

March 22, 2026

10:00AM

Fifth 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**

Walt Case, *Liturgist*

One: As children of God, we dwell in the Spirit, and the Spirit dwells in us.

All: **We are alive in the Spirit through the righteousness of God.**

One: In humility and faith, we come to worship the One who gives us life, hope, and healing.

All: **God has brought us to this moment and will guide us still.
Praise be the Holy of Holies!**

***OPENING HYMN**

“Holy, Holy, Holy”

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

1 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee:

holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

**3 Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,
though the sinful human eye thy glory may not see;
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love, and purity.**

**4 Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea;
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty,
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

Words: Reginald Heber (1826), alt. Music: NICEA, John B. Dykes (1861), Descant by O. I. Cricket Harrison (1994)
© 1995 *Chalice Hymnal*

CALL TO CONFESSION

Walt Case, *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.
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*

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

Bolded text indicates spoken or sung by the congregation.

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

“We Are the Church”

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

[Refrain:]

I am the Church! You are the Church!

We are the Church together!

**All who follow Jesus, all around the world,
yes, we're the Church together!**

**1 The Church is not a building, the Church is not a steeple.
The Church is not a resting-place, the Church is a people! [Refrain]**

**2 We're many kinds of people, with many kinds of faces:
all colors and all ages, too, from all times and places. [Refrain]**

**3 We praise our God with singing, with loving, with our living,
but to share God's love with everyone, that is the mission.**

**4 Sometimes the Church is marching, sometimes it's bravely burning,
sometimes it's riding, sometimes hiding, always it's learning! [Refrain]**

TEXT and MUSIC: Richard K. Avery and Donald S. Marsh; © 1972 Hope Publishing Company

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Kyei Ko

Director of Children and Youth Ministries

CHILDREN'S SENDING SONG

"Shalom Chaverim"

Shalom chaverim! Shalom chaverot!

Shalom, shalom!

Le-hit-ra-ot, le-hit-ra-ot,

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 11:1-45

Walt Case, *Liturgist*

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. Mary was the one who anointed the Lord with perfume and wiped his feet with her hair; her brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent a message to Jesus, "Lord, he whom you love is ill."

But when Jesus heard it, he said, "This illness does not lead to death; rather, it is for God's glory, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it."

Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, "Let us go to Judea again."

The disciples said to him, "Rabbi, the Jews were just now trying to stone you, and are you going there again?"

Jesus answered, "Are there not twelve hours of daylight? Those who walk during the day do not stumble because they see the light of this world. But those who walk at night stumble because the light is not in them." After saying this, he told them, "Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I am going there to awaken him."

The disciples said to him, "Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will be all right."

Jesus, however, had been speaking about his death, but they thought that he was referring merely to sleep.

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

Bolded text indicates spoken or sung by the congregation.

Then Jesus told them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. For your sake I am glad I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him."

Thomas, who was called the Twin, said to his fellow disciples, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days.

Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother.

When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him."

Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

Martha said to him, "I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day."

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

She said to him, "Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world." When she had said this, she went back and called her sister Mary and told her privately, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." And when she heard it, she got up quickly and went to him.

Now Jesus had not yet come to the village but was still at the place where Martha had met him.

The Jews who were with her in the house consoling her saw Mary get up quickly and go out. They followed her because they thought that she was going to the tomb to weep there.

When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died."

When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see."

Jesus began to weep.

So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?"

Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days."

Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?"

So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." When he had said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!"

The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Many of the Jews therefore, who had come with Mary and had seen what Jesus did believed in him.

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

All: Amen.

SERMON "Hope in the Painful Present" Janet Maykus, *Pastor*

HYMN OF RESPONSE "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"
Red Chalice Hymnal #245

**1 Like the murmur of the dove's song, like the challenge of her flight,
like the vigor of the wind's rush, like the new flame's eager might:
come, Holy Spirit, come.**

**2 To the members of Christ's body, to the branches of the Vine,
to the church in faith assembled, to our midst as gift and sign:
come, Holy Spirit, come.**

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

Bolded text indicates spoken or sung by the congregation.

3 With the healing of division, with the ceaseless voice of prayer,
with the power to love and witness, with the peace beyond compare:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

*Text: Carl P. Daw, Jr. 1981; Tune: BRIDEGROOM, Peter Cutts, 1968.
Words © 1982, music ©1969, Hope Publishing Co. ©1995 Chalice Hymnal*

— 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	Sue Lucas, <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 Day of Peace that Dimly Shines”

Red Chalice Hymnal #711

1 O day of peace that dimly shines
through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,
guide us to justice, truth, and love,
delivered from our selfish schemes.

May swords of hate fall from our hands,
our hearts from envy find release,
till by God's grace our warring world
shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.

2 Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,
nor shall the fierce devour the small;
as beasts and cattle calmly graze,
a little child shall lead them all.

Then enemies shall learn to love,
all creatures find their true accord;
the hope of peace shall be fulfilled,
for all the earth shall know the Lord.

Words: Carl P. Daw (1982) © 1982 Hope Publishing Company. Music: CANDLER, Traditional Scottish melody; harm.
Carlton R. Young (1963), ©1964 The United Methodist Publishing House.
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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 —

Say YES! Church Engagement Party

After worship next Sunday, stop by the tables in the Fellowship Hall to explore our ministries, meet committee leaders and staff, and learn about being involved in our church's life. **Find a place to Say YES!**

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

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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.

* * * * *

Sunday, March 22: Fifth Sunday of Lent

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

Monday, March 23

- **5:30-7:30pm:** Clergy Minneapolis Presentation

Tuesday, March 24

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

Wednesday, March 25

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

Thursday, March 26

- **7pm:** Bell Choir Rehearsal

Friday, March 27

- 7pm: Friday Game Night

Sunday, March 29: Palm Sunday

- 9:30-9:50am: Children & Youth Joyful Noise Music Program
- 10am: Hybrid Worship Service (YouTube link in Friday newsletter)
- After Worship: The Engagement Party
- 5-6:30pm: Youth Group: Lenten/Easter study and Easter egg filling

Tuesday, March 31

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

Wednesday, April 1

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

Thursday, April 2: Maundy Thursday

- 5:30-7:30pm: Interactive Stations of the Cross

Friday, April 3: Good Friday

- 7pm: Good Friday Service

Sunday, April 5: Easter Sunday

- 10am: Hybrid Worship Service (YouTube link in Friday newsletter)
- After Worship: Easter Egg Hunt and Potluck Brunch
- 5-6:30pm: Youth Group

United Christian Church of Austin website: UCCAustin.org

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube.

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P. O. Box 80588, Austin, TX 78708

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