

February 2, 2025

10:00AM

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**

Rachel Simoneau, *Liturgist*

One: In you, O Lord, let us take refuge,

All: so we might never be put to shame.

One: In your righteousness, O Lord, let us find deliverance,

All: so we might experience your saving power.

One: In your presence, O God, let us place our trust,

All: so we might find confidence in you alone.

One: You are our rock and our refuge, our fortress and shield.

All: We turn to you again this day. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

“O God of Vision”

Chalice Hymnal #288, vv. 1, 2, 5

**1 O God of vision far greater than all human scheming,
gather us now in your presence, refreshing, redeeming.**

**Show us anew life in your breathtaking view,
lovely beyond all our dreaming.**

2 Pour out your Spirit on all now assembled before you.

May our diversity here be a means to adore you.

**Women and men, young, old, and youthful again,
make us as one, we implore you.**

**5 Grateful, we come now by Christ's invitation clearspoken.
We seek the nourishment found in fruit crushed and bread broken.
Christ for us all! Come, let us answer the call,
offering our lives as the token.**

Words: Jane Parker Huber. © 1981 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press)

Music: LOBE DEN HERREN, Anonymous, from *Erneuerten Gesanbuch*, 1665.

© 1995 *Chalice Hymnal*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rachel Simoneau, *Liturgist*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. We seek courage and comfort in earthly things rather than in you. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image, through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. 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

“This Little Light of Mine”

1 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.

2 Ev’rywhere I go, I’m gonna let it shine...

3 Jesus gave it to me, I’m gonna let it shine...

4 When it’s dark outside, I’m gonna let it shine...

5 Even when I’m sad, I’m gonna let it shine...

6 All around the world, I’m gonna let it shine...

7 Jesus loves me so, I’m gonna let it shine...

Words and Music: African-American spiritual. Public Domain.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Emily Jamison Guerrero
Director of Children’s Ministries

CHILDREN’S SENDING SONG

“Stand Up, Stand Up!”

Refrain:

God loves it when we stand!

Stand up, stand up!

God loves it when we stand!

Stand up, stand up

For what we know is, what we know is right.

Verses

1 You can use your legs
To stand up brave and stand up tall.

**You can use your legs to kneel down
for fairness for all.**

Oh - We'll walk and march to show how much we care. (Refrain)

**2 You can use your hands
To raise one high and question things.
You can use your hands to hold a sign
With what you think.**

Oh - Let's all join hands to show how much we care. (Refrain)

**3 You can use your voice
To say out loud that "it's not ok".
You can use your voice
To say that there's another way.**

Oh - We sing out strong to show how much we care. (Refrain)

Music and lyrics by Miss Katie Sings, lyrics alt., Emily Guerrero. Used with permission.
<https://www.youtube.com/@MissKatieSings>

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Rachel Simoneau, *Liturgist*

If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

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

Bolded text indicates spoken or sung by the congregation.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.

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

All: Amen.

SERMON

Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

HYMN OF RESPONSE

“The Gift of Love”

Chalice Hymnal #526

**1 Though I may speak with bravest fire,
and have the gift to all inspire,
and have not love, my words are vain;
as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.**

**2 Though I may give all I possess,
and striving so my love profess,
but not be given by love within,
the profit soon turns strangely thin.**

**3 Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control,
our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed;
by this we worship, and are freed.**

Words: 1 Corinthians 13:1-3, paraphrased by Hal H. Hopson, 1972.
Music: GIFT OF LOVE, traditional English melody, adapt. by Hal H. Hopson, 1972
Words and Music: © 1972 Hope Publishing Co.
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-- PRAYER TIME --

PASTORAL PRAYER

Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

As petitions conclude, each will end with:

One: O God,

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, 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.*

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***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
© 1995 Chalice Hymnal

— — 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

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

The New Century Hymnal #439

**1 A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;
our present help amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.**

**For still our ancient foe does seek to work us woe:
with craft and power great, and armed with cruel hate,
on earth without an equal.**

**2 Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
But there is one who takes our side, the One of God's own choosing.**

**You ask who that may be? Christ Jesus sets us free!
With mighty power to save, Victorious o'er the grave;
Christ will prevail triumphant.**

**3 And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear, for God has willed the truth to triumph through us.**

**The powers of evil grim, we tremble not for them;
their rage we can endure, for lo! their doom is sure:
one little word shall fell them.**

**4 That word above all earthly powers forever is abiding;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours, for Christ is with us siding.**

**Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;
the body they may kill; God's truth shall triumph still;
God's reign endures forever!**

Words: Martin Luther, c. 1529; tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1852; adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981, 1990;
© 1981, 1990 Ruth Duck.

Music: EIN' FESTE BURG, Martin Luther, c. 1529; harm. From *The New Hymnal for American Youth*, 1930.
© 1995 *The New Century Hymnal*

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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, February 2

- 10am: Hybrid Worship Service
- 11am: Sign-up for Spring Small Groups in Fellowship Hall
- 11:15am: Adult Discussion Class
- 5:30pm: Youth Group
- 5:30-7:30pm: Sunday Evening Small Group at the church building

Monday, February 3

- 6:30pm: UCC Chancel Choir Practice
- 7pm: Caring Elders Team Meeting

Tuesday, February 4

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

Wednesday, February 5

- 9:30-11am: Wednesday Morning Small Group at the Hearn's' home

Thursday, February 6

- 6:30pm: Handbell Choir

Sunday, February 9

- 10am: Hybrid Worship Service
- 4pm: First Meeting of the Confirmation Class

Monday, February 10

- 6:30pm: UCC Chancel Choir Practice

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-- ANNOUNCEMENTS --

Tuesday, February 11

- 8am: Breakfast Fellowship at Jim's on 183
- 1pm: Tuesday Book Group (*Zoom link in Friday newsletter*)
- 6:30-8pm: Tuesday Evening Small Group at the Myricks' Home

Thursday, February 13

- 6:30pm: Handbell Choir

Friday, February 14

- 9:30am: Not Ready for Prime Time Book Group (*Zoom link in Friday newsletter*)

Deconstructing Karen

Join us for a special screening of *Deconstructing Karen*, a powerful documentary that explores the realities and harms of racism and privilege in our society. Together we'll reflect on these important topics and discuss how we can be agents of justice and healing in our community. A guided discussion will follow the screening.

To purchase tickets or make a donation, please visit

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/1003049025637?aff=oddtcreator>

When: Thursday, February 6

Time: 6-9pm

Where: AFS (Austin Film Society) Cinema