



DANVILLE

Congregational Church

United Church of Christ



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 23, 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

PRELUDE

O Where Can Truth Be Found Today

Thomas Haweis

WELCOME

Heidi Bridgeman

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

Sandra Lepley

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

One: Friends, do not be conformed to this age, but transformed in God's light!

All: We present our whole selves, beloved, strong, and powerful.

One: We are holy creations, open before our loving and compassionate God,
with our many and differing gifts.

**All: So we gather now in worship and thanksgiving, in speaking, singing,
and praying.**

One: Let us not hide who we are ...

All: ...but rejoice bravely in how God has created each of us! Thanks be to God!

-Inspired by Romans 12:1-8

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Sandra

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

*OPENING SONG

Take My Life, God, Let It Be

See next page.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Rev. Carol Barriger

*Following Time With Children, children are invited to meet their teachers
in the back of the sanctuary for Godly Play.*

Take My Life, God, Let It Be

448

Frances R. Havergal, 1874; alt.

Rom. 12:1

1 Take my life, God, let it be con - se - crat - ed faith - ful - ly.
2 Take my spir - it, let it move at the im - pulse of your love.
3 Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.
4 Take my love and help it grow; let my lov - ing ov - er - flow.

Take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.
Take my in - tel - lect and use all its pow - ers as you choose.
Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwell - ing place.
Take me now, and help me be part of Christ's com - mu - ni - ty.

Tune: VIENNA 7177.
Justin H. Koehn, 1797
Alternate tune: HENDON

Frances R. Havergal wrote her hymn following a visit to Avelley House in Worcestershire, England. Among the ten persons at the house were "some unconverted... some converted but not rejoicing." Before the left, "everyone had got a blessing."

SCRIPTURE LESSON

[Matthew 16:13-20](#)

Sandra

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others say Elijah, and still others say Jeremiah or one of the prophets."

He said to them, "But who do **you** say that I am?"

Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but God in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it.

"I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven."

Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

She said: "I have come to believe over and over again that what is most important to me must be spoken, made verbal and shared, even at the risk of having it bruised or misunderstood."

She said: "Your silence will not protect you."

She said: "If I didn't define myself for myself, I would be crunched into other people's fantasies for me and eaten alive."

She said: "I am not free while any woman is unfree, even when her shackles are very different from my own."

She said: "When I dare to be powerful, to use my strength in the service of my vision, then it becomes less and less important whether I am afraid."

SERMON

To Tell or Not to Tell

Pastor Carol

ANTHEM

Brave

Sara Bareilles

One Voice Children's Choir

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qa2QKIDr7q8>

*You can be amazing, you can turn a phrase into a weapon or a drug
You can be the outcast or be the backlash of somebody's lack of love
Or you can start speaking up.*

*Nothing's gonna hurt you the way that words do when they settle 'neath your skin
Kept on the inside and no sunlight, sometimes a shadow wins
But I wonder what would happen if you*

Chorus:

*Say what you wanna say, and let the words fall out
Honestly, I wanna see you be brave
with what you want to say and let the words fall out
Honestly I wanna see you be brave.*

*Everybody's been there, everybody's been stared down by the enemy
Fallen for the fear and done some disappearing, bow down to the mighty
But don't run, stop holding your tongue.
Maybe there's a way out of the cage where you live,
Maybe one of these days you can let the light in
Show me how big your brave is. (Chorus)*

*Innocence, your history of silence won't do you any good
Did you think it would?
Let your words be anything but empty
Why don't you tell them the truth? (Chorus)*

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastor Carol

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

True Colors

Billy Steinberg & Tom Kelly

*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

WORK OF THE PEOPLE

Heidi

*CLOSING HYMN

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

See next page.

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Carol

POSTLUDE

Teach Me, O Lord, Your Way of Truth

George J. Elvey

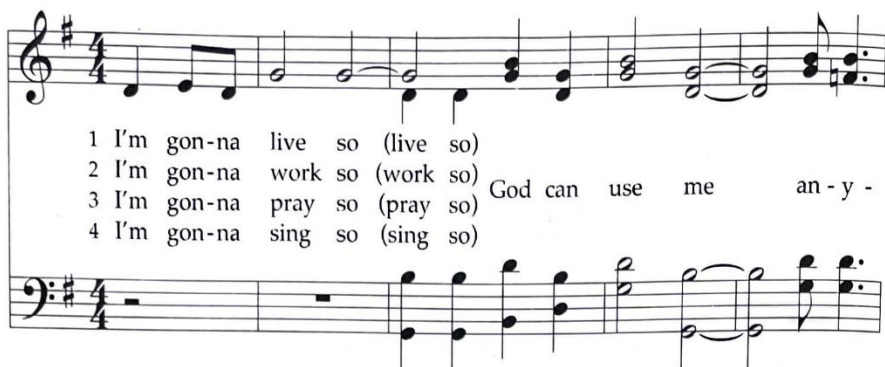
Please remain in your pews until the light has been taken out of the Sanctuary. Thank you!

TODAY'S GUEST PREACHER



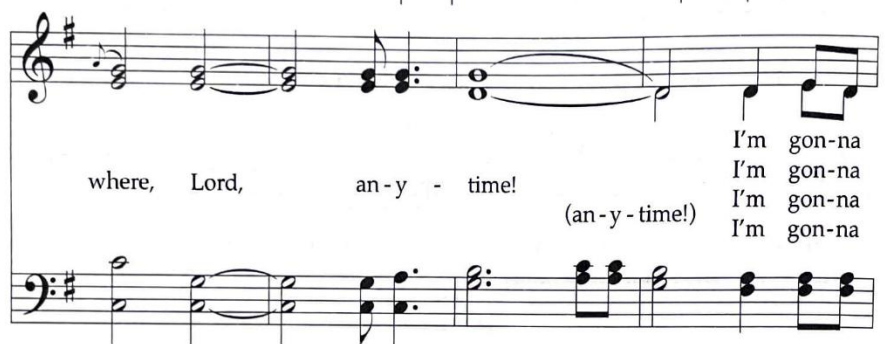
Rev. Carol Barriger has been pastor for multiple churches in our Conference. She taught UCC history, theology, and polity at Pacific School of Religion, and also served as an Associate Conference Minister. She currently serves on the board of the Santa Clara Association and sings in the choir at her home church, 1st Congregational, Palo Alto. She and spouse Rev. Kevin Omi enjoy a tribe of children and grandchildren spread across the country as well as the company of their occasionally out-of-control cat Sponge, appropriately named for the theologically wild Bishop John Shelby Spong (RIP). One of Pastor Carol's most treasured ministries was serving as our sabbatical pastor last year at DCC during Pastor Todd's time away.

700 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me



1 I'm gon-na live so (live so)
 2 I'm gon-na work so (work so)
 3 I'm gon-na pray so (pray so)
 4 I'm gon-na sing so (sing so)

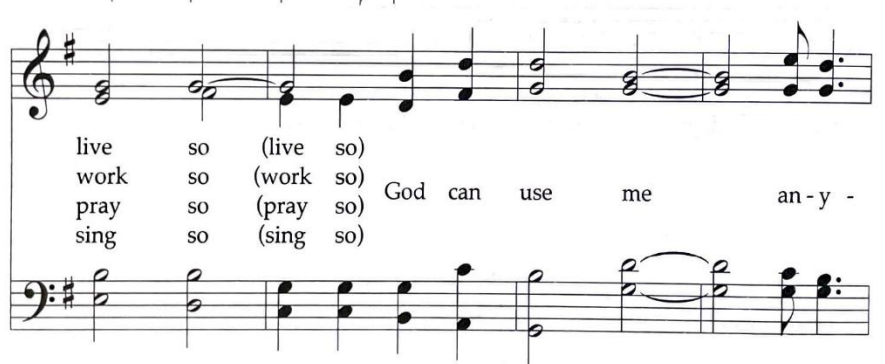
God can use me an - y -



where, Lord, an - y - time!

(an - y - time!)

I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na
 I'm gon-na



live so (live so)
 work so (work so)
 pray so (pray so)
 sing so (sing so)

God can use me an - y -



where, Lord, an - y - time!

(my Lord,) (an - y - time!)

This African American spiritual has more depth than may at first appear: for people who are bound in slavery to sing about dedicating themselves to God's use shows a profound awareness of God-given self-worth despite circumstances that would deny their human or spiritual value.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE

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.

Godly Play (for children ages preschool through 5th grade) is offered immediately following the Opening Hymn. All children are invited to participate in Godly Play.

THIS WEEK AT DCC

Tuesday 9:00am Men's Coffee and Donuts

Wednesday 10:00am Wednesday Morning Prayer

TODAY'S EMMAUS TEAM

Today's Emmaus Team is **Team 3**.

Greeters: Miguel Atkins-Whitley, Linda Elsdon, Lily Kovach,
Trish Moosbrugger, and Judy Schreib

Ushers: Miguel Atkins-Whitley, Ron Elsdon, Bob Kovach, and Judy Schreib

Candlelighters: Lily Kovach and Trish Moosbrugger

Liturgist: Sandra Lepley

Flowers: Sandra Lepley

Fellowship: Randy Jang, Trish Moosbrugger, and Bobbi Stewart

Sound Tech: Brett Clark

Tech Minister: John Klassen

Lock Up Duty: Brett Clark

Godly Play: Kim Michaud and Anne Seiler

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Pastoral Schedule

As a reminder Pastor Todd is away for the month of August using a combination of vacation time and study leave and Pastor Lauren will be accessing vacation and study leave August 12th–28th. For pastoral needs during this time, please reach out to the church office or the moderators who will connect you with the designated pastoral care provider.

This Sunday **Join us for Godly Play**

Children are invited to join us in Godly Play this Sunday as we share the story of the Flood and the Ark. We will wonder together about this sacred story of God's promise, survival, and a rainbow of hope. We look forward to seeing you there!



Sunday, August 30th at 11:45am **New Member Interest Lunch**

Curious about joining the DCC family? If so, a time of fellowship for potential new members is planned for Sunday, August 30th at 11:45am. We'll gather at the home of John & Joyce Klassen in San Ramon for lunch and the opportunity to get to know DCC and each other a little better. If you're interested in learning more, please contact Joyce Klassen, Welcome Commissioner at joyce.klassen@comcast.net. Please hold the date of Sunday, September 20th for welcoming new members to our congregation, as part of our worship service.

New Member Interest Lunch



*Sunday, August 30th
at 11:45am
at the Klassens*

DANVILLE
Congregational Church

**KIDS' NIGHT OUT
MOVIE**

Night

**PIZZA!
POPCORN!**

**KIDS OF ALL
AGES WELCOME!**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH
5:00PM–7:00PM IN KAIROS**

**RSVP TO OFFICE@DANVILLECHURCH.ORG
QUESTIONS OR WANT TO VOLUNTEER TO
HELP?**

**CONTACT KIM MICHAUD
KCMICHAUD@YAHOO.COM**



Saturday, September 5th from 1:00pm–4:00pm Visions of Hope Opportunity

Our work with Visions of Hope is coming around again full circle, with the annual "Put the Guns Down" event in Richmond on Saturday, September 5th from 1:00-4:00pm at 4th Street Park. We are seeking support from DCC to help at the event, donate money for bicycles and prizes, and to help purchase food. There's an online sign up form [here](#), or you can sign up after church during coffee hour. Please direct any questions to Carrie Hrousis, Doug Leich or Barb DeBarger.



Sunday, September 6th at noon Monthly Lunch-Bunch gathering. Please join us!

Come join the lunch bunch on Sunday, September 6th. We'll be gathering at noon at Clementine's in San Ramon. 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 wjrachev@netzero.com to let him know you'll be attending.

Monday, September 14th at 1:00pm via Zoom Worship Commission Quarterly Meeting

Worship Commission will have its quarterly meeting on Monday, September 14th at 1:00pm via Zoom. Anyone interested in joining the group can get the zoom link from the church office or from Tahir Mahmood mahmoods200@hotmail.com to attend the meeting.

Wednesday, September 23rd SF Giants Faith Day Outing

Join your DCC friends along with folx from area UCC churches and help express our expansive faith at the upcoming SF Giants game on **Wednesday, September 23rd** (12:45pm start) and for the 10:00am pre-game discussion on the intersection of faith and sports. Tickets are available for \$14 each and will be available only via the following link through August 24. Reach out to [Trish Moosbrugger](mailto:Trish.Moosbrugger) with any questions. <https://www.gofevo.com/event/Danvillecongregational2>



Wednesday Morning Prayer

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

Pictures of the Week



Top Left: Reuben Shank and Tom Sonneman on a scissor lift in Kairos. They along, with Brett Clark converted the ceiling lighting to LED.
Top Right: Emmaus Team 2 members Tom Sonnemann, Julie Grenley, Sally Baca, and Heidi Bridgeman helped during Fellowship Time.
Bottom: Carrie Hrousis led Time with Children during worship.

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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a Congregation of the United Church of Christ

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