

January 28, 2024

10:00 AM

4th Sunday after Epiphany

United Christian Church of Austin

-- GATHERING --

PRELUDE

Nick Jimenez, *Primary Accompanist*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Janet Maykus
Interim Senior Minister

(See page 11 for printed announcements)

***CALL TO WORSHIP** from Psalm 111 Clark Thompson, *Liturgist*

One: By this I have known the presence of the Creator:

All: in the rising of the sun ,in the smile of another's face,

One: in the touch of a hand or the sound of a laugh,

All: in the scent of a flower that holds the promise of spring.

One: By this I have known the power of the Almighty:

All:in the healing of hurts, in the forgiveness of sin,

One: in the giving of gifts beyond all expectation,

All: in the showers of love ever present .

One: Let us give thanks with all of our hearts!

All: Let us worship our God, whose grace and power endures forever!

OPENING HYMN

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”
NCH #42

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories ever echoing the triumphs of God's grace!

My gracious Savior and my God, assist me to proclaim,
To spread through all the earth abroad the honors of your name.

Jesus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease
Is music in the sinner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!

Glory to God, and love and praise be ever, ever given
By all the saints in every age, the church in earth and heaven.

Words: Charles Wesley, 1740, alt. Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1828, Arr. in *Modern Psalmody*, 1839.
©1995 *The New Century Hymnal*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Clark Thompson, *Liturgist*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us approach God with confidence, trusting in God's grace as we humbly confess our sins.

All: Gracious God, you know us better than we know ourselves. You know our sins even before we confess. Your knowledge is wonderful, but also challenging. We'd much rather avoid painful truths and deny our role in wrongdoing. Help us face our failings so we can move forward in truth. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Pastor Janet Maykus

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*The people are invited to share a sign of God's peace with one another
such as a greeting, handshake, etc.*

One: Peace be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

* Asterisk signifies the people are invited to rise in body or Spirit.

Bolded text indicates spoken or sung by the congregation.

-- THE WORD --

OUTREACH COLLECTION

“We Are the Church”

NATURE & FOUNDATION

550 We Are the Church

Refrain (Unison)

I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to -
geth - er! All who fol - low Je - sus,
all a - round the world! Yes, we're the church to - geth - er!

1 The church is not a build - ing, the church is not a stee - ple,
2 We're man - y kinds of peo - ple, with man - y kinds of fac - es,
3 Some - times the church is march - ing, some - times it's brave - ly burn - ing,
4 And when the peo - ple gath - er, there's sing - ing and there's pray - ing,
5 At Pen - te - cost some peo - ple re - ceived the Ho - ly Spir - it

to Refrain

the church is not a rest - ing place, the church is a peo - ple.
all col - ors and all a - ges, too, from all times and plac - es.
some - times it's rid - ing, some - times hid - ing, al - ways it's learn - ing.
there's laugh - ing and there's cry - ing some - times, all of it say - ing:
and told the Good News through the world to all who would hear it.

WORDS AND MUSIC: Richard K. Avery (1934-) and Donald S. Marsh (1923-)
Words and Music © 1972 Hope Publishing Company

PORT JERVIS
7.7.8.7.Ref.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Emily Jamison Guerrero
Director of Children's Ministries

All children are invited to come forward to take a blue basket to collect outreach offerings. You may donate money or items for our little free pantry.

After our Outreach Collection, children and the young-at-heart are invited to sit on the chancel steps or floor in front of the steps.

Following the prayer, children are invited to the Children's Wing for the remainder of worship, or may return to sit with their families.

CHILDREN'S SENDING SONG

“Shalom Chaverim”

Shalom chaverim! Shalom chaverot!
Shalom, shalom!
Le-hit-ra-ot, le-hit-ra-ot,
Shalom, shalom!

Translation from Hebrew:

*Shalom, my friends, shalom, my friends,
shalom, shalom.*

*Farewell, my friends, farewell, my friends,
shalom, shalom.*

Words: Traditional Hebrew blessing; tr. Roger N. Deschner, 1982. Tr. © 1982, The United Methodist Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Music: Israeli melody. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

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GOSPEL READING

Mark 1:21-28(NRSVUE)
Clark Thompson, *Liturgist*

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching--with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

One: This is the Word of God for all the people of God.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“The Authority of Love”

Pastor Janet Maykus

HYMN OF RESPONSE

“Silence! Frenzied, Unclean Spirit”
NCH# 176 vv1 and 3

"Silence, frenzied, unclean spirit!"
cried God's healing Holy One.
"Cease your ranting! Flesh can't bear it;
flee as night before the sun."
At Christ's words the demon trembled,
from its victim madly rushed,
while the crowd that was assembled
stood in wonder, stunned and hushed.

Lord, the demons still are thriving
in the gray cells of the mind:
tyrant voices, shrill and driving,
twisted thoughts that grip and bind,
doubts that stir the heart to panic,
fears distorting reason's sight,
guilt that makes our loving frantic,
dreams that cloud the soul with fright.

Silence, Lord, the unclean spirit
in our mind and in our heart;
speak your word that when we hear it,
all our demons shall depart.
Clear our thought and calm our feeling;
still the fractured, warring soul.
By the power of your healing
make us faithful, true, and whole.

Words: Thomas H. Troeger, 1984, rev. 1983. Music: AUTHORITY, Carol Duran 1984. ©1995 *The New Century Hymnal*

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— — PRAYER TIME — —

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Janet Maykus

As petitions conclude, each will end with:

One: O Lord,

All: hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father/Creator who is in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom/kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread; and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom/kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

— — OFFERTORY — —

INVITATION TO GIVING

OFFERTORY

We invite you to partner with us in mission and ministries.

Offertory plates will be passed around the Sanctuary at this time.

*Alternatively, you may give online at uccaustin.org/give
or scan the QR codes in the pew to be connected to giving websites.*

*It is through your generosity that this exceptional community
of friendship, faith and service is possible.*

***DOXOLOGY**

“Old Hundredth”
(tune: NCH #7)

— — **HOLY COMMUNION** — —

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

Pastor Janet Maykus

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

TABLE BLESSING

Linda Laurence, *Deacon*

CALL TO THE TABLE

Pastor Janet Maykus

*All are now invited to come forward down the center aisle for communion.
You may open your hands for a piece of bread from the common loaf.*

*The deacons hold split chalices that have both **RED** wine
and **WHITE** grape juice in them.
Please use what is right for you.*

*Alternatively, single-serve communion kits with gluten-free wafers and juice
are available in the tray that I will be holding, if that works best for you.*

Please return to your seats by the side aisles.

A deacon will come around to serve any who remain seated.

You may also use the time to light a candle of prayer.

Come now, for the table is ready.

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Communion Music

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor Janet Maykus

— — WE GO OUT TO SERVE — —

*SENDING HYMN

“Arise, Your Light Is Come”
NCH #164, vv 1, 3, 4

Arise, your light is come!
The Spirit’s call obey;
Show forth the glory of your God,
Which shines on you today!

Arise, your light is come!
All you in sorrow born,
Bind up the broken-hearted ones
And comfort those who mourn.

Arise, your light is come!
The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing;
God’s pow’r will make us strong.

Words: Ruth Duck, 1974, ©1992 GIA Publications, Inc. Music: FESTAL SONG, William Walter, 1894.
©1995 *The New Century Hymnal*

*BENEDICTION/SENDING

Pastor Janet Maykus

One: As our Sunday worship ends,
ALL: Let our service begin!

POSTLUDE

Nick Jimenez

— — ANNOUNCEMENTS — —

Today, after church, the full Council, old and new, will hold the first Council Meeting of 2024. Lunch will be provided.

🌮 January 28th - YOUTH GROUP 5:30-7:30PM - Taco bar night with a side of surprise...?

🏃 February 4th - YOUTH GROUP 5:30-7:30pm - CROP WALK panel and discussion

🏈 February 11th - NO YOUTH GROUP - Super Bowl Sunday (YEAH SPORTSBALL!)

Bell and Chime Choir! Melissa Vasquez and Walt Case are coordinating a bell choir. First rehearsal today after church 11:40-12:30, then every other week after.

Children and Youth Ministry Volunteer Training, originally scheduled for Sunday, January 28, will now be on **Sunday, February 11, 11:30am - 1 pm**. More details in next week's bulletin. Contact Emily Jamison Guerrero with any questions. emily@uccaustin.org

This week the **last Janus Group** met. Across the nine group meetings, forty congregants gathered to share their responses to the events discussed in our January 7 town hall meeting. We thank all who participated for their willingness to openly share their own, and listen so attentively to others', thoughts, feelings, and concerns. Janus facilitators Janet Maykus and Sarah Henseler will prepare a summary of meeting themes to share with the Council. Council will then share that information and any resultant action plans with the congregation sometime in February.

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