

# FRIENDS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

*An Open & Affirming Congregation*



Chinese Orthodox Communion Bread Seal

## World Communion Sunday

October 4, 2020

11:00am

Online

### WELCOME

We are honored that you have chosen to spend your Sunday morning with us.

Friends Congregational Church is an **Open & Affirming** congregation of the United Church of Christ. We welcome all people into the full life and ministry of our church—people of all ages, races, sexual orientations, gender identities, and abilities. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

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## World Communion Sunday

*The first Sunday in October is World Communion Sunday, which celebrates our oneness in Christ with followers of Jesus around the world. World Communion Sunday, observed by several Christian denominations, promotes unity and ecumenical cooperation by focusing on an observance of the eucharist.*

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Words in **BOLD** are yours to speak out loud

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### **Quotes for Meditation:**

“The table can transform even our enemies into companions. The table reminds us that, as brothers and sisters adopted into God’s family and invited to God’s banquet, we’re stuck with each other; we’re family. We might as well make peace. The table teaches us that faith isn’t about being right or good or in agreement. Faith is about feeding and being fed.” –Rachel Held Evans

“The seeds of liberation are planted across the common table as we break bread together.”  
–Jamie Arpin-Ricci

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

INTRODUCTION OF ONLINE WORSHIP SERVICE

Dan De Leon

PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CALL TO WORSHIP

Fran & Bruce Duane

*One: Creator God, we are here, together in hope!*

**All: With community and creation**

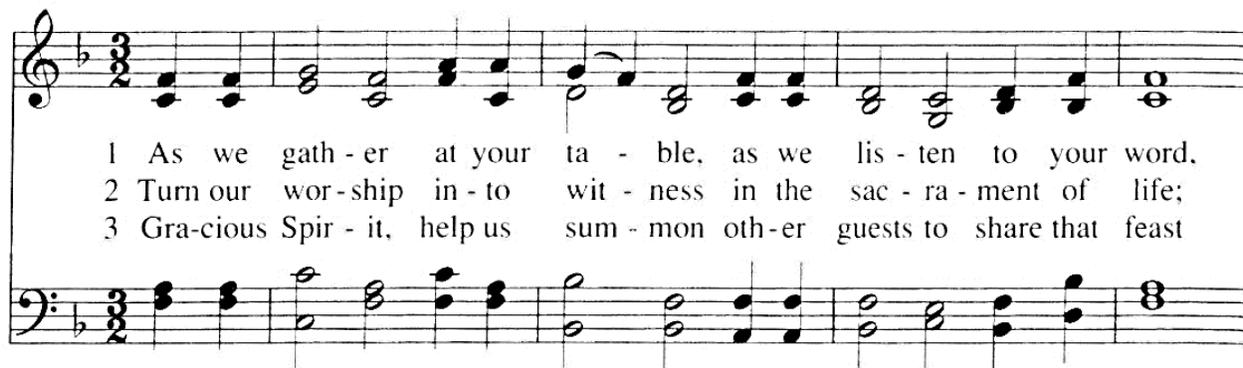
*One: With neighbors near and far*

**All: With those known and new**

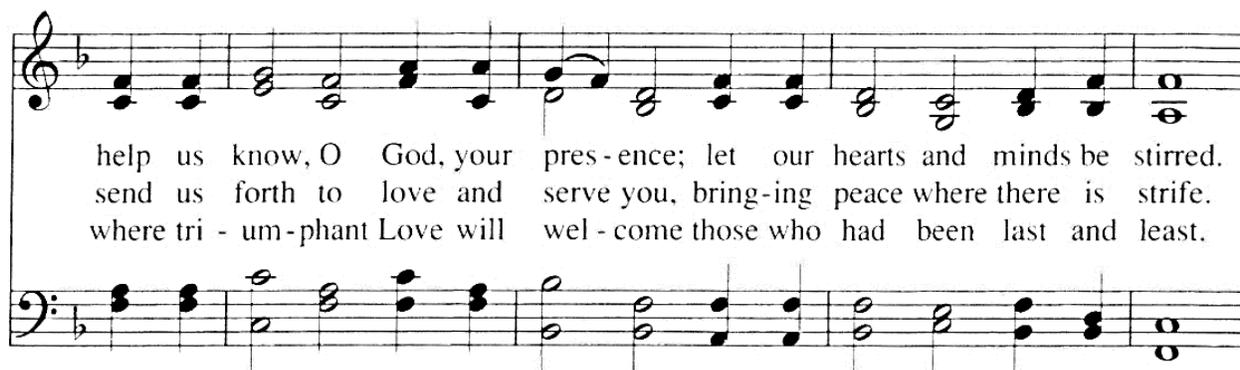
*One: With followers of Christ across geography and across time,*

**All: Together in hope! Let us worship!**

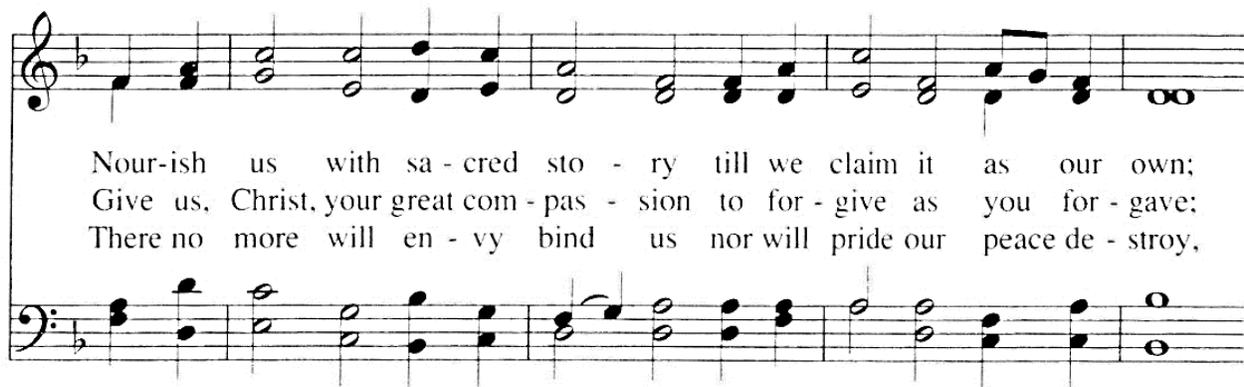
OPENING HYMN — As We Gather at Your Table - Tune: Beach Spring



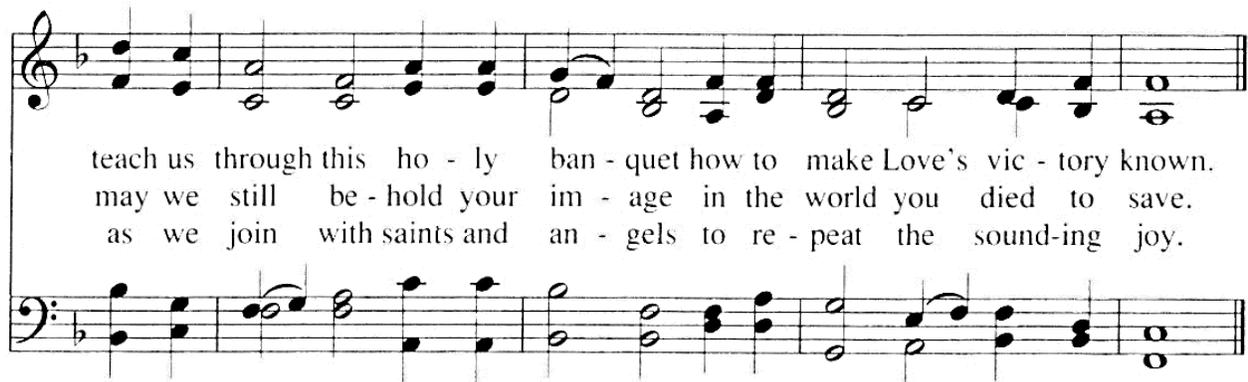
1 As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we lis - ten to your word,  
2 Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the sac - ra - ment of life;  
3 Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er guests to share that feast



help us know, O God, your pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
send us forth to love and serve you, bring - ing peace where there is strife.  
where tri - um - phant Love will wel - come those who had been last and least.



Nour - ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we claim it as our own;  
Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for - give as you for - gave;  
There no more will en - vy bind us nor will pride our peace de - stroy,



teach us through this ho - ly ban - quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.  
may we still be - hold your im - age in the world you died to save.  
as we join with saints and an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Fran & Bruce Duane

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Trent Williams

*"This Little Light of Mine"*

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, (oh let it shine!)**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Dan De Leon

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Dan De Leon

*One:* The Peace of Christ be with you all.

***Many:* And also with you!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVITATION TO SHARE

Fran & Bruce Duane

*Information will appear on the screen for how to text your offering or give online.*

OFFERTORY

*Secure online giving via GivePlusOnline at [bit.ly/friendschurchonlinegiving](http://bit.ly/friendschurchonlinegiving)*

*GivePlus Text to 833-421-0009*

*Venmo to 979-446-5746 or @friendsucc*

DOXOLOGY

Hymn Tune No. 27

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below: alleluia, alleluia!  
Praise God the source of all our gifts,  
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts,  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit,  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*unison*)

Dan De Leon

**Spirit of Imagination, come to us with your creative and radical visions of hope. Deepen our collective capacity to live in nonconformity with destruction; to practice alternatives to what deadens and destroys. Bless our offerings to the work of love that can make all things new. Amen.**

EPISTLE READING—1 Corinthians 11:23-26 (NRSV)

Jodie Robinson

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

A MESSAGE

Jodie Robinson

CHORAL ANTHEM — Festival Sanctus - John Leavitt

(Translation: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts! Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Holy, holy, holy Lord. The heavens and earth are full of your glory! Hosanna to God in the highest!)

NEW TESTAMENT READING — Acts 2:42-46 (CEB)

Felipe Hinojosa

The believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to the community, to their shared meals, and to their prayers. A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles. All the believers were united and shared everything. They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity.

One: The word of God for the people of God.

***All: God is still speaking. Thanks be to God.***

A MESSAGE

Felipe Hinojosa

MOMENT FOR REFLECTION

THE OBSERVANCE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Dan De Leon

**Prayer from Bangladesh:**

**O Savior Christ,  
in whose way of life lies the secret of all life,  
and the hopes of all the people,  
we pray for quiet courage to meet this hour.  
We did not choose to be born or to live in such an age.  
But let its problems challenge us,  
its discoveries exhilarate us,  
its injustices anger us,  
its possibilities inspire us,  
and its vigor renew us,  
for your Kingdom's sake.  
Bless this cup and this bread,  
That it may nourish us for the journey  
Together in hope. Amen.**

Our Father, who is in us here on earth,  
 holy is your name in the hungry who share their bread and their song.  
 Your kingdom come,  
 a generous land where confidence and truth reign.  
 Let us do your will  
 being a cool breeze for those who sweat.  
 You are giving us our daily bread  
 when we manage to get back our lands and to get a fairer wage.  
 Forgive us for keeping silent in the face of injustice  
 and for burying our dreams.  
 Don't let us fall into the temptation  
 of taking up the same arms as our enemy,  
 but deliver us from evil which disunites us.  
 And we shall have believed in humanity and in life  
 and we shall have known your kingdom  
 which is being built for ever and ever.

## CLOSING HYMN — Santo, santo, santo

San - to, San - to, San - to, mi co - ra - zón te a -  
 Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, my heart, my heart a -

do - ra. Mi co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir:  
 dores you. My heart knows how to say to you:

San - to e - res, Dios. San - to e - res, Dios.  
 You are ho - ly, Lord. You are ho - ly, Lord.

BENEDICTION

Dan De Leon

POSTLUDE

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Instrumental Music:

*Prelude:* "Come Just As You Are" by Joseph Sabolick, arr. by Carol Tornquist

*Offertory:* "Make Us One, Lord" by Carol Cymbala, arr. by Carol Tornquist

*Communion:* "We Remember You" by Kirk Dearman, arr. by Carol Tornquist

*Postlude:* "Gather Us In" by Marty Haugen

**Scriptures for October 11, 2020:** Mark 8:22-38

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**SEEKING WORSHIP LEADERS FOR CHILDREN'S SABBATH SUNDAY:** Children's Sabbath Sunday is **October 18, 2020**. We are seeking as many Friends Church children to lead the online worship service as possible that day. Parents/Guardians, if your child or children, Grades K-5, would be willing to contribute a speaking part usually offered by an adult lay leader (a prayer, scripture reading, call to worship, offertory invitation, etc.), and if you are comfortable with them being in the online service, please contact Pastor Dan: [pastor@friends-ucc.org](mailto:pastor@friends-ucc.org). Note: Should your child be shy and/or need help from you to do their part, it's perfectly fine for parents/guardians to appear on screen with the kiddos.

**HYGIENE KIT ASSEMBLY, THIS SUNDAY, OCT. 4<sup>TH</sup>:** The date is now set for our Back Bay hygiene kit assembly: **Sunday, October 4<sup>th</sup>** starting at 1:00 p.m. You may assemble two kits per round-- but you can start at the beginning and do more if you are having fun doing this. We will be practicing serious social distancing and you must wear a mask. Each time you assemble kits, you qualify for a door prize. Could this be more exciting? So "join" us on Sunday-- sign up on our Sign-up Genius [here](#). Thank you for participating in this mission. Questions? Email [info@friends-ucc.org](mailto:info@friends-ucc.org).

**ANNOUNCING A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING:** A Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday, **October 11<sup>th</sup>** immediately following worship. The Statement of Faith, also known as the "Dream Budget," will be presented. Plan to be there and be a part of the future of Friends Church. Zoom link will be sent at a future date. Proposed Statement of Faith will available for you to review in early October.

**CALLING ALL PARENTS, GUARDIANS OF 6<sup>TH</sup> THROUGH 12<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS** – We'd love to get your youth connected with the Friends Church Youth Group. If you are not currently receiving our e-mails and announcements, please send your contact information and the names and ages of your 6<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> graders to [info@friends-ucc.org](mailto:info@friends-ucc.org).

**FIRST TIME AT FRIENDS?** If you are visiting us today, please let us know. You will find an Online Visitor Card at <https://www.friends-ucc.org/your-first-visit>. We are so glad you are here, so please let us know if there is anything we can do for you.

**ZOOM SUNDAY SCHOOL 10AM SUNDAY:** Hurray! We are so happy to invite the children and youth of our church between the age groups of 4<sup>th</sup> grade to and including 12<sup>th</sup> grade to join us for Zoom Sunday School every Sunday morning at 10 am. Youth from 4<sup>th</sup> graders to 8<sup>th</sup> graders will meet with their teachers Kamille Kirkendoll and Justin Acton, and high schoolers will meet with Alicia Ramirez and Mary Howell. We have missed seeing you and can't wait to welcome you to our Zoom session. Please contact Kamille ([kamiekirk@gmail.com](mailto:kamiekirk@gmail.com)) or Justin ([Justin.d.acton@gmail.com](mailto:Justin.d.acton@gmail.com)) for questions about the the 4<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> grade class or Alicia ([ramireza3@hotmail.com](mailto:ramireza3@hotmail.com)) and Mary ([mhowell61@gmail.com](mailto:mhowell61@gmail.com)) for inquiries about the 9<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> grade class. See you at 10am on Sundays for 40-45 min of love and fun.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE CLASS, UPCOMING STUDY:** The Social Justice Class at Friends Church is excited to announce an upcoming study entitled “White Privilege: Let’s Talk,” a curriculum published by the UCC and written by leaders in the field of race and religion, including Traci Blackmon, UCC pastor in Ferguson, Missouri and one of the founders of the Black Lives Matter movement.

The six week study will include topics like whiteness as a norm, whiteness as cash value, and becoming an ally -- with an extended focus on participants writing their own Spiritual Autobiography through the Lens of Race. The study will begin in October, and more details are coming soon. If you are interested in joining, email Jackie Womack at [jackiejowomack@gmail.com](mailto:jackiejowomack@gmail.com). Or join us for class on Sunday morning at 10:00 on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83904958811>

**SPIRITUAL LIFE SURVEY:** The Spiritual Life team invites your feedback on what kinds of groups and spiritual offerings you would like to see offered this fall. Head to our website, and find a survey at the bottom of the Faith Formation page here (<https://www.friends-ucc.org/sunday-school-faith-formation>). Thank you!

**NO-COST BOOK FAIR:** The Justice & Mission Committee is still hoping to be able to have the postponed No-Cost Book Fair for the children later in this school year. New or gently used books are needed for children from pre-school age through 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Please contact Jodie Robinson or Pam Engler at [info@friends-ucc.org](mailto:info@friends-ucc.org).

**FOOD DISTRIBUTION, FRIDAYS 3PM:** Friends Church and our neighbor church Peace Lutheran are working together to distribute food from the Brazos Valley Food Bank every Friday. *Several of our regular volunteers have school commitments so will not be able to assist starting this week. We could use your help.* Want to help out? Share an hour or more of your time between 3:00 and 7:00. Let Anne Wehrly know when you would like to volunteer by emailing [info@friends-ucc.org](mailto:info@friends-ucc.org). Come to the Peace Lutheran parking lot where the distribution is happening. Wear your mask and prepare to meet some great people! Hope to see you there.

**SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT:** Some members of our congregation own a small business. During these times, we want to “Be the church,” and find out how we can provide support to these business owners. If you are a Small Business Owner, please email the office and provide a brief description of your business and let us know how we can support your business (buy gift cards, spread the word to our neighborhoods, etc.). The email address is: [office@friends-ucc.org](mailto:office@friends-ucc.org).

**SOCIAL JUSTICE 10AM SUNDAY:** Are you looking for a healthy space to process current events and justice issues with your Friends friends? In the SJ Class, we are learning from each other and finding our knowledge gaps on all the things happening now. We share podcasts, news stories, TED talks, and guest speakers to give us a jumping off point for great conversation. Join the Social Justice Class on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom by following this link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83904958811>.

**MORNING MANNA 10AM SUNDAY:** Join us for our adult Bible study on Sunday morning at 10:00am on Zoom, Please follow the link, below. We will gather to reconnect, check in with each other, and bring ideas for what we'll study over the coming weeks. All are welcome. If you have any questions, contact Pastor Trent. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82444908275?pwd=VUxnK0tYV2EzRzJhYkkveFo3NFFDdz09>.

**ONLINE GATHERING INFORMATION:** We will be offering Noonday Check-In & Prayer Times on Monday and Friday, and on Wednesday evening, we will offer a Prayer & Communion Service at 6:30pm. And, as always, the Sunday morning service can be accessed on Facebook live (Friends Congregational Church – UCC) or through the website’s streaming service: <https://www.friends-ucc.org/watch-live>. Mark your calendar, we’ll see you online.

**TUTORIAL FOR USING ZOOM:** Zoom is new for many of us, and we might be having a difficult time getting started using it. Here is a helpful YouTube tutorial to walk you through using Zoom: <https://youtu.be/9isp3qPeQ0E>. Please share this tutorial with anyone having difficulty joining us for our online gatherings.

**CHURCH DIRECTORY ONLINE (ChMS):** Need a Friends Church online directory? Download the free Church Office Online app and contact the Church office for the domain name and password. It's an easy way to have quick access to the names and contact info for Friends Church people, as well as birthdays and anniversaries! Don't see your info in the online directory? Give us your updated information: [office@friends-ucc.org](mailto:office@friends-ucc.org).

**FRIENDS CHURCH CARES FUND (FCCF):** Friends Church recently received a donation of \$10,000 for the purpose of helping those suffering financial hardships resulting from COVID-19 measures. Friends Church members needing financial assistance are encouraged to request one-time assistance for up to \$1,500 from the FCCF. The FCCF request form can be found on the church's website ([www.friends-ucc.org](http://www.friends-ucc.org)) or by contacting Church Council Vice Moderator Cathy Hansen at [vice-moderator@friends-ucc.org](mailto:vice-moderator@friends-ucc.org). Requests are kept in discretion between the requester and the Vice Moderator, Treasurer, and Senior Pastor.

**FRIENDS CHURCH CRISIS FUND:** While the FCCF is set aside exclusively to assist with COVID-19-related hardships, the Crisis Fund, established several years ago, is designated to help Friends Church members in financial need for any reason. Should the FCCF run out, our congregation has this fund to further help one another. To contribute to the Crisis Fund, contact Treasurer Theresa Walker at [treasurer@friends-ucc.org](mailto:treasurer@friends-ucc.org). To request Crisis Fund assistance, contact the pastors at [pastor@friends-ucc.org](mailto:pastor@friends-ucc.org) or [pastortrent@friends-ucc.org](mailto:pastortrent@friends-ucc.org). Requests remain confidential between the requester and members of Church Council.

**STAY CONNECTED WITH WHAT'S HAPPENING AT FRIENDS!:** Subscribe to This Week at Friends published every Friday to your email address, and the E-Connection Newsletter published monthly to your email address. You can sign up on our website: [www.friends-ucc.org](http://www.friends-ucc.org) or email the church office: [office@friends-ucc.org](mailto:office@friends-ucc.org). Please add [e-connection@friends-ucc.org](mailto:e-connection@friends-ucc.org) and [office@friends-ucc.org](mailto:office@friends-ucc.org) to you email address book to ensure delivery.

**UPDATE CONTACT INFORMATION:** If you are not currently receiving Church email correspondence, and would like to, please send a message to the Church office with your name and email address: [office@friends-ucc.org](mailto:office@friends-ucc.org), and add [e-connection@friends-ucc.org](mailto:e-connection@friends-ucc.org) and [office@friends-ucc.org](mailto:office@friends-ucc.org) to you email address book to ensure delivery.

FRIENDS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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**Our Vision:**

*Rooted in the way of Christ, we strive to be a community of God's radical inclusion and extravagant welcome.*

**Our Mission:**

*United by the example of Jesus, we live faithfully, love limitlessly, and serve boldly.*

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SUNDAY WORSHIP

Online at 11:00am

FRIENDS CHURCH STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Dan De Leon, *Senior Pastor*  
pastor@friends-ucc.org

The Rev. Trent Williams, *Associate Pastor*  
pastortrent@friends-ucc.org

Chris Hoffman, *Director of Music Ministries*  
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