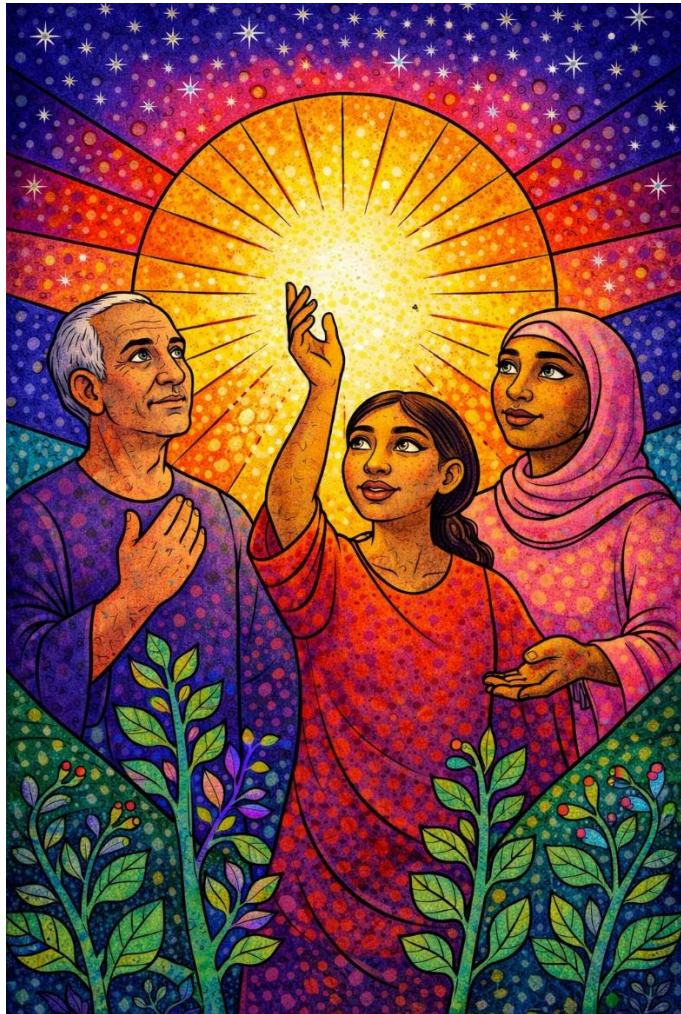




DANVILLE

Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



Easter Sunday
Communion Sunday
April 5, 2026

OUR PURPOSE

Love God • Love Each Other • Be God's Love in the World

Danville Congregational Church acknowledges that the land this house of worship sits upon is the traditional, unceded land of the Ohlone and Bay Miwok people. We offer this land acknowledgment as a sign of respect, with the knowledge that this land was sacred before we ever arrived.

At Danville Congregational Church, we welcome you to a progressive spiritual community that is open and affirming, celebrates differences, and encourages alternate views. We explore the Bible with curiosity and enthusiasm, taking it seriously but not literally. Taking Christ's call passionately to love our neighbor, we extend our faith into action for the betterment of all. Wherever you are on life's journey, we offer you a place of peace and hope.

Danville Congregational Church is an Open and Affirming church, welcoming all of God's people—of diverse race, gender, sexual orientation, family status, economic condition, and physical, mental, and emotional ability.

A NOTE TO WORSHIPERS

Please take note of the emergency exits around you and locate the nearest one to you.

At DCC, wearing a mask during worship or inside the building is optional; please do whatever is comfortable for you. Please be aware of others' personal space and space yourselves out in the sanctuary accordingly. Please invite consent before shaking hands and hugging. The left-hand section of pews as you enter the sanctuary has been designated for those who are free of scents and perfumes.

Please silence your cell phone when you enter the sanctuary.

If you would like to use one of our listening assistance devices, please see the sound technician in the back of the sanctuary.

First-time guest? Welcome to Danville Congregational Church!

We are glad you have joined us today. We would love to share with you what is happening here. Please leave your information – name, email/phone in the Blue Pew Pad that is passed around early in the service. If you are interested in learning more about DCC, please see one of the pastors after worship in the narthex (lobby) or contact Joyce Klassen (joyce.klassen@comcast.net) our Welcome Commissioner. We look forward to connecting with you!

*The DCC sanctuary is available for meditation and quiet prayer
during the week during normal business hours.
Please feel free to come by any time—enter through the office.*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD



alive in the world

Liturgy by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

PRELUDE

Easter Anthem
DCC Brass Quintet

William Billings
arr. Todd Marchand

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Sandra Lepley

WELCOME

Rev. Todd Atkins–Whitley

Please sign the sheet in the blue pad, pass it to another, and place it in the offering plate.

To offer a special prayer, please fill out a Prayer Card, which will be collected during Prayer Time.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Miguel Atkins-Whitley

**All are invited to rise in body, mind, or spirit.*

One: On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.

All: On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.

One: On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.

All: But today, we know the good news is alive and well.

One: The good news is dancing!

All: The good news is on the loose!

One: The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

All: Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting. Let us worship our good-news Christ.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Miguel

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us greet one another and pass the peace of Christ

*OPENING HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

See next page.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Pastor Todd

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

Matt. 28:5-8; 1 Cor. 15:20-22; 54-57

Charles Wesley, 1739; alt.

1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!
2 Let the Vic - tor's peo - ple sing, Al - le - lu - ia!
3 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - le - lu - ia!
4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Al - le - lu - ia!

Mor - tal tongues and an - gels say: Al - le - lu - ia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Al - le - lu - ia!
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - le - lu - ia!
Fol - lowing our - ex - alt - ed Head, Al - le - lu - ia!

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high, Al - le - lu - ia!
Dy - ing once, Christ lives to save, Al - le - lu - ia!
Death in vain for - bids Christ rise, Al - le - lu - ia!
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Al - le - lu - ia!

Sing, glad heavens, and earth re - ply: Al - le - lu - ia!
Where your vic - to - ry, O grave? Al - le - lu - ia!
God has o - pened par - a - dise, Al - le - lu - ia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Al - le - lu - ia!

Tune: EASTER HYMN 7.7.7.7. with alleluia
Arr. from Lyra Davidica, London, 1708

The unknown editor of Lyra Davidica wanted music with more movement and spirit than found in the grave, slow-paced psalm tunes, with one note to a syllable. Easter Hymn was among the first of a new popular style.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: Gracious God, we want to be Easter people.
We want to shout your good news from the rooftop.
We want to follow the disciples, who ran to look for you.
We want to follow the angels, who said, “Be not afraid,” but we are afraid.
And we don’t know where to look.
And we are worried we’ll say the wrong thing.
So forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people.
We are best intentions and best laid plans.
We are an out-of-tune chorus of “alleluias.”
We are on our way, but we are not there yet.
Show us how to embody your good news in this world.
Show us how to be your Easter people.
With hope for tomorrow, we pray, amen.**

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Rev. Lauren Jewett

One: Family of faith, even when we are an out-of-tune chorus of “alleluias,” we belong to God. Jesus died and rose for you. And there is nothing that could keep God’s love at bay. So join me in this good news declaration:

**All: Through Jesus Christ we are seen, saved, loved, and claimed.
This is the good news of the gospel! Thanks be to God. Amen.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Blessing of the Playground Pastor Todd and Pastor Lauren

FIRST SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Matthew 28:1-10](#)

Miguel

After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

Watch carefully for danger. Never stop trusting God. Continue to be brave and strong.¹ People who hope in the Lord to help them will receive new strength. They will rise up high, as if they have the wings of eagles. They will run and they will not become tired. They will walk and they will not become weak.² [And trust this], well-formed love banishes fear.³

¹ Isaiah 40:31 [Easy English Version];² 1 Corinthians 16:13 [Easy English Version];
³ 1 John 4:18 [The Message]

SERMON

The Good News is... alive in the world

Pastor Todd

ANTHEM

Alleluia

Randall Thompson

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastor Lauren

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

All: Hear our prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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

Sandra

Invitation to Giving

For those of you who have already made a gift by check or automated giving, we are grateful. If you would like to make a gift today, please place it in the offering plate or [give using our web site](#) or donate using your mobile device, using the QR Code on the back cover.

Offertory

Prelude on "The Day of Resurrection"

Charles Callahan

*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

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Pastor Lauren

SURSUM CORDA

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift our hearts in prayer.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is good to give God thanks and praise.

COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor Todd

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Pastor Todd and Pastor Lauren

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor Lauren

One: God of the mountain, the valley, and every step in between,
may this meal be a fresh start.

**All: May this moment, where all are fed and all are welcomed,
be the start of something new.**

One: Show us how

**All: to carry the love we experience here
from the walls of this church into the world we encounter in the days ahead.**

One: Show us how

**All: to leave breadcrumbs of good news along our path
and everywhere in between.**

One: With deep hope we pray,

All: Amen.

WORK OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Lauren

*CLOSING HYMN

Crown Him With Many Crowns

See next page.

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Todd

POSTLUDE

Easter Rejoicing
DCC Brass Quintet

arr. Todd Marchand

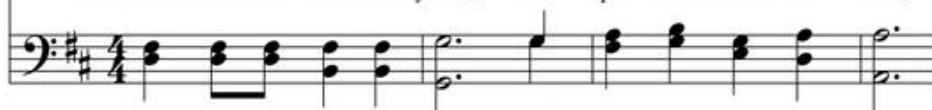
Please remain in your pews until the light has been taken out of the Sanctuary. Thank you!

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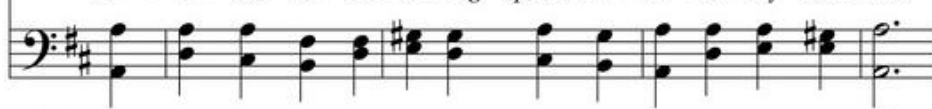
Crown Him with Many Crowns 268



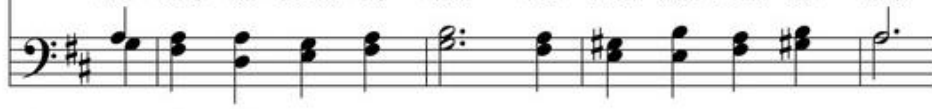
1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,
 3 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
 4 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time;



hark, how the heav-en-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own!
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His reign shall know no end; and round his pier - ed feet
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 but down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.



This text is so familiar that it is easy to miss all its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty; it rewards careful reading and meditation outside corporate worship. The tune's composer, chapel organist at Windsor Castle, had much experience in creating a royal sound.

DIADEMATA
SMD

TEXT: Matthew Bridges, 1851
 MUSIC: George Job Evey, 1868

DCC Brass Quintet

Christopher Arkin & Jeff Foster, trumpet
Phillip Hobson, horn; Will Shannon, trombone
John Whitecar, tuba

Guest Singers from Chora Nova

Soprano: Kristie Boering, Nanci Schneidinger
Alto: Emily Brockman, Wendy Fitch
Bass: James W. Cook, Ronald Wallace

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

8:30am–9:15am Choir Rehearsal
9:30am–10:45am Worship (In-person and Zoom)
10:45am–11:15am Time of Fellowship in Koinonia / breakout room

Our unattended nursery is open for anyone who would like to make use of it during worship. For safety reasons, we request that no child be left on the playground without appropriate supervision.

There is no Godly Play today.

THIS WEEK AT DCC

| | | |
|------------------|---------------|--------------------------|
| Tuesday | 9:00am | Men's Coffee and Donuts |
| Wednesday | 10:00am | Wednesday Morning Prayer |
| Wednesday | 2:30pm–3:30pm | CARE Support Group |
| Wednesday | 7:00pm–8:30pm | Choir Rehearsal |

TODAY'S EMMAUS TEAM

Today's Emmaus Team is **Team 3**. Next week's Emmaus Team is Team 5

Greeters: Linda Elsdon and Bette Felton

Ushers: Bette Felton, Ron Elsdon, and Bob Kovach

Liturgists: Miguel Atkins-Whitley and Sandra Lepley

Fellowship Hosts: Janis Jang, Randy Jang and Trish Moosbrugger

Sound Tech: Jim Felton and Randy Jang

Tech Minister: Eileen Ackley

Lock Up Duty: Dee Brook

ANNOUNCEMENTS



Come join Celebration Bells

Live a little! Join Celebration Bells for our next Handbell Sunday on June 7th. We start rehearsals on April 12th. Contact Janis Jang if interested or have questions. All are welcomed!



Easter Offering for White Pony Express

Through our Easter offering, we can express our love and compassion by reaching out to our neighbors who need a helping hand. The Outreach Commission has selected [White Pony Express](#) to receive our Easter offering this year because of their amazing success in serving people in need. Starting as an unfunded, grassroots effort by local residents, White Pony Express (WPE) has developed into one of California's largest food rescue programs. Please use an Easter Offering envelope or write "Easter offering" in the memo line of your check made out to DCC. To make your offering online, go to the [DCC Donations page](#) or scan the QR code in your bulletin and select *Easter offering*.

Easter blessings,
Outreach Commission

Easter Baskets -Thank You

Dear DCC; We want to thank you for your generous Easter Baskets for families at Hope Solutions. They are bountiful and beautiful baskets of love and hope. 26 baskets were delivered on Good Friday. Thank you Chris Sonnemann for initiating this wonderful annual tradition 35 years ago directed then for HIV AIDS patients.

Kathie Hixon



Continues April 12th

All-Church Spring Workshop Series –Ethnic Storytelling

Join us after worship as we continue our *Ethnic Storytelling* workshop series with **the Rev. Riana Shaw Robinson**. *Workshops will be held on the remaining Sundays during Second Hour (lunch will be provided): April 12, and April 26* For more information, reach out to [Barb DeBarger](#) or [Pastor Todd](#).

Wednesday Morning Prayer

Pastor Todd facilitates morning prayer on Wednesdays at 10:00am via Zoom and in the Sanctuary. We will engage in centering prayer and then pray for those requests we have received. To join via Zoom use this [link](#).

Easter Flower Donations

Thank you to everyone who donated to fill our sanctuary with beautiful flowers for Easter. Donors and Deacons may take flowers at the conclusion of our Easter service. Easter flowers were donated by the following:

| Donor Name | In Memory Of | In Honor Of |
|------------------------|---|-------------|
| Sandra Lepley | Ruth & Sam Schlichting | |
| Mary Courtenay | Renée Nicole Good and Alex Pretti | |
| The Seiler Family | Alan & Connie Wadsworth, Rod & Marilyn Seiler | |
| Judy Schreib | Herb Schreib | |
| Barb DeBarger | Betty DeBarger and Keith & Toshiko Gestring | |
| Sally Baca | My parents, Maxine & Robert Sizer | |
| Bruce and Kathie Hixon | Our parents Homer & Gladys Hixon and Bob & Helen Stine | |
| Jim and Bette Felton | Jeanne & Lee Felton and Kay & Rip Borden | |
| Eileen Ackley | Larry & Dot Ackley | |
| Nancy Halseth | Dave Halseth | |

Pastoral Availability

Pastor Todd keeps regular office hours remotely on Monday and in the office Tuesday through Thursday. If you would like to meet with Pastor Todd, please reach out to him directly via phone or [email](#).

Pastor Lauren is available by appointment. You can reach her via [email](#) or phone.



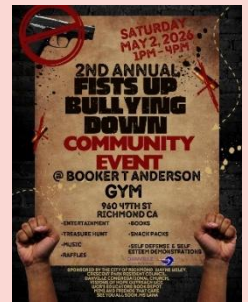
our future
stewardship 2022

It's beginning to look a lot like Stewardship...each Spring our church takes a look at how we are doing in the many areas of Giving-- asking us to examine our hearts in terms of how we are serving our church through the giving of our Time, Talents and Treasure. Our theme this year is "Focus on our Future," and we are particularly looking for ways we can strengthen our church over the next 5, 10, 20 years. Our Long Range Planning Task Force is hard at work beginning this process, and in the coming months, will be actively engaging each of us in sharing our ideas and thoughts. On April 19th, we will be holding an all-church Stewardship luncheon in which we will share more on this work, as well as our financial goals for the 26-27 church year, and also the ways you can engage in activities through our many commissions and committees.

Visions of Hope Support Needed for May 2nd event

Our partners at Visions of Hope are holding another event to support the Richmond community! Their annual "Fists Up, Guns Down" event has been re-named "Fists Up, Bullying Down," and is designed to give the children in the community a day of fun, learning and love. It will be held on Saturday, May 2nd, from 1:00pm–4:00pm at the Booker T. Anderson community center in Richmond. DCC has been asked to help with a few things for this event:

- New or gently used children's books for all ages, 0-12
- Food for snack bags--granola bars, crackers, fruit snacks, pretzels, etc.
- \$\$ for prizes
- Support at the event to hand out bags, snacks and prizes



If you are able/interested in supporting this event, please contact Barb DeBarger, Carrie Hrousis or Doug Leich, and/or sign up on the signup sheet during coffee hour. If you wish to donate, please do so on the church's donation website--click on "Visions of Hope."

Sunday, April 12th **Monthly Lunch Bunch**

Join the monthly lunch bunch after church on Sunday, April 12th (the second Sunday in April due to Easter being on the 5th). We'll be gathering at noon (or whenever you get there) at Café Esin in Danville and would love for you to join us! Note: Please come prepared to pay for your meal with check, cash, Paypal or Venmo. Thanks!



Please RSVP to Wilson Jackson at 925-819-0222 or email him at wrjachev@netzero.com to let him know you'll be attending. They have room for a maximum of 20, so it will be important to let us know you're coming. If we get over 20, we'll try to make a reservation for an extra booth or two. It's a busy place on Sundays with limited space, and it is very popular. You'll taste why.

THE GLOBAL RISE OF RELIGIOUS NATIONALISM: *Implications & the Church's Response*

A Live-Streamed + In-person Event

📅 **APRIL 12, 2026** ⌚ **11:30 AM ET**

Presentation online and in person
Come early for worship beginning at 10 AM EST

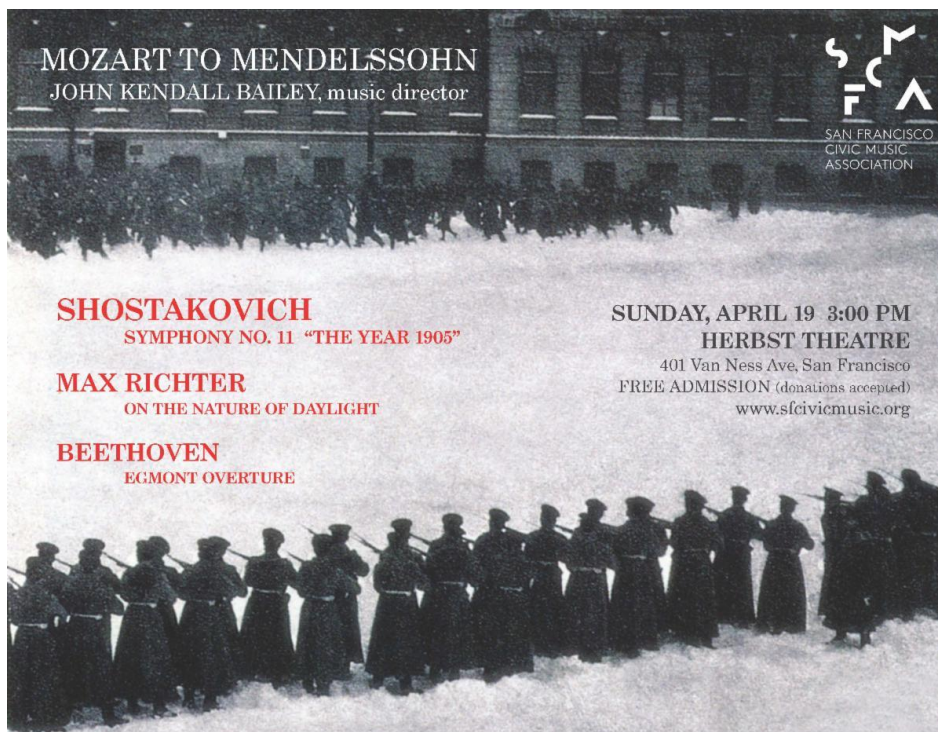
Register at www.ucc.org/april12

Sunday, April 12th at 8:30am Online **The Global Rise of Religious Nationalism Talk**

There is a reality that is shaping political and religious landscapes in the United States and emerging as a powerful force in countries around the world. This force can especially target people of other religions or ethnicities. This force privileges one's community and discriminates against another. This force can lead to oppression, violence, and

social exclusion of other religions or ethnicities. This force is **Religious Nationalism**, and it misuses religion to undermine society and obscures its positive contributions. Religious nationalism occurs when religious tradition, political agenda, and national loyalty merge in ways that marginalize or harm those of different faiths. Its growing force in the world raises urgent questions about the future of justice, belonging, and our shared humanity. In the United States, Christian nationalism has emerged as an established and influential feature of the cultural and political landscape.

Join us for this important dialogue on Sunday, April 12th at 8:30am online with Rev. Phillip Peacock, General Secretary of the World Communion of Reformed Churches, and Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson. Rev. Phillip, a leader in global ecumenism, justice advocacy, and Reformed theology will draw on his international experience and examine how Religious Nationalism appears in different cultural contexts around the globe and Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson will provide perspective on its impact in the United States. Save your seat today for this important dialogue. All are welcome to join early for worship led by Rev. Phillip Peacock at 7:00am. [RSVP here](#).



MOZART TO MENDELSSOHN
JOHN KENDALL BAILEY, music director

SAN FRANCISCO CIVIC MUSIC ASSOCIATION

SHOSTAKOVICH
SYMPHONY NO. 11 "THE YEAR 1905"

MAX RICHTER
ON THE NATURE OF DAYLIGHT

BEETHOVEN
EGMONT OVERTURE

SUNDAY, APRIL 19 3:00 PM
HERBST THEATRE
401 Van Ness Ave, San Francisco
FREE ADMISSION (donations accepted)
www.sfcivicmusic.org

Pictures of the Week

DCC showed up strong at the No Kings protests throughout the Bay Area on March 28th, youth stuffed Easter Eggs for our Annual Egg Hunt, and we started Holy Week with our Palm Sunday Service & Procession.





If you'd like to submit a picture to be considered for the pic of the week, send it to Anne-Marie at anne-marie@danvillechurch.org

Ministers—The Entire Congregation

Church Staff

The Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley, Senior Pastor

The Rev. Lauren Jewett, Minister of Youth & Community Engagement

John Kendall Bailey, Music Director

Anne-Marie Vanniasinkam, Office & Communications Manager

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.

Maria Arroyo, Dayspring Preschool Director

Stacey Perez, Administrative Assistant

www.dayspringpreschool.org



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Danville Congregational Church

United Church of Christ

989 San Ramon Valley Boulevard, Danville, CA 94526-4020

Phone: (925) 837-6944

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