

March 1, 2026

10:00AM

Second Sunday of Lent

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**

Clementine Tomlinson, Liturgist

One: I lift up my eyes to the hills; from where will my help come?

All: My help comes from the Loving Creator, who made heaven and earth.

One: The Holy One will not let your foot be moved; God who keeps you will not slumber.

All: This Divine Love will neither slumber nor sleep.

One: The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

All: The Holy one is shade so sun shall not strike you by day nor the moon by night.

One: The Holy One will keep you from all evil; the Creator will keep your life.

All: Divine Love will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

*OPENING HYMN

“How Great Thou Art”
Red Chalice Hymnal #33, vv. 1, 2, 4

**1 O Lord my God! When I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed!**

Chorus:

**Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee;
How great Thou art, how great Thou art!**

**2 When thru the woods and forest glades I wander,
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze, [Chorus]**

**4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art! [Chorus]**

Words and Music: Stuart K. Hine, 1953, based on a Swedish folk melody and a poem by Carl Gustav Boberg, 1885
© 1995 *Chalice Hymnal*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Clementine Tomlinson, *Liturgist*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

I Cannot Do This Alone
by Dietrich Bonhoeffer

**O God, early in the morning I cry to you.
Help me to pray and to concentrate my thoughts on you;
I cannot do this alone.**

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

Bolded text indicates spoken or sung by the congregation.

In me there is darkness, but with you there is light;
I am lonely, but you do not leave me;
I am feeble in heart, but with you there is help;
I am restless, but with you there is peace.
In me there is bitterness, but with you there is patience;
I do not understand your ways,
But you know the way for me....
Restore me to liberty, and enable me to live now
That I may answer before you and before humanity.
Lord whatever this day may bring,
Your name be praised.
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)**

**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*

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SCRIPTURE READING

John 3:1-17

Clementine Tomlinson, *Liturgist*

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person."

Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?"

Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"

Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?"

"No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him."

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

All: Amen.

SERMON “It’s More Than a Bumper Sticker” Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

HYMN OF RESPONSE “O God, How We Have Wandered”
Black New Century Hymnal #202

O God, how we have wandered and hidden from your face;
In foolishness have squandered your legacy of grace.
But how, in exile dwelling, we turn with fear and shame,
As distant but compelling, you call us each by name.

And now at length discerning the evil that we do,
By faith we are returning with hope and trust in you.
In haste you come to meet us, and home rejoicing bring,
In gladness there to greet us with calf and robe and ring.

O God of all the living, both banished and restored,
Compassionate, forgiving, our peace and hope assured.
Grant now that our transgressing, our faithlessness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in blessing, in pardon, and in peace.

Words: Richard D. Leach, 1992 Tune: Dan Damon, 1994. © 1995 *The New Century Hymnal*

— PRAYER TIME —

PASTORAL PRAYER

Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

As petitions conclude, each will end with:

One: O Lord,

All: **hear our prayer.**

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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	Lisa Deane, <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, <i>Pastor</i>
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— WE GO OUT TO SERVE —

*SENDING HYMN	“O God, Our Help in Ages Past” Red Chalice Hymnal #67, vv. 1, 2, 3, 6
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**1 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!**

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

Bolded text indicates spoken or sung by the congregation.

2 Under the shadow of thy throne still may we dwell secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

3 Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.

6 O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
be thou our guide while life shall last, and our eternal home.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt. Music: ST. ANNE, attr. William Croft, 1708; descant Donald P. Hustad, 1989. (desc. ©1990 Hope Publishing Co.). © 1995 *Chalice Hymnal*

***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 receive texts; 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

Please support 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
- snacks provided for the Sunday evening Youth Group gatherings

Please sign up at the spreadsheet link in the Friday newsletter, or speak with **Kyei Ko, director of children and youth ministries**, if you have questions.

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Sunday, March 1: Second Sunday of Lent

- 9:30-9:50am: Children & Youth Joyful Noise Music Program
- 10am: Hybrid Worship Service (YouTube link in Friday newsletter)
- After Worship: Adult Discussion Class
- 2pm: Youth Group: CROP Hunger Walk (no evening meeting)

Tuesday, March 3

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

Wednesday, March 4

- 9:30-11am: Wednesday Small Group meeting at the church building
- 12-1pm: Lectio at Lunch (Zoom link in Friday newsletter)
- 6:30-7:30pm: Evening Lectio (Zoom link in Friday newsletter)

Thursday, March 5

- 7-8pm: Bell Choir Rehearsal

Sunday at 2am: Daylight Saving Time begins: Spring forward 1 hour.

Sunday, March 8: Third Sunday of Lent

- 9:30-9:50am: Children & Youth Joyful Noise Music Program
- 10am: Hybrid Worship Service (YouTube link in Friday newsletter)
- After Worship: Social Justice Meeting
- 5pm: Community Discovery Focus Group at UCC
- 5-6:30pm: Youth Group: Movie Night

Tuesday, March 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 at the Laurences' home
- 7pm: Community Discovery Focus Group at UCC

Wednesday, March 11

- **12-1pm:** Lectio at Lunch (Zoom link in Friday newsletter)
- **6:30-7:30pm:** Evening Lectio (Zoom link in Friday newsletter)

Thursday, March 12

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

Friday, March 13

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

Sunday, March 15: Fourth Sunday of Lent

- **9:30-9:50am:** Children & Youth Joyful Noise Music Program
- **10am:** Hybrid Worship Service (YouTube link in Friday newsletter)
- **After Worship:** Adult Discussion Class
- **No Youth Group** (Spring Break)

United Christian Church of Austin website: UCCAustin.org
Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

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