastorbrooke@friends-ucc.org](mailto:pastorbrooke@friends-ucc.org).

**YOUTH/CHILDREN PUMPKIN PARTY, OCT 27:** Children & youth- join us in the sanctuary on October 27th from 5-7pm for a pumpkin painting & carving party! BYOP (bring your own pumpkin) & painting/carving supplies will be provided

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**FRIENDS GREETERS NEEDED:** Join our Friends Church greeter team! We are in need of additional folks to help welcome people on Sunday mornings and make our worship services flow smoothly. If you are interested in learning more, reach out to Worship Committee chair Charity Stokes at [worship@friends-ucc.org](mailto:worship@friends-ucc.org). You can also sign up online here: [bit.ly/FriendsGreeter](http://bit.ly/FriendsGreeter).



**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS NEEDED:** We have all the Sunday school classes covered but are still looking for volunteers who could be called when teachers are out of town to be substitutes. Please let Pastor Dan or Abby Burley, [Christian\\_ed@friends-ucc.org](mailto:Christian_ed@friends-ucc.org), know if we can add you to our list.

**ALL SAINTS DAY, NOV 3:** Let us honor the Saints who have gone on before us. Friends Church celebrates All Saints Day by recognizing our deceased loved one. Please fill out the form in your worship guide and leave it in the offering plate or email your submissions to [office@friends-ucc.org](mailto:office@friends-ucc.org) to be sure that your Saint is included on All Saints Sunday (Nov. 3). You can also fill out this form at <https://bit.ly/FriendsSaints>. The names of those who have passed in the last year will be read aloud during the 9am and 11am service, and all names will be listed in the worship guides.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE AND SHARE

**SUPPORT OUR PODCAST:** Help us spread the good word! Share this week's sermon with those you love with our "Friends Congregational Church Sermons" podcast, available wherever you can find podcasts! Easily access and publicize our mission to follow the model of Jesus: to live faithfully, love limitlessly, and serve boldly. With over 100 episodes published (since Advent of last year) we've expanded (since Eastertide this year) our efforts to include the wider library of sermons offered before this podcast kicked off. We would love to have your support by either showing this podcast to friends and loved ones, and/or contributing your voice to introduce an episode. Volunteers can reach out to [av@friends-ucc.org](mailto:av@friends-ucc.org) (Jeremy) if interested, or you might get approached after service. Recording takes less than 10 minutes and is almost entirely scripted.

**Be a Greeter and Communion Steward:** To help in the 9am and 11am services, please contact Worship Committee Chair Charity Stokes: [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 school year. Contact Pastor Brooke at [pastorbrooke@friend-ucc.org](mailto:pastorbrooke@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:** "All I need is coffee; all we need are volunteers to make it!"

Sign up via sheet on kitchen counter, at [bit.ly/coffeeatfriends](http://bit.ly/coffeeatfriends) or email Jan at [Fellowship@friends-ucc.org](mailto:Fellowship@friends-ucc.org)

**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, OCT 31:** For October, join the book club for the last meeting of the year. We will be reading Anthony Ray Hinton's *The Sun Does Shine*. Join us for discussion at 6:30pm.

**PREPARING WITH PURPOSE: AN ESTATE AND END OF LIFE PLANNING WORKSHOP, NOV 10:** Join us on November 10th following the 11:00 worship service, where we will be joined by Carol Bertsh, a practicing elder law attorney, who will lead us through preparation of wills and other estate planning. Pastor Dan will also offer guidance in funeral planning and communicating final wishes. All are welcome, and lunch will be provided. Sign up here to let us know you're coming: [bit.ly/preparingwithpurpose](http://bit.ly/preparingwithpurpose).



# 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.