

January 12, 2025

10:00AM

Baptism of Jesus

United Christian Church of Austin

-- GATHERING --

PRELUDE

Nick Jimenez, *Accompanist*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

(See pages 10-11 for printed announcements.)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Walt Case, *Liturgist*

One: Arise! Shine! The light you have been waiting for is here!

All: **Darkness has been banished!**

One: God's light of hope floods the earth

All: **God's light comes to us all.**

One: Lord, make us ready to journey to this Light.

All: **Prepare our hearts to receive this Light.**

***OPENING HYMN**

“O Radiant Christ, Incarnate Word”

The New Century Hymnal #168, vv. 1, 2, 3

**1 O radiant Christ, incarnate Word,
eternal love revealed in time:
Come, make your home within our hearts,
that we may dwell in light sublime.**

**2 Our bartered, busy lives burn dim,
too tired to care, too numb to feel.
Come, shine upon our shadowed world:
your radiance bathes with power to heal.**

**3 Your glory shone at Jordan's stream,
the font where we were born anew.**

**Attune your church to know you near;
illumine all we say and do.**

Words: Ruth Duck, 1989.

Music: DICKINSON COLLEGE, Lee Hastings Bristol, Jr., 1962.

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CALL TO CONFESSION

Walt Case, *Liturgist*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess that we do not follow Jesus in all that we do.

We love with condition.

We cast the first stone and keep the logs in our own eyes.

We do not turn to You as the source for our healing.

**Forgive us, and empower us to be the imitators of Christ in love and
service.**

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

*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

"Jesus Loves Me!"

NCH #327

1 Jesus loves me! This I know,
for the Bible tells me so.
Little ones to him belong;
they are weak, but he is strong.

Refrain:

Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

2 Jesus loves me! This I know,
as he loved so long ago,
taking children on his knee,
saying, "Let them come to me." (Refrain)

3 Jesus loves me! Still today,
walking with me on my way,
wanting as a friend to give
light and love to all who live. (Refrain)

Words: St. 1, Anna B. Warner, 1860; st. 2, 3, David R. McGuire, c. 1970. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1862. © 1995 *The New Century Hymnal*

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Emily Jamison Guerrero
Director of Children's Ministries

CHILDREN'S SENDING SONG

Shalom, Chaverim! Farewell, Good Friends

537

Israeli round

Sha - lom, cha - ve - rim! Sha - lom, cha - ve - rot! Sha - lom, sha - lom!
Fare - well, good friends, Fare - well, good friends, Sha - lom, sha - lom!

Le - hit - ra - ot, le - hit - ra - ot, Sha - lom, sha - lom.
Till we meet a - gain, till we meet a - gain, Sha - lom, sha - lom.

**May be sung as a canon.*

$\text{♩} = 100-108$

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Walt Case, *Liturgist*

As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water, but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

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

Bolded text indicates spoken or sung by the congregation.

Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

One: May we be granted wisdom and courage for interpretation.

All: Amen.

SERMON "The Serious Business of Baptism" Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

HYMN OF RESPONSE "What Was Your Vow and Vision"
Chalice Hymnal #177

**1 What was your vow and vision, revealed and recognized,
Christ, when you came to Jordan and asked to be baptized?
Was there a sudden splendor, or prophets, priests and kings,
a wind that stirred the waters, a blur of mighty wings?**

**2 Was this God's call, the crowning of all you had become:
"Go, show and tell my coming, my own, my chosen one?"
Did scripture join with scripture, revealing in surprise
the triumph of a servant rejected and despised?**

**3 We meet you at the water and ponder why and how,
in hope that we may follow where God is going now,
anointed by your Spirit, reborn, and energized,
through deed and word proclaiming: "In Christ we are baptized!"**

Words: Brian A. Wren (1979, rev. 1994), Copyright © 1983 by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: COMPLAINER, Southern Harmony, 1835; harmonies by Hal H. Hopson, 1986, also © 1986 by Hope Publishing Company
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-- PRAYER TIME --

PASTORAL PRAYER

Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

As petitions conclude, each will end with:

One: O Lord,

All: hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who is in heaven, holy is your name. Your kingdom 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, the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

-- OFFERTORY --

INVITATION TO GIVING

Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

OFFERTORY

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

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

Bolded text indicates spoken or sung by the congregation.

***DOXOLOGY “Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly hosts:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674, alt.; Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1551
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— — COMMUNION — —

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE	Janet Maykus, <i>Pastor</i>
WORDS OF INSTITUTION	Janet Maykus, <i>Pastor</i>
TABLE BLESSING	Carol Barrett, <i>Deacon</i>
CALL TO THE TABLE	Janet Maykus, <i>Pastor</i>

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.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

-- WE GO OUT TO SERVE --

*SENDING HYMN

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing (Jesus, the Light of the World)”

NCH #160, vv. 1, 2, 4

**1 Hark, the herald angels sing,
Jesus, the light of the world;
Glory to the Christ-child bring,
Jesus, the light of the world.**

Refrain:

**We will follow the light, beautiful light,
come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright.
Shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the light of the world.**

**2 Joyful, all you saints arise,
Jesus, the light of the world;
Join the triumph of the skies,
Jesus, the light of the world. (Refrain)**

**4 Hail the Bearer of God's peace!
Jesus, the light of the world;
Hail, the Sun of righteousness!
Jesus, the light of the world. (Refrain)**

Words: Stanzas, Charles Wesley, 1739; refrain, George D. Elderkin, 1890. Music: George D. Elderkin, 1890; arr. Evelyn Simpson-Curenton, 2000; arr. © 2000 GIA Publications, Inc.
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***BENEDICTION/SENDING**

Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

One: As our Sunday worship ends,

ALL: Let our service begin!

POSTLUDE

Nick Jimenez, *Accompanist*

Welcoming a New Member

Chalice Hymnal #341

Reaffirming our own faith in Jesus the Christ,
we gladly welcome you into this community of faith,
enfolding you with our love
and committing ourselves to your care.

In the power of God's Spirit
let us mutually encourage each other to trust God
and strengthen one another to serve others,
that Christ's church may in all things stand faithful.

-- ANNOUNCEMENTS --

Sunday, January 12

- 10am: Hybrid Worship Service
- 11:30am-3:30pm: Meeting and Orientation for 2025 Council (lunch provided)
- 5:30pm: Youth Group Spring Semester Kick-off
- 7pm: Meeting for Parents of Youth (Spring Confirmation/Pastor's Class, Summer Mission Trip)

Monday, January 13

- 6:30pm: UCC Chancel Choir Practice

Tuesday, January 14

- 8am: Breakfast Fellowship at Jim's on 183
- 1pm: Tuesday Book Group (*Zoom link in Friday newsletter*)

Saturday, January 18

- 10am-12pm: Anti-Racism/Pro-Reconciling Workshop

Sunday, January 19

- 10am: Hybrid Worship Service
- 11:15am: Adult Discussion Class
- 5:30pm: Youth Group

Monday, January 20: Martin Luther King, Jr., Day Church Office Closed

- 6:30pm: UCC Chancel Choir Practice

Tuesday, January 21

- 8am: Breakfast Fellowship at Jim's on 183
- 1pm: Tuesday Book Group (*Zoom link in Friday newsletter*)

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Wednesday, January 22

- 9:30-11am: Wednesday Morning Small Group at the Hearn's' home
- 6:30pm: Wednesday Evening Book Group (*Zoom link in Friday newsletter*)

Friday, January 24

- 7pm: Friday Game Night