

Congregational Church United Church of Christ



Seventeenth
Sunday
After
Pentecost

September 27, 2020
Zoom Worship

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE Nobody Knows the Trouble I've Seen

arr. Juan María Solare

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Eric Sherlock

CALL TO WORSHIP Claire Conger

One: We are not here because we have found God

but because God has found us and called us into this time and place.

All: Challenging us to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,

and to be in service to all of creation.

One: But God's call is also God's promise.

All: A promise of forgiveness and grace,

courage in the struggle for justice and peace, and eternal life in a realm that has no end.

Blessing and honor and glory to God.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Posadas-Faught Family

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us greet one another with waves and smiles

and pass the peace of Christ using the chat feature.

400

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

Eph. 2:20-22; 1 Pet. 2:4-7

Latin, 6th-8th century Transl. John Mason Neale, 1851; alt. St. 3 adapt. Thomas H. Troeger, 1992



The hymn has its origins in an early Latin poem, Urbs beata Jerusalem, based on passages from Ephesians, 1 Peter, and Revelation. "Holy Zion" refers to the church transcendent, built of "living stones"—the saints of God.

Tune: REGENT SQUARE 8.7.8.7.8.7.

Henry T. Smart, 1867

Alternate tune: WESTMINSTER ABBEY

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Karen Kawaguchi

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 21:23-32

Jen Faught

SERMON

Fighting Alongside the Marginalized

Pastor Todd

One: Siblings in Christ, through the sacred act of Baptism, we begin the journey of discipleship. We become part of God's holy work, and we are born again through the water of life and the Spirit of peace and hope. This is God's gift to us, a gift that comes without cost.

All: We remember our baptism, and we are thankful.

One: Today, as we remember the story of the baptism of Jesus, we renew the vow taken at our baptism to be faithful disciples of Jesus Christ. Do you embrace the promise God makes to us to always be faithful and merciful, to show grace beyond measure and forgiveness that never ends?

All: We do.

One: Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you to seek justice in all times and places, for all people and all creation?

All: We do.

One: Do you promise to be faithful and merciful, to love God and Jesus Christ with all your heart, mind, and soul, and to love your neighbor?

All: We do.

One: Do you as the Body of Christ, renew your promise to always be faithful to God and to each other?

All: We do.

One: As you are moved, you are invited to dip your hand into the waters before you, touching your forehead with the waters of baptism, and remembering always by saying, "I am God's beloved, with God I am well pleased."

ANTHEM Roll Down, Justice Mark A. Miller Gabrielle Goozée-Nichols, soprano

There's a voice, strong and clear, ringing out far and near, "Let justice roll down, let justice roll down!"
Like the rush of a stream, comes a powerful dream, let justice roll down, justice rolls down!

Let the earth be restored, every soul be reformed; let the healing renew, creation reborn. Here in this sacred space with the strength of God's grace, let justice roll down, justice rolls down!

Roll down! Roll down, justice! Roll, like an ever flowing stream.

On this glorious day, give us courage, we pray, that justice rolls down, let justice roll down! Let the vision take flight and God will delight as waters flow down, justice abounds!

Roll down! Roll down, justice! Roll, like an ever flowing stream.

TIME OF PRAYER Pastor Eric

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

(Email your requests to Pastor Eric or type them in the chat window.)

All: Hear our prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (using these words or the words most familiar to you)

Our Loving God, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For yours is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

TIME OF GIVING

Claire Conger

Invitation to Giving

During this time of virtual worship, we invite you to

give online via our web site and clicking "Donate" in the upper right of the screen.

Doxology Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen

Offertory Prayer

CLOSING HYMN



BENEDICTION Pastor Todd

POSTLUDE

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

arr. Lloyd Larson

Announcements

If you would like to submit a prayer concern or joy for next Sunday's Zoom Worship, please email it to Pastor Eric at eric@danvillechurch.org.

To keep up-to-date on news and announcements during this time of social distancing, **please read your email** from DCC thoroughly! All communication related to church news and events will be communicated via email!



Neighbors in Need Helps Make a Just World for All Possible

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. We will receive our annual **Neighbors in Need offering on Sunday, October 4**.

One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to UCC churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Recent Northern California grantees include First Congregational Church of Oakland and First Congregational Church of Auburn. This year, special consideration will be given to projects focusing on serving our immigrant neighbors and communities. As a 2020 emergency measure, some Neighbors in Need funds are going to the UCC's Justice and Local Church Ministry Emergency Response to COVID-19 relief fund, to provide aid to eligible churches adversely impacted by the coronavirus (COVID-19).

Please give generously. And remember, contributions to Neighbors in Need can be made online at anytime through the DCC Donations page by selecting Outreach Donations / Neighbors in Need.

Church Office Open for Essential Business

Beginning last week, the DCC Church Office is re-opened for **essential business** *only*. DCC's Office Manager, Liz, is in the church office from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Tuesday through Friday.

If you have an essential business item that can only be completed in the church office, we ask that you contact Liz directly to make an appointment for your office visit. Before making your appointment please consider the urgency of your need and whether your item/task can be completed remotely. At this time, we are asking that no church members 'drop-in' for an office visit, as we want to ensure the safety of church staff and minimize the risk of COVID-19 exposure to our church campus.

If you have an essential business item the requires you to visit the church office, please review the following **office safety guidelines** (click the link).

You can also access the guidelines on the **church website**. (click the link and then click on COVID-19 Campus Guidelines)

It's imperative that all office staff, volunteers, and visitors follow these guidelines, specifically the guidelines for daily operations, while on the church campus. If you have any questions about these guidelines, please contact DCC's Moderator, <u>Trish Moosbrugger</u>.

CAZ Campfire October 3

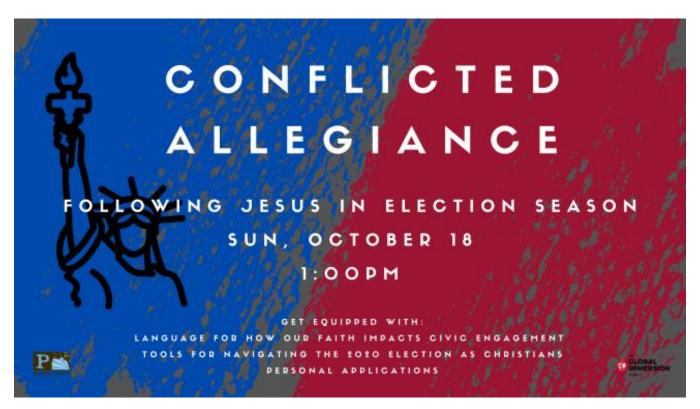
Ready for some camp fun? You are invited to join our virtual CAZ "Campfire"—a fun hour of music and a TNT ("Talent / No Talent show") on Zoom, Saturday October 3rd, from 6:30–7:30pm! If you have a TNT (a skit, song, something musical, or whatever else you can think of) you would like to share that evening (live!), please email Joyce Klassen or Karen Kawaguchi by next Wednesday, September 30th. We think each participant will be limited to 60-90 seconds. [We will let you know the timing once we have finalized the schedule for our camp hour.] Hope to see you there!

Register for Annual Gathering!

The <u>Annual Gathering</u> of the Northern California Nevada Conference of the UCC will be held on **October 24, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.** Resolutions and other meeting materials are available and being made available on the Conference's website <u>here</u>. Many significant resolutions will be voted on and decisions made, including the passing of an annual budget and a revisioning of Camp Caz. We invite you to inform and educate yourself, and if you have questions or concerns, please reach out to Pastors Eric and Todd. <u>Registration</u> is now open. There is no charge but you must pre-register.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the fourth Wednesday of every month at 10AM. If you are a knitter/crocheter, we would love for you to join us for some productive knitting/crocheting and socializing. If there are any youth who would like to participate, we can get you started with some yarn and instructions and you can work on your own time and at your convenience. For further information, call/email Judy Schreib, 925-837-4167 / jhschr@tdl.com.



Many of us inherited a Christian worldview that assumed the success of the United States meant the advance of God's mission in the world. Others of us inherited a worldview where the Church was apolitical with a "We don't talk about politics, we just talk about Jesus" mentality.

You are invited to join <u>Project Peace East Bay</u> us as together we explore the theological roots of these perspectives, as well as a new way to approach this election season. They have found that Christians want to talk about civic engagement as a response to our faith but many of us often lack the language to help us navigate this, especially in a cancel culture where there's little room to say the wrong thing. What does it look like to have integrity in our faith when we're unsure of what to do or say to be effective?

In partnership with <u>The Global Immersion Project</u>, Project Peace is offering an East Bay-focused workshop that offers the language, tools, and actions to embrace a conflicted allegiance that tackles our faith in one hand and our U.S. citizenship in the other.

We all need tools to get comfortable talking about uncomfortable topics within our congregations. The workshop itself is a model for what this space can look like and will enable you to navigate this polarized election season with initiative and courage. This workshop will equip you with:

- A framework and language to understand how our faith impacts our civic engagement
- A set of tools to navigate the 2020 election as Christians
- Practical actions from others' experiences to take steps in your own life

We don't want to waste anyone's time. In order to jump into the conversation with a shared language, we highly recommend <u>watching this 22-minute video</u> with <u>reflection questions</u>.

Invite your friends, community group, or family to experience this workshop together and be each other's accountability. It's a great way to connect with loved ones in a new way—by learning, taking small risks, and asking hard questions together.

Full details can be found on the registration page.



Fight alongside the marginalized.

Upcoming Gatherings

Worship at DCC, Sundays at 9:30am

https://zoom.us/j/492975948?pwd=blJqZTNpNGo3S1o0YkNFM3FWQ1dIQT09

or by Zoom app: 492 975 948, password 322

or by phone: dial 669-900-6833 and enter 492 975 948 as the Meeting ID and 322 as the password.

Youth Group, Sundays at 5:00pm Contact Pastor Todd for details.

Black Trans Lives Matter
Black Queer Lives Matter
Black Women Matter
Black Men Matter
Black Disabled People Matter
Black Children Matter
Black Undocumented People Matter
BLACK LIVES MATTER

DANVILLE
Congregational Church
OF CHRIST

Ministers—The Entire Congregation

Church Staff
The Rev. Eric Sherlock, Senior Pastor
The Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley, Associate Pastor
John Kendall Bailey, Music Director
Mary-Marie Deauclaire, Handbell Director

Elizabeth Setlak-von Thury, Office Manager Nicole Doyle, Nursery Attendant

The **DCC Prayer Team** prays daily for those in need of prayers. If you would like to submit a prayer request for yourself or someone else, contact a pastor or send an email to prayers@danvillechurch.org.

All requests are kept confidential unless specified otherwise.

Kelley Mangels, Dayspring Preschool Director dayspringpreschool.org



Danville Congregational Church

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