



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 &
Rev. Lauren Jewett

Please sign the sheet in the blue pad, 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

Elana Bolds

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

One: The Divine is found not in distant skies, but in the
quiet, generous acts of goodness that bind us together.

**All: We find sacred space whenever we choose compassion
over judgment, and love over fear.**

One: We are called to be the hands of healing, the voices for justice,
and the heartbeat of kindness in a fractured world.

**All: Let us worship God together by opening our hearts to be
cultivated by God's Holy Spirit.**

One: Holy One, fill us with your grace, your comfort, your love.

All: Have your way, O God.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Elana

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

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

*OPENING SONG

Be Kind to One Another

Be kind to one another, be tender-hearted too —
forgiving one another, as Christ has pardoned you.
Refrain from any gossip, for gossip is a sin.
Be open to new friendships, and welcome people in.

Be kind in all your speaking and hear what others say.
Be open to Christ's teaching, and in all matters, pray.
Be gentle, loving, faithful and keep a humble mind.
Remember what is truthful. In everything be kind.

Be kind within your circle, but look past what you see;
Be kind to those in trouble — the poor, the refugee.
The world is filled with violence; write letters, call out sin!
Don't ever sit in silence and let the evil win.

O God of love, you've taught us. You've shown us what to do:
Be just, commit to kindness, walk humbly here with you.
Your Spirit gives us courage to truly live this way.
May love become our message; may kindness win the day.

- Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

A gluten-free station is available for those who need it.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SURSUM CORDA

One: God be with you!

All: And also with you!

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift up our hearts to God!

One: Let us give thanks to God.

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

COMMUNION PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: Gracious God, at this table,
You have filled us with your presence
and reminded us of your unchanging love.

**All: As we leave this sacred space,
let your Holy Spirit cultivate us:
to speak words of kindness, to perform acts of goodness,
and to reflect your light to everyone we meet. Amen.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

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

Pastor Lauren

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

[Galatians 6:9–10a](#)
Easy English Bible

Elana

We must continue to do things that are good and we should not get tired.
If we do not feel weak and stop doing good things, then we will receive a
good harvest at the proper time. Because of all that, we must help everyone
when we have the chance.

[Ephesians 4:32](#)
Easy English Bible

Elana

Help one another and be kind to each other. Forgive one another.
Remember that God has forgiven you because of what Christ has done.

MODERN LESSON

Elana

“I’ve learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did,
but people will never forget how you made them feel.”

–Maya Angelou

SERMON

Compassion in Action with
Integrity and Generosity

Pastor Todd &
Pastor Lauren

ANTHEM

Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil

John L. Bell

Goodness is stronger than evil, love is stronger than hate;
Light is stronger than darkness, life is stronger than death;
Victory is ours, victory is ours, through God who loves us.

- Desmond Tutu

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastor Todd & 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.



Missed a service or just want to watch it again?

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

TIME OF GIVING

Dianne Dorn

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Goodness

Stephen DeCesare

*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

All: Gracious and Loving God, creator of all people and lover of justice, we bring these gifts before you today with open hearts.

One: May the offering we have collected be special, not because it is unusual in our commitment to justice, but because it allows us to take a moment to stretch ourselves in our giving. Connect us with our siblings across the United Church of Christ who are sharing in the collection of these gifts. May we, in our collective witness, bend an unjust world toward justice, as we fund and launch ministries of transformative change. Come and bless not just the money we share, but also the advocacy and witness we bring. In your holy name we pray, Amen

All: Amen.

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.



WORK OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Lauren

*CLOSING HYMN

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

#23

1. There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earthly sorrows are more felt than in God's heaven;
there's no place where earthly failings have such kindly judgment given.
2. For the love of God is broader than the measures of our minds;
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's Word,
and our lives would show thanksgiving for the goodness of our God.

*BENEDICTION

Pastor Todd

*People of God, carry the light out with you as you depart in hope and love.
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Space for REFLECTION

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

What have you noticed about the sanctuary tree or the image on the front of the bulletin this week?

What part of the growing cycle of a plant or tree symbolizes goodness to you and why?

Which fruit would you choose to represent kindness and why?

How do you manage to express kindness in a world that is often unkind?

How can practicing goodness and kindness impact your own life?
The lives of others?

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

What's HAPPENING

Neighbors in Need Offering

Today is our Neighbors in Need Offering with two-thirds going to UCC's Love of Church Unit and one-third going to UCC's Council for American Indian Ministries.

Monthly Lunch Bunch

Today | noon

We'll be gathering at Kaia's in Danville. Note: Please come prepared to pay for your meal.

Gathering of the Ohlone People

Today | 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, at Coyote Hills Regional Park.

Journeys in Faith Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, October 6 | 3:00pm

The Journeys in Faith Commission will be meeting Tuesday. If you are interested in joining, please e-mail Carrie Hrousis for the link.

Celebration of Life for Sandy Leich

Saturday, October 10 | 2:00pm

The service will be held in the Sanctuary followed by a reception in Kairos Hall. It will also be accessible via Zoom using the Sunday worship link.

College Care Packages

The Diaconate is continuing its tradition of sending care packages to our college students. Won't you take the time to write a quick "hi," make a much-appreciated donation, or both after church? Look for Dottie Howell, Judy Halden, or Mary Kay McClure in Koinonia after the service.

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 and in the Sanctuary. Contact the office or see Wingspan for the link.

National Mental Health

Day of Prayer

Tuesday, October 6 | 8:30am

Join spiritual leaders, families, mental health service providers, educators, elected officials, and concerned citizens from across the County to show up and advocate for treatment to the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors. See Wingspan or the QR code for more information.

Transtastic Workshop

Monday, October 12 | 6:30pm and

Tuesday, October 13 | noon via Zoom

Presented by Rae Strozzi, a beloved seminary sibling of Pastor Todd and Pastor Lauren, this workshop will focus on what's happening in the current political climate for trans and non-binary people and discuss ways everyone can participate in rising up for these our siblings. Meeting ID: 850 8988 4797 Passcode: SingTrans

Save the DATES

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..... 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

10/4
SUNDAY

8:30AM Choir Rehearsal
9:30AM Worship In-person and Online
10:45AM Fellowship (Koinonia Hall)
11:15AM Second Hour with Rev. Molly Baskette
12:00PM Monthly Lunch Bunch

10/6
TUESDAY

9:00AM Men's Coffee and Donuts (Koinonia Hall)
3:00PM Journeys in Faith Commission Zoom Meeting

10/7
WEDNESDAY

10:00AM Morning Prayer (Sanctuary or Zoom)
7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

10/9
FRIDAY

5:30PM TGIF at the Klassen's
7:00PM Choir Rehearsal

10/10
SATURDAY

2:00PM Celebration of Life for Sandy Leich



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram: @dccucc

