

# FRIENDS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost/World Communion  
Sunday  
October 6, 2024  
9:00am



*An Open & Affirming  
Congregation*

## QUOTE FOR MEDITATION

“Tell the truth. Sing with passion. Work with laughter. Love with heart. ‘Cause, that’s all that matters in the end.”

—Kris Kristofferson

## CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

## WORDS OF WELCOME

Trent Williams

## PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE) “God is Here Too”

Diane Simpson

One: Come! Come into a place where God listens!

**All: Where you need no money, no status, no fine clothes!**

One: Come as you are—

**All: broken, whole, sick, well, satisfied, or with deep needs.**

One: Come to sing, to cry, to hear, to see.

**All: Come and be ready, or come to be made ready.**

One: We are here.

**All: God is here too.**

\***OPENING HYMN** - No. 3 Wakantanka Taku Nitawa (Many and Great, O God, Are Your Works)

*Lacquiparle* (verses 1 & 2 in English)

## \*INVOCATION

Diane Simpson

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Lanette Schulte

*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.**

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Trent Williams

One: The peace of Christ be with you all.

Many: **And also with you.**

## GOSPEL READING

Luke 5:27-29, NRSV

Dan De Leon

After this he went out and saw a tax collector named Levi, sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up, left everything, and followed him. Then Levi gave a great banquet for him in his house; and there was a large crowd of tax collectors and others sitting at the table with them.

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

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

## THE MESSAGE

I Know What I Am

Dan De Leon

## 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

Diane Simpson

## 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

Trent Williams

## CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Instructions and Invitation

Dan De Leon

Prayer of Thanks and Praise

Trent Williams

Remembering Jesus (responsive)

Dan De Leon

One: Now, O God, we remember Jesus.

**All: We remember that he ate with Simon the Pharisee,  
with Zacchaeus the tax collector,  
and in Peter's house after making his mother well.**

One: We remember that he ate in Bethany with Mary and Martha,

**All: We remember that he ate with rich and poor,  
righteous people and sinners,  
friends, deniers, doubters, and betrayers.**

One: He told us not to take the best seats at banquets,  
but to defer to others; to be good guests.

The Story of the Bread and Cup (responsive)

Trent Williams

One: And we remember...

**All: that on the night of his betrayal,  
he ate again with his disciples in an upper room.**

One: He shared blessed bread with them  
and poured out wine, signs of his coming death,  
signs of a life determined to love despite the risk.

**All: Whenever we eat, with whomever we eat,  
as guests among guests, we remember him.  
He is with us always, to the end of the age.**

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Dan De Leon

**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.**

**\*CLOSING HYMN** - No. 402 De colores (Sing of Colors)

*De colores* (Verse 1 in Spanish, then verses 1-2 in English)

**\*BENEDICTION**

Dan De Leon

## POSTLUDE

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*Instrumental Music:*

Prelude: Bread of the World - John S. B. Hodges, arranged by Stanley E. Saxton  
Offertory: The Love of the Lord - Michael Joncas, arranged by Jeanne Cotter  
Communion: Let Us Break Bread Together - Traditional Spiritual  
Postlude: O For a Thousand Tongues - arranged by Melody Bober

About today's liturgy: The Call to Worship and Invocation come from Liturgies from *Below: Praying with People at the Ends of the World*, by Cláudio Carvalhaes. The Celebration of Holy Communion, "Everyone a Guest," written by Mary Luti, is from *Do This: Communion for Just and Courageous Living*, edited by Mary Luti.

Scriptures for the Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost, October 13, 2024: Mark 10:17-31

## 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

**VOTER REGISTRATION AND INFORMATION, OCT 6:** Voter Registration and information table in front of church, October 6, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Volunteer Deputy Registrars will be staffing the table to register voters and answer all your questions about upcoming elections and deadlines.

**WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY WITH WOMEN, OCT 9:** Wonderful Wednesdays with Women will meet on Wednesday, October 9, at Carney's Pub & Grill at 3410 S. College Ave., Bryan, TX 77801. This is a casual, come-and-go event. All are welcome! Contact Stacy De Leon if you need more information.

**GUYZ BREAKFAST, OCT 12:** 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.

**OUTOBERFEST, OCT 12:** Join Friends Congregational Church at the the Pride Community Center for OUToberfest 2024 the first-ever Brazos Valley Pride Festival, located right in downtown Bryan! Friends will have a sponsored booth present for the entire festival. Artisan market, food and drink vendors, local non-profit and community resources, big stage performances, and more! Performer line-up and other details TBA. Volunteers needed and very much appreciated! Reach out to Megan for more information at [evangelism@friends-ucc.org](mailto:evangelism@friends-ucc.org).

## 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](https://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.

## 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

**FABULOUS AT ANY AGE - MISSION WACO SOCIAL ENTERPRISE TOUR, OCT 17:** Fabulous at Any Age will be touring Mission Waco on Thursday, October 17. We will leave from the church at 8:00 a.m. and return by 3:00 p.m. Sign up with QR code below.



**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

**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.

## 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.