



DANVILLE
Congregational Church

Fruits of the Spirit

Cultivating the
Beloved Community

PRELUDE

The Fruit of the Spirit

arr. J.K. Bailey

WELCOME & BREATH PRAYER

Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley

Please sign the sheet in the blue pad and pass it to another.

Place your signed sheet in the offering plate.

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Heidi Bridgeman

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

One: Praise God, who does not leave us to wander by our own impulses, but lovingly guides our steps.

**All: For God has not given us a spirit of fear,
but of power, love, and self-discipline.**

One: We gather not merely in our own strength or human willpower, but in the grace of the indwelling Spirit.

**All: When our desires pull us toward chaos
or our hearts toward fear,
God's grace draws us toward peace and self-control.**

One: Holy One, let your spirit cultivate our hearts.

All: Quiet the noise around us and still our rushing hearts.

One: Let us worship the God who sets safe boundaries for our flourishing and our freedom.

**All: Let us yield our lives to the Holy Spirit,
that God may produce good fruit in us this day and the next.
Amen.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Heidi

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

*OPENING SONG

Eternal One, Thou Living God

See insert.

*Afterward, children are invited to
meet their teachers in the back of the sanctuary for Godly Play.*

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

[1 Corinthians 10:12-13](#)
Easy English Bible

Steve Bridgeman

If you think that you are standing strongly, be careful! Do not fall down! You may often want to do wrong things. The things that are difficult for you are difficult for other people too. Remember that God is always there to help you. God will not let any bad thing be too difficult for you. God will help you to stand against it. When you want to do something wrong, God will make you strong in your spirit. God will show you a way out, so that you do not do anything wrong.

[2 Timothy 1:7](#)
Easy English Bible

Steve

Be strong, because God has given us their Spirit. And God's Spirit does not cause us to be afraid. Instead, God's Spirit causes us to be powerful to serve God. God helps us to love Them and other people. And God helps us to control ourselves properly.

MODERN LESSON

Heidi

One day, two ants went exploring. They came across two giant cookies. "These cookies are huge!" said the first ant. "One of these cookies would feed my whole family for a month," said the second ant. "But how can little ants like us carry such big cookies like these?" "It seems impossible!" said the first ant. "But I must try." So, the first ant started to tug and pull at one cookie. Suddenly, a tiny piece broke off. "I am going to take this piece back to my family," said the first ant. "You go ahead," said the second ant. "I'm not going to waste my time on such a small piece of cookie. I will find a way to take the whole cookie back to my family." So, the first ant went home with her small piece of cookie. Soon, the first ant returned. She found the second ant still pushing and shoving the other cookie, but she was unable to move it. Again, the first ant broke off a small piece of cookie and took it back home. This went on for most of the day as some of her family even offered to join her. The first ant kept carrying small pieces of cookie back to her family until she had moved the entire cookie. The second ant finally grew tired of trying to complete the task that seemed too big to do. She went home with nothing.

SERMON

Self Control: The Freedom to Serve

Pastor Todd

ANTHEM

Give Me Self-Control

Doug Plank

*Your Word tells me I have a need to watch out for my soul
And every day it's clear to me, I need Your self-control.
My hands and feet are quick to move before I even know
So Jesus make me more like You and give me self-control.*

CHORUS

*Lord, I'm needy, so I'm pleading
Come and fill me—Help me to be self-controlled.*

*When I say words I shouldn't speak and hurt the ones I know
On mornings when I'd rather sleep, I need Your self-control.
When I am told to sit for hours and time goes by so slow
I need the Holy Spirit's power to give me self-control.*

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastor Todd

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

Invitation to Give

Corina Arellano

Offertory

O Master Let Me Walk With Thee

*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

Heidi

*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 the website, or scan the QR code using your mobile device.*



Missed a service or just want to watch it again?

Check out our YouTube channel www.youtube.com/@danvillechurch5074

*CLOSING HYMN

For Freedom, Christ Has Set Us Free

“For freedom, Christ has set us free!” What joy is ours to claim!
No more enslaved, humanity finds life in Jesus’ name.
We try, Lord, to be justified through all the works we do.
Yet you adopt us, saying, “Child, it’s Christ who makes you new.”

We’re clothed in Christ and we belong; now no one waits outside.
In him we find our common song; old ways no more divide.
“It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.”
He died for us, new life to give—and new identity.

Now, Spirit-filled, may we be led from ways that would destroy.
May we your people turn instead to lives of love and joy.
May we find peace that makes us whole and patience everywhere.
God, give us kindness, self-control, and hearts and hands that share.

– Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Todd

*People of God, carry the light out with you as you depart in hope and love.
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Special Guest Speaker



Corina Arellano, Muwekma Ohlone Tribal Member and Board Member of the Muwekma Ohlone Foundation, serves as Community Education Co-Chair. She is the daughter of Albert Arellano and is the great-granddaughter of Albert Marine Arellano who was born on the historic Alisal Rancheria. Corina is a dedicated traditional Ohlone dancer that includes the shake-head style dance. She leads events such as land acknowledgments and Muwekma Ohlone Tribal flag raising events fostering public understanding of Ohlone history and heritage. Corina is a mother of two boys and she is energetically engaged in the cultural revitalization culture and language.

Space for REFLECTION

*Use this page to follow along with the sermon
and take it home to continue and reflect.*

What element of a garden could represent self-control?

Does the spiritual fruit of self-control impact the development of the other fruits in any way? If so, how? If not, why?

Does self-control feel aspirational or negative to you? Why?

In what way does self-control impact or shape the “beloved community?”

What is the most important thing you heard in worship today?

How will you focus on cultivating self-control this week?

What's HAPPENING

Indigenous People Second Hour

After worship | 11:15am | Sanctuary

The Anti Racism Team is sponsoring an educational opportunity to learn more about the Ohlone People. Corina Arellano will be speaking about the Muwekma Ohlone Preservation Foundation, their purpose, and plan for cultural heritage preservation and land back opportunities.

Men's Coffee and Donuts

Tuesdays | 9:00am

Join the men's group for coffee and discussion Tuesdays at 9:00am in Koinonia Hall.

Morning Prayer

Wednesdays | 10:00am

Pastor Todd facilitates morning prayer on Wednesdays at 10:00am via Zoom in and in the Sanctuary. We will engage in centering prayer and then pray for those requests we have received. Contact the office or see Wingspan for the link.

SF Giants Faith Day Outing

Wednesday, September 23 | 10:00am

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. Reach out to [Trish Moosbrugger](#) with any questions.

Queering Fall

Tuesday, September 30 | 2:00pm

In this panel discussion, faith leaders from the Lavender Interfaith Collective will offer a lively and thoughtful overview of LGBTIQ+ perspectives on a variety of Fall holy days across diverse traditions. See Wingspan or the QR code for more information.

Celebration of Life for Sandy Leich

Saturday, October 10 | 2:00pm

Please join in celebrating the life of long-time DCC member, Sandra Leich. The service will be held in the Sanctuary and will be followed by a reception in Kairos Hall. Sandy was a member of the church since 1983, along with husband Doug and daughter Megan.

Gathering of the Ohlone People

Sunday, October 4 | 10:00am–3:00pm

The Anti Racism Team is supporting a field trip opportunity to visit the annual "Gathering of the Ohlone People" free event, being held, at Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont.

Save the DATES

Church Council Meeting

Sunday, September 27 | 11:15am

Long-Range Planning Task Force

Sunday, October 18 | after worship

Quarterly Congregational Meeting

Sunday, October 25 | after worship



Use the QR code above to access all the information about these activities.

Preaching SCHEDULE

Next Sunday.....	Rev. Jess Shine
October 4.....	Rev. Molly Baskette
October 11.....	Pastor Todd
October 18.....	Pastor Lauren
October 25.....	Pastor Todd

Note to Worshippers

Please take note of the emergency exits around you and locate the nearest one to 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. Worship time is generally 70 minutes—75 on Communion Sundays, the first Sunday of each month.

First-Time Guests

Welcome to Danville Congregational Church! *We are glad you have joined us today.* We'd love to share with you what is happening at DCC. If you're willing, provide your contact information on the Guest Info cards available in the Narthex or on one of the sheets in the blue pew pads passed around early in the service. Our Welcome Commissioner, Joyce Klassen, and our pastors are glad to connect with you and share more about DCC. [Feel free to ask any of our members as well!] We look forward to connecting with you!

Land Acknowledgement

DCC 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.

Open and Affirming Congregation

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

Emerging Anti-Racist Church

Since 2020, DCC has been on a journey of healing and solidarity as we strive, as an expression of our faith, to undo systems of white supremacy within the Christian church and in the wider culture. We realize this work will never be finished but strive to become *Anti-Racist* as a community, in our worship, and our ministry together.

Families with Children

Godly Play (for children ages preschool through 5th grade) is offered immediately following Time With Children. All children are invited to participate in Godly Play. Our nursery is available for those who wish to access it.

Prayer Requests

The DCC Prayer Team prays daily for those in need of prayers. To submit a prayer request for yourself or someone else, contact a pastor or send an email to prayers@danvillechurch.org. Requests are kept confidential unless specified otherwise.

Pastoral Availability

Pastor Todd keeps regular office hours remotely on Monday and in the office Tuesday through Thursday. To meet with Pastor Todd, reach out to him directly via phone or text (510.710.1280) or at todd@danvillechurch.org.

Pastor Lauren keeps regular office hours Tuesdays and Wednesdays and remotely on Thursdays. You can reach Pastor Lauren by phone or text (510.684.9183) or at lauren@danvillechurch.org.

Ministers

The Entire Congregation

Church Staff

Senior Pastor The Rev. Todd Atkins-Whitley
Minister of Youth &
Community Engagement The Rev. Lauren Jewett
Music Director John Kendall Bailey
Office & Communications
Manager Anne-Marie Vanniasinkam

Church Leadership

Co-Moderators Alene Riley & Heidi Bridgeman
Vice Moderator Dianne Dorn
Financial Secretary..... Doug Leich
Acting Treasurer Steve Bridgeman
Clerk Eileen Ackley
Building and Grounds Tom Sonnemann
Children and Youth..... Pastor Lauren
Community Life..... Kyra Kennedy
Dayspring Preschool Nancy Halseth
Journeys in Faith Carrie Hrousis
Outreach Doug Leich
Stewardship..... Barb DeBarger
Welcome and Media..... Joyce Klassen
Worship Tahir Mahmood

Dayspring Preschool Staff

Director Maria Arroyo
Administrative Assistant..... Stacey Perez

Upcoming Gatherings

9/20
SUNDAY

8:30AM Choir Rehearsal
9:30AM Worship In-person and Online
10:45AM Fellowship (Koinonia Hall)
11:15AM Indigenous People Second Hour
(Kairos Hall)

9/22
TUESDAY

9:00AM Men's Coffee and Donuts (Koinonia Hall)

9/16
WEDNESDAY

10:00AM Morning Prayer (Sanctuary or Zoom)
10:00AM SF Giants Faith Outing
7:00PM Choir Rehearsal



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