



Agnes Martin, Untitled 5, 1998

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LA JOLLA

SEPTEMBER 6, 2020
HOME WORSHIP GUIDE 26



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH of *La Jolla*



WELCOME TO WEEK 26 OF THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF LA JOLLA'S AT HOME WORSHIP EXPERIENCE. PLEASE FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS IN THIS GUIDE AND UTILIZE THE AUDIO LINKS SENT TO YOU IN THE ACCOMPANYING EMAIL TO ASSIST IN YOUR WORSHIP EXPERIENCE. PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH FEEDBACK IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS. YOU CAN REACH US AT [PASTOR@LAJOLLAUCC.ORG](mailto:pastor@lajollaucc.org). THIS IS CHURCH. THIS IS HOLY. THIS IS HOW WE RESPOND TO THE CHALLENGES OF OUR DAY.

THIS WILL BE VERY MUCH UNLIKE WHAT YOU ARE USED TO IN CHURCH. THAT IS ON PURPOSE. THIS IS SOMETHING NEW AND BECAUSE OF THAT WE'VE TAKEN LIBERTIES TO PROVIDE YOU WITH SOMETHING TOTALLY DIFFERENT. ENJOY MUSICAL SELECTIONS YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE HEARD AT CHURCH BEFORE AND A MESSAGE UNLIKE THAT WHICH IS DELIVERED FROM THE PULPIT. CONSIDER IT AN ADVENTURE. YES, YOU ARE MAKING HISTORY TODAY.

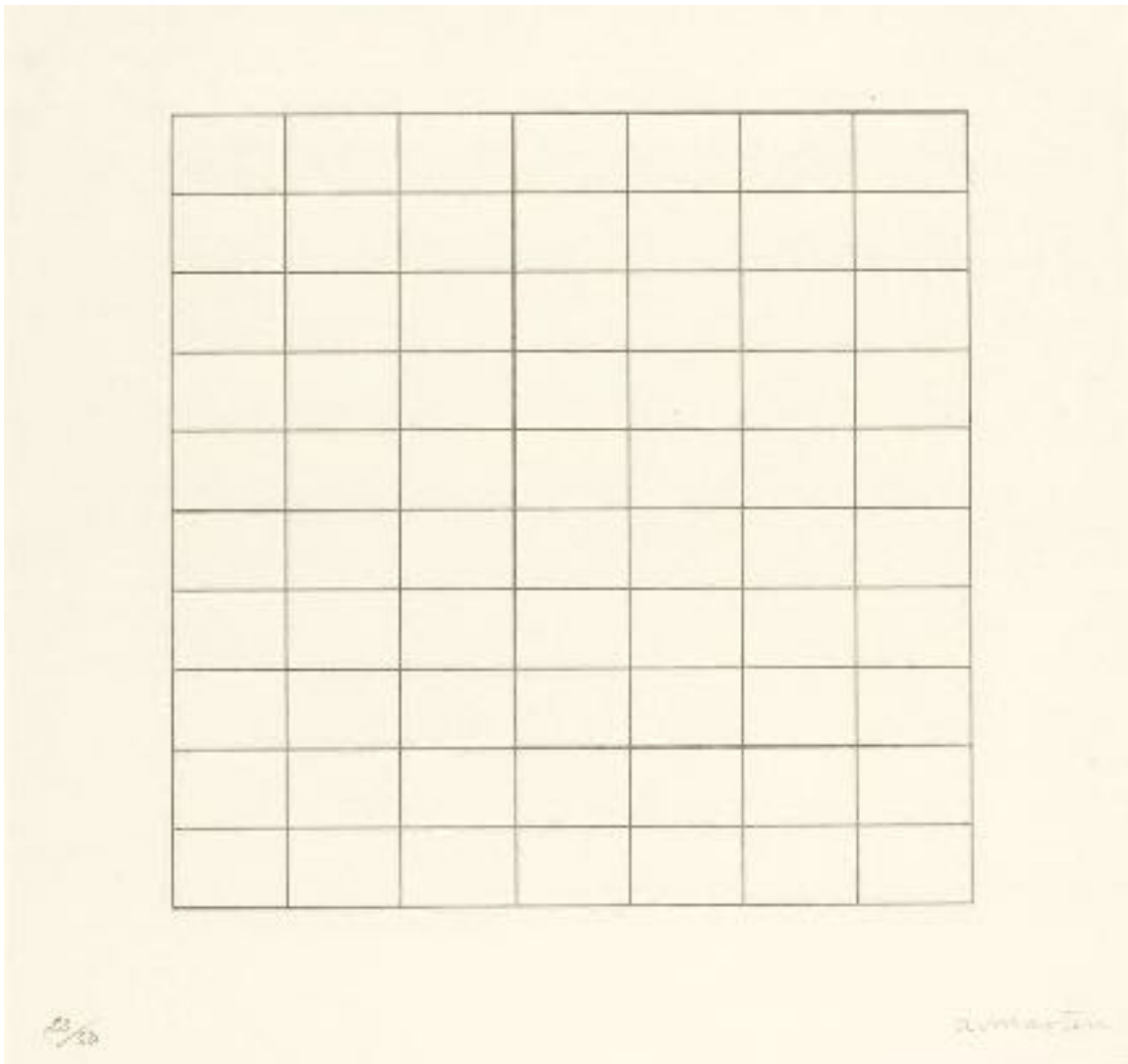
PLEASE FIND A COMFORTABLE AND COMFORTING PLACE IN YOUR HOME OR SOMEWHERE ELSE YOU FEEL SAFE. GET COMFORTABLE, POUR YOURSELF A GLASS OF SOMETHING SOOTHING AND ENJOY THIS EXPERIMENT IN WORSHIP....

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS AND MINDS FOR WORSHIP

ENJOY NINA'S PIANO SOLO BY CLICKING THIS YOUTUBE LINK:

<https://youtu.be/MDCA90y5EzM>

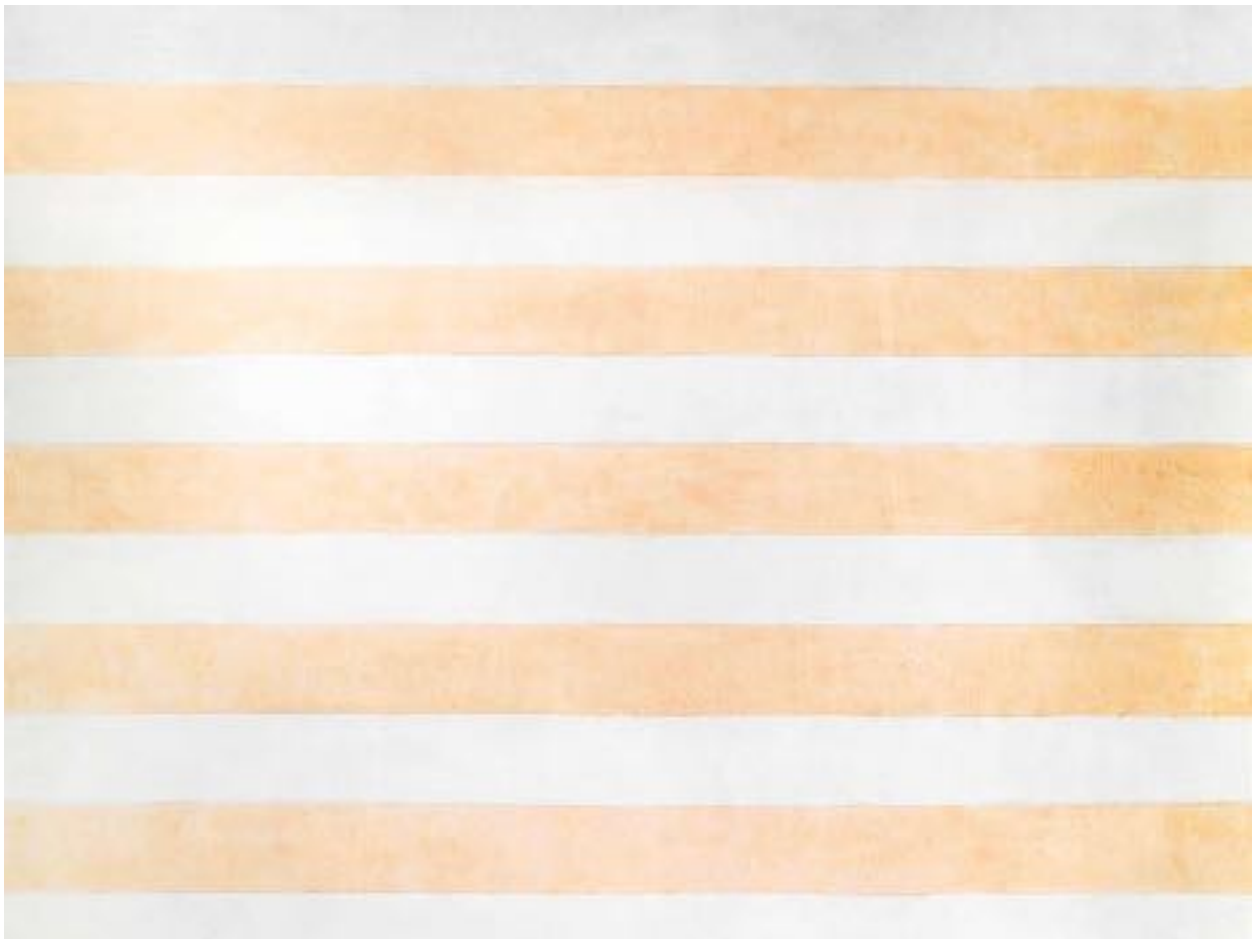
DURING THIS TIME LEAVE YOUR FEARS, DOUBTS, AND
UNCERTAINTIES OUTSIDE THE ROOM AND BE COMPLETELY
PRESENT WITH YOURSELF. BREATHE INTENTIONALLY AND FOCUS
ON EACH INHALE AND EXHALE



Agnes Martin, On A Clear Day, 1973

FINDING GOD IN VOICE

ENJOY BRONWYN'S SOLO BY CLICKING ON THE
AUDIO FILE MARKED "AUDIO FILE 1" IN THE EMAIL.



Agnes Martin, *Happy Holiday*, 1999

INTERNET FIELD TRIP

1) Enjoy this article about today's artist, Agnes Martin:

<https://www.theguardian.com/artanddesign/2015/may/22/agnes-martin-the-artist-mystic-who-disappeared-into-the-desert>

2) This video from the Tate is a wonderful exploration of Agnes Martin's work and philosophy: "beauty is in your mind."

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=902YXjchQsk>



WE HEAR FROM SCRIPTURE...

Psalm 119:33-40

Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end. Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart. Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it. Turn my heart to your decrees, and not to selfish gain.

Turn my eyes from looking at vanities; give me life in your ways. Confirm to your servant your promise, which is for those who fear you. Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for your ordinances are good. See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life.

A MESSAGE TO REFLECT ON

PLEASE ENJOY REV. TIM'S MESSAGE TO YOU BY
CLICKING ON ["AUDIO FILE 2"](#) IN THE EMAIL



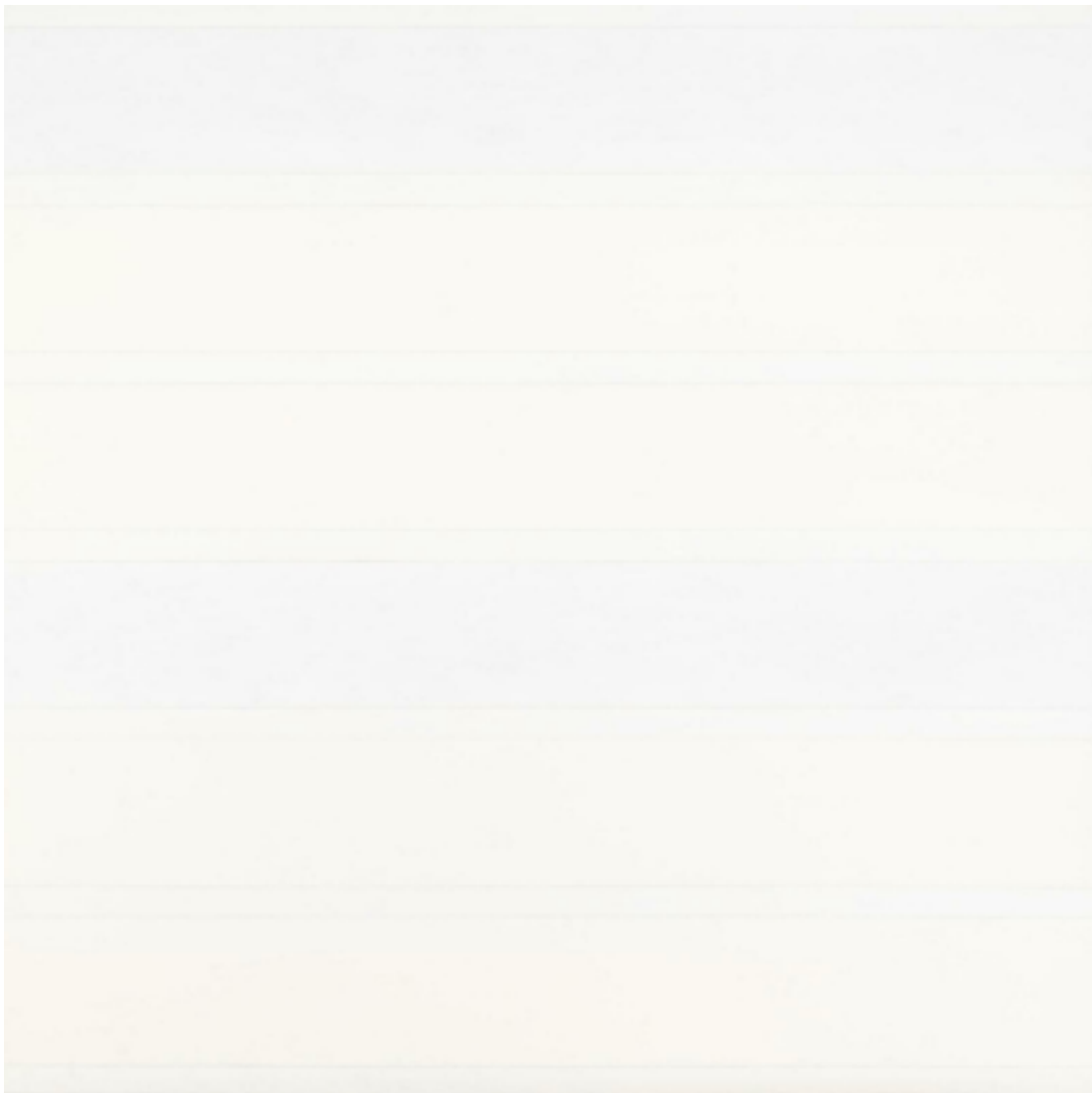
Agnes Martin, Untitled #22, 2002

THE WORK OF THE CHURCH CONTINUES....

YES, EVEN THOUGH WE AREN'T TOGETHER THE WORK OF THE CHURCH CONTINUES. WE MIGHT NOT BE PASSING A LITERAL OFFERING PLATE BUT WE ARE PASSING A VIRTUAL ONE. YOUR GIFTS AND TITHES ARE WHAT HAVE ALLOWED THIS CHURCH TO SEE THREE DIFFERENT CENTURIES. PLEASE CONSIDER PROVIDING YOUR OFFERING THROUGH THE FOLLOWING LINK:

https://www.paypal.com/cgi-bin/webscr?cmd=_s-xclick&hosted_button_id=MHKJLYNRGPDUS&source=url

OR FEEL FREE TO DROP IT IN THE MAIL TO **1216 CAVE ST, LA JOLLA, CA 92037**. YES, WE WILL STILL CHECK THE MAIL!



Agnes Martin, Untitled #18, 1980

WE PREPARE TO GO OUT INTO AN
UNCERTAIN WORLD

PLEASE CLICK ON THE AUDIO FILE MARKED "AUDIO FILE 3"
IN THE EMAIL TO ENJOY AN EXPERIMENTAL ADVENTURE
FROM OUR CHOIR!



Agnes Martin, Untitled, 1997

NOW MAY THE GRACE OF
GOD WHICH IS BEYOND OUR

UNDERSTANDING, THE LOVE OF
JESUS CHRIST

WHICH IS BEYOND OUR
DESERVING, AND THE POWER
OF THE **HOLY SPIRIT**

BE WITH EACH OF YOU BOTH
NOW

AND FOREVERMORE.

AMEN

PERFORMANCE NOTES

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Nina Gilbert, music director and pianist
Bronwyn Allen-Kaesler, office manager and soprano

Prelude: Manuel M. Ponce, *Malgré tout* / *A pesar de todo* / “Nevertheless”
<https://youtu.be/MDCA90y5EzM>

We discovered Ponce (1882-1948) as we finished our road trip through Mexico, and are happy to return with this souvenir this week. Ponce composed this piece—for left hand alone—to honor the sculptor Jesus Contreras, who had lost his right arm to cancer and then returned to his art with a sculpture called *Malgré tout*. As Agnes Martin, our artist this week, considers emptiness and fullness simultaneously, and her abstract expressionism calls attention to her creative process, perhaps we can see some of the same duality in a one-handed piano solo.

Audio File 1: *His Eye Is on The Sparrow*, words by Civilla Durfee Martin, music by Charles H. Gabriel, 1905

Canadian-American hymn writer C. D. Martin usually collaborated with her husband, W. Stillman Martin. Her composer for this song is Charles Hutchinson Gabriel—who wrote thousands of songs (some under pseudonyms), including the well-known *Will the Circle Be Unbroken*.

Audio File 3 is a virtual musical greeting from our choir! I invited choir members to record their choice of hymn, plus some long notes, and then sandwiched everything together. This is very short—44 seconds!—but there's a lot to listen to. Think of it as a fanfare, rather than a whole song. We encourage you to listen to this a few times and see whose voices and which hymns you recognize.

A MOMENT OF CONCERN



As we engage with the tranquil art of Agnes Martin this week and come to better understand her beautiful and complicated life punctuated with several mental health challenges, we pause to reflect on the epidemic of senior loneliness that the COVID-19 pandemic has brought to the forefront. Civitas seeks to be a free clearing house of resources to help seniors struggling through isolation and loneliness. It was created by a group of students at the University of Chicago Booth School of Business as a response to a challenge put forth by the Administration for Community Living (ACL) and the Office for the Assistant Secretary of Health at the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

I invite you to check out the Civitas website and pass it along to anyone that you feel could benefit. Also, if you happen to use any of its resources and you'd like to provide the team of creators any feedback, I would be happy to pass that information along to them.

— Rev. Tim

Civitas Website: <https://civitas.care>

Information on the ACL Challenge: <https://acl.gov>



AMEN

JOIN US SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10:30 AM AT 1216 CAVE ST, LA JOLLA,
CA 92037 ON ALL SUNDAYS WHEN WE ARE NOT STAYING AWAY DUE TO
COVID-19!

NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU
ARE WELCOME HERE.

