

February 8, 2026

10:00AM

United Christian Church of Austin

— GATHERING —

PRELUDE

Mitch Stevens, *Accompanist*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

(See pages 10-12 for printed announcements.)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Chris McCubbin, *Liturgist*

One: Friends, what worship does God desire of us?

All: **To do justice, love kindness, and live humbly with God.**

One: In our life together as the body of Christ, what worship does God desire of us?

All: **To do justice, love kindness, and live humbly with God.**

One: When we share the good news with all creation, what worship does God desire of us?

All: **To do justice, love kindness, and live humbly with God.**

One: Come, let us worship God with justice, kindness, and humility!

All: **We come to worship God with our voices and our lives.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN

“Gather Us In”

Red Chalice Hymnal #284, vv. 1, 3, 4

1 Here in this place, the new light is streaming,
Shadows of doubt are vanished away.
See in this space our fears and our dreamings,
Brought here to you in the light of this day.

**Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
Gather us in, our spirits inflame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken;
We shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**3 Here we receive new life in the waters;
Here we receive the bread of new birth;
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
Call us anew to be salt for the earth
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
Give us to eat the bread that is you;
Nourish us well and teach us to fashion
Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

**4 Not just in buildings, small and confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away;
Here in this place the new light is shining;
Now is God present, and now is the day.**

**Gather us in and hold us forever;
Gather us in and make us your own;
Gather us in, all peoples together,
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

Words and music by Marty Haugen ©1981;
©1995 Chalice Hymnal

CALL TO CONFESSION

Chris McCubbin, *Liturgist*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, forgive us when we ignore you or your lessons for our
lives. Forgive us for allowing oppression and discord to flourish.
Forgive us for not feeding those who are hungry. Forgive us for not**

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

Bolded text indicates spoken or sung by the congregation.

providing shelter to those who have no place to sleep at night. Forgive us for not repairing the broken places in our community. Holy One, forgive us and then help us do your work of bringing about justice and healing. Shine your light through us, so that all may come to know your abundant love. 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.

-- THE WORD --

OUTREACH COLLECTION

“Welcome Song”

All children are invited to come forward to take a blue basket to collect offerings.

Chorus: Come in, come in, you are welcome here!

Come in, come in, you need not fear.

Come in, come in, children of God,

You are welcome, you are welcome here!

**1 Our doors are open to all,
To the young and the old, big and small.
We all are connected by God's loving care.
This is the love that we share! [Chorus]**

2 We all are children of God.
We're a family of people who care.
One body, one spirit, one hope and one Lord:
these are the things that we share. [Chorus]

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TIME FOR CHILDREN

Kyei Ko

Director of Children and Youth Ministries

CHILDREN'S SENDING SONG

“Siyahamba -

We Are Marching in the Light of God”

Red Chalice Hymnal #442

Siyahamba, ekukanyen' kwenkos',
Siyahamba ekukanyen' kwenkos'. (repeat)
Siyahamba, siyahamba, oh,
Siyahamba ekukanyen' kwenkos'. (repeat)

We are walking in the light of God.
We are walking in the light of God. (repeat)
We are walking, we are marching, ooh,
We are walking in the light of God. (repeat)

Siyahamba, ekukanyen' kwenkos',
Siyahamba ekukanyen' kwenkos'. (repeat)
Siyahamba, siyahamba, oh,
Siyahamba ekukanyen' kwenkos'. (repeat)

We are marching in the light of God.
We are marching in the light of God. (repeat)
We are marching, we are marching, ooh,
We are marching in the light of God. (repeat)

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

Bolded text indicates spoken or sung by the congregation.

**Caminando en la luz de Dios,
Caminando en la luz de Dios. (repeat)
Caminando, vamos caminando,
Caminando en la luz de Dios. (repeat)**

Words: Barber L. Waters, Music: Kenneth E. White. © 1982 Barber L. Waters and Kenneth E. White
©1995 *Chalice Hymnal*

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 5:13-20

Chris McCubbin, *Liturgist*

"You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. People do not light a lamp put it under the bushel basket; rather they put it on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished.

"Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments and teaches others to do the same will be called least in the kingdom of heaven, but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven.

"For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

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

All: Amen.

SERMON

“American Heresies”

Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

HYMN OF RESPONSE

“As Grain on Scattered Hillsides”

Red Chalice Hymnal #491

1 As grain on scattered hillsides, when gathered, makes one bread,

God, gather all your people as one in Christ our head.

We come from many places and we are not the same,

Yet your strong love has called us to meet in Jesus’ name.

2 A grain of wheat is fruitless, until in earth it lies;

Then, dying to its old life, it bears and multiplies.

So may we die to hatred, to all our hurtful ways,

Reborn to common living, to love, to work, to praise.

3 Like yeast that brings new ferment so lifeless dough may rise,

Your Spirit is the leaven of life that satisfies.

As salt enhances flavor, enriches, and preserves,

May earth rejoice to savor a church that heals and serves.

4 O Christ, our risen Savior, O Spirit holy dove,

Come now and move among us; make us a sign of love.

Come, knead and blend each texture with strong and gentle hands,

That we may be one body, one loaf in many lands.

Words: Ruth Duck, 1986; rev. 1990, ©1983, rev 1992, by GIA Publications, Inc.

Music: MERLE’S TUNE, Hal H. Hopson, 1983, ©1983 Hope Publishing Co.

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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/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.

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.*

***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 | Wendy Campbell, <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.

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*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

— WE GO OUT TO SERVE —

*SENDING HYMN

“Lead On, O Cloud of Presence”

Red Chalice Hymnal #633

1 Lead on, O cloud of Presence; the exodus is come;
In wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home.
Our bondage left behind us, new hopes within us grow.
We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.

2 Lead on, O fiery pillar; we follow yet with fears,
But we shall come rejoicing, though joy be born of tears.
We are not lost, though wand’ring, for by your light we come,
And we are still God’s people. The journey is our home.

3 Lead on, O God of freedom, and guide us on our way,
And help us trust the promise through struggle and delay.
We pray our sons and daughters may journey to that land
Where justice dwells with mercy and love is law’s demand.

Words: Ruth Duck, 1974, rev. 1989. Music: LANCASHIRE; Henry T. Smart, 1835.
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*BENEDICTION/SENDING

Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

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

POSTLUDE

Mitch Stevens, *Accompanist*

Welcoming a New Member

Red 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 --

ATTENTION: We Have New Phone Lines

We have eliminated our current line and replaced it with three new lines. Please use the below numbers to contact the Church and staff. The lines can also receive texts, but please make sure to include your name/information. Thanks!

Church Office/Administrator: (737) 230-1029

Pastor, Janet: (737) 230-1425

Youth & Children's Director, Kyei: (737) 230-1711

We have a new P. O. box! Please send all correspondence to:

United Christian Church

P. O. Box 80588

Austin, TX 78708

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We invite you to participate in supporting our Children's and Youth's Programs this spring! We need:

- teachers and helpers in Sunday morning's Godly Play activities for our children
- nursery attendants during Sunday worship for children under 2
- volunteers to assist our youth in their Sunday evening activities
- dinners provided for the Sunday evening Youth Group gatherings

Please sign up at the spreadsheet link in the Friday newsletter (*note the individual tabs at the bottom to toggle between opportunities*), or speak with **Kyei Ko, director of children and youth ministries**, if you have questions.

* * * * *

Sunday, February 8

- **9:30-9:50am:** Children & Youth Joyful Noise Music Program
- **10am:** Hybrid Worship Service (YouTube link in Friday newsletter)
- **After Worship:** Brief Worship Team meeting: Brainstorming Lent themes
- **5:30pm:** Youth Group: Super Bowl Party hosted by the Goudeaus (More information in Friday's newsletter)
 - ★ [Parent Meeting with your calendars, announced last week for Feb 8, will be rescheduled]

Tuesday, February 10

- **8am:** Breakfast Fellowship at Jim's (183 & Spicewood Springs)
- **1pm:** Tuesday Book Group (Zoom link in Friday newsletter)
- **6:30-8pm:** Tuesday Small Group meeting at the Laurences' home

Thursday, February 12

- **6-8pm:** Community Discovery Group Meeting
- **7-8pm:** Bell Choir Rehearsal

Friday, February 13

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

Sunday, February 15

- **9:30-9:50am:** Children & Youth Joyful Noise Music Program
- **10am:** Hybrid Worship Service (YouTube link in Friday newsletter)
- **After Worship:** Adult Discussion Class
- **After Worship:** Safe Church Training (lunch provided); RSVP to Kyei Ko.
- **5-7pm:** Youth Group: Bowling and games at Pinstack

Tuesday, February 17

- **8am:** Breakfast Fellowship at Jim's (183 & Spicewood Springs)
- **1pm:** Tuesday Book Group (Zoom link in Friday newsletter)
- **6pm:** Finance Committee Meeting
- **7pm:** Executive Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 18

- **9:30-11am:** Wednesday Small Group meeting at the church building

Thursday, February 19

- **7-8pm:** Bell Choir Rehearsal

Saturday, February 21

- **10am:** Self-Defense Seminar

Sunday, February 22

- **9:30-9:50am:** Children & Youth Joyful Noise Music Program
- **10am:** Hybrid Worship Service (YouTube link in Friday newsletter)
- **5-7pm:** Youth Group: TBD

United Christian Church of Austin website: UCCAustin.org

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

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