April 26, 2026 **10:00AM**

Third Sunday After Easter United Christian Church of Austin

–– GATHERING ––

PRELUDE

Mitch Stevens, *Accompanist*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Sarah Henseler

(See pages 10-12 for printed announcements.)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Sue Lucas, *Liturgist*

One: The Good Shepherd is the gate. Let us enter with thanksgiving and praise!

All: The Shepherd restores our souls, satisfies our needs, and leads us on the right path.

One: The Good Shepherd is the gate. Let us live with courage and conviction, not fear and timidity.

All: Through valleys and storms, chaos and confusion, threats and concerns, the Shepherd comforts us with power and strength, love and compassion, hope and peace.

One: The Good Shepherd is the gate. Let us worship in the presence of the Holy One!

All: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all our days of my life. Let us dwell in God's presence forever!

*OPENING HYMN

"Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven"

Red Chalice Hymnal #23, vv. 1, 2, 3, 5

1 Praise, my soul, the God of heaven,
Glad of heart your carols raise;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,
Who, like me, should sing God's praise?

Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise the Maker all our days!

2 Praise to God for grace and favor
shown to all who are oppressed.
God shows steadfast love forever,
slow to chide, and swift to bless.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Glorious is God's faithfulness!

3 Mother-like, God tends and spares us,
Knowing well our fragile frame.
Father-like God gently bears us,
Tender-hearted, slow to blame.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
All within me praise God's name!

5 Angels, teach us adoration,
You who see God face to face;
Sun and moon and all creation,
Dwellers all in time and space,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise with us the God of grace!

Words: Henry F. Lyte, 1834; adapt. Ecumenical Women's Center and Ruth Duck, 1974 Music: John Goss, 1869.
© 1995 Chalice Press

CALL TO CONFESSION

Sue Lucas, *Liturgist*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess that we do not follow the path of Christ in all that we do. We love with condition. We judge and condemn. We close our ears to the voice that calls us to follow in the way of abundant life. Forgive us, we pray, and empower us to love and service in Christ's name. Amen.

** Asterisk signifies the people are invited to rise in body or Spirit.*
Bolded text indicates spoken or sung by the congregation.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Rev. Dr. Sarah Henseler

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Dr. Sarah Henseler

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

"Halle, Halle, Halle"

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

[Refrain] **Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah**
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah
Halle, halle, halle-lu-jah
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Glory rolled away the stone! Halle, hallelujah!
Glory! His death has flown! Halle, hallelujah!
Glory! For Jesus lives again!
Hallelujah, hallelujah! ***[Refrain]***

Glory to our God we sing! Halle, hallelujah!
Glory our song takes wing! Halle, hallelujah!
Glory, to Christ our love we bring!
Hallelujah, hallelujah! ***[Refrain]***

Glory to God on high! Halle, hallelujah!
Glory from far and wide! Halle, hallelujah!
Glory and peace on earth abide!
Hallelujah, hallelujah! ***[Refrain]***

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Glory creator praise! Halle, hallelujah!
Glory and thanks we raise! Halle, hallelujah!
Glory and blessing all our days!
Hallelujah, hallelujah! ***[Refrain]***

Glory, O Holy Lord! Halle, hallelujah!
Glory, O Christ Adored! Halle, hallelujah!
Glory, O Spirit, now outpoured!
Hallelujah, hallelujah! ***[Refrain]***

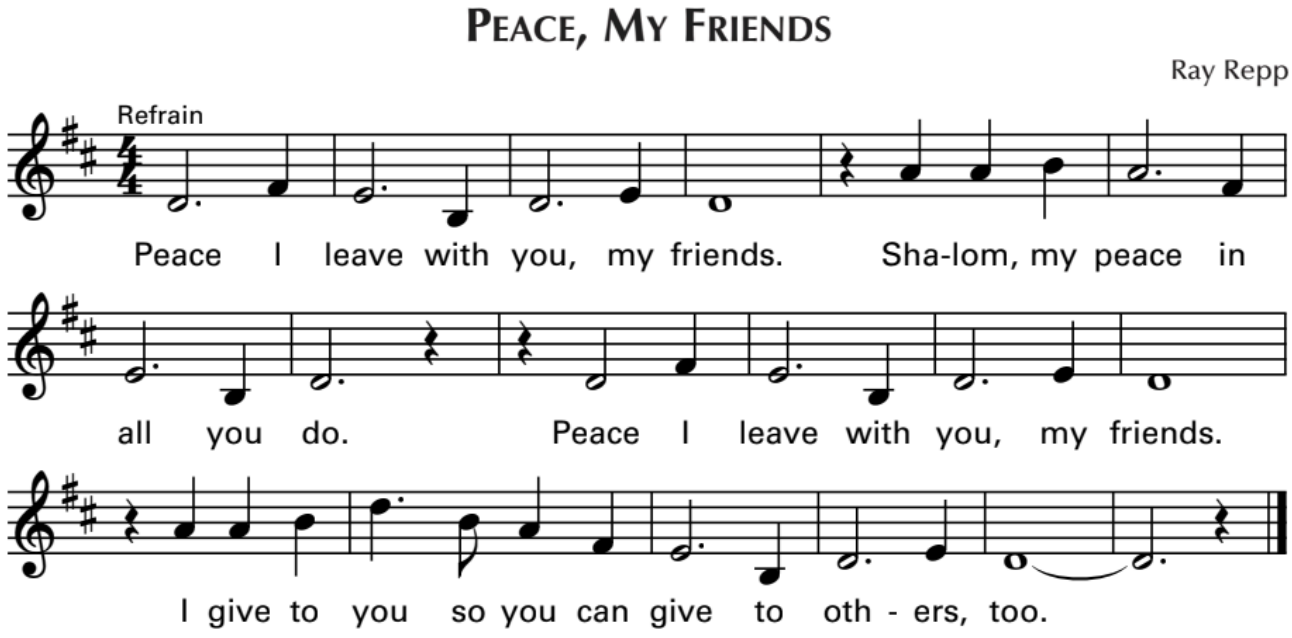
Words: Trad. Caribbean; verses by Gabe Huck, adapt. By Tony Alonso ©2005, GIA Publications, Inc., Additional verses by Julie Stiles, 2024. Music: Trad. Caribbean; arr. By John L. Bell © 1990 Iona Community, © 2005 GIA Publications, Inc.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Kyei Ko
Director of Children and Youth Ministries

CHILDREN'S SENDING SONG

"Peace, My Friends"



Text based on John 14:25–27; Ray Repp. Text and music © 1967, 2015, Otter Creek Music.
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SCRIPTURE READING

John 10:1-10

Sue Lucas, *Liturgist*

Jesus said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber; but he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens; the sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers." This figure Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers; but the sheep did not heed them. I am the door; if any one enters by me, that one will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

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

SERMON

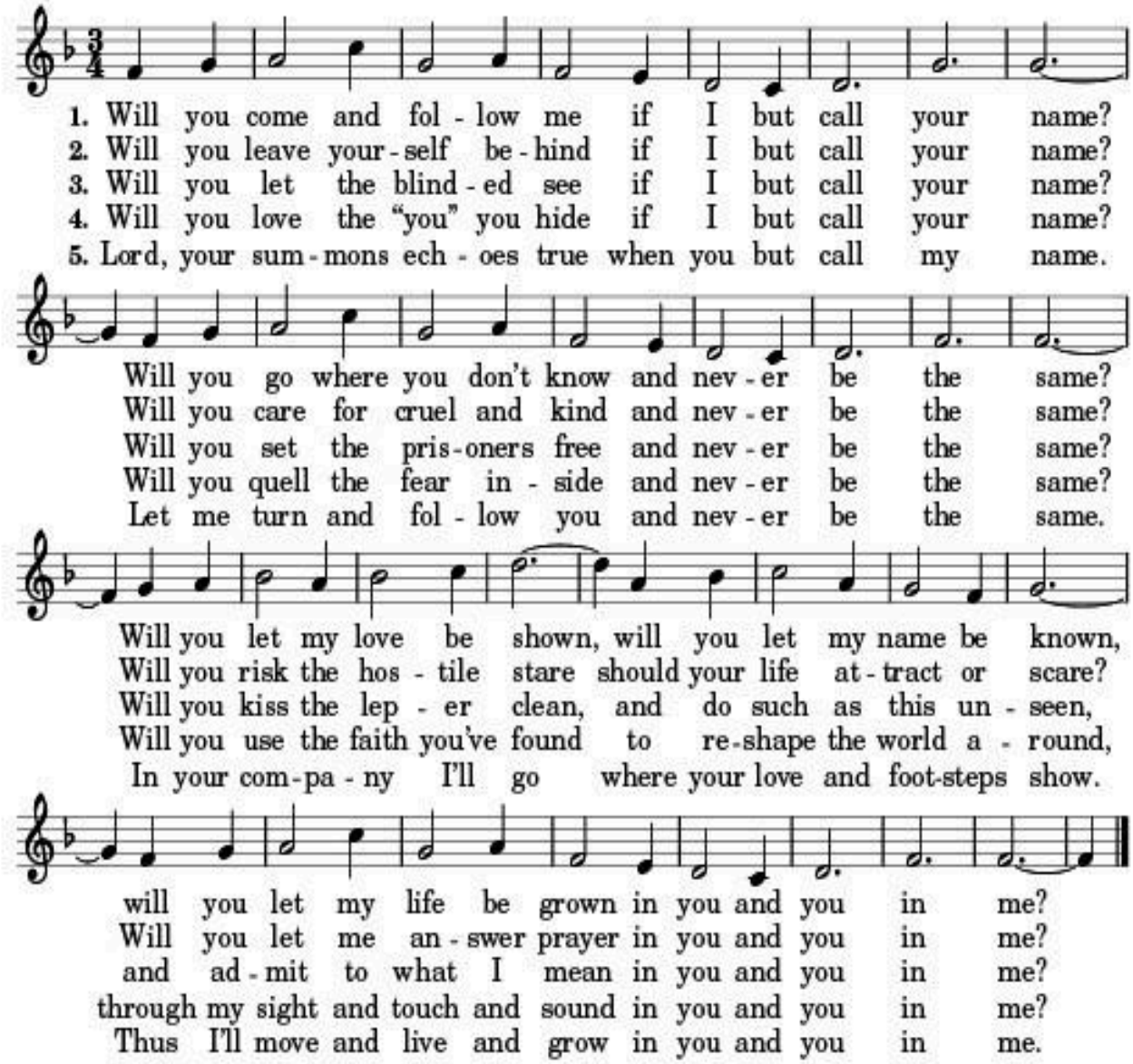
"Hearing Voices"

Rev. Dr. Sarah Henseler

HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Will You Come and Follow Me (The Summons)"

The Summons



Song by John Bell; Scottish folk tune; for non-commercial use only.

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–– PRAYER TIME ––

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Sarah Henseler

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. 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 — Rev. Dr. Sarah Henseler

WORDS OF INSTITUTION — Rev. Dr. Sarah Henseler

TABLE BLESSING — Wendy Campbell, *Deacon*

CALL TO THE TABLE — Rev. Dr. Sarah Henseler

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 — Rev. Dr. Sarah Henseler

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–– WE GO OUT TO SERVE ––

*SENDING HYMN "Called As Partners in Christ's Service"

Black New Century Hymnal #495

Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment, fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.

Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.

Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.

So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

Words: © 1981 Jane Parker Huber. From A SINGING FAITH. Used by permission of Westminster/John Knox Press;
Music:BEECHER, John Zundel, 1855. ©1995 The New Century Hymnal

*BENEDICTION/SENDING Rev. Dr. Sarah Henseler

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

Please support our Children's and Youth's Programs this spring! We need:

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- 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, April 26

- **9:30-9:50am:** Children & Youth Joyful Noise Music Program
- **10am:** Hybrid Worship Service (Zoom link in Friday newsletter)
- **After Worship:** Social Justice Planning Meeting
- **After Worship:** Caregiver Support Group Meeting
- **5-6:30pm:** Youth Group

Tuesday, April 28

- **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, April 30

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

Sunday, May 3

- **9:30-9:50am:** Children & Youth Joyful Noise Music Program
- **10am:** Hybrid Worship Service (Zoom link in Friday newsletter)
- **After Worship:** Adult Discussion Class
- **5-6:30pm:** Youth Group

Tuesday, May 5

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

Wednesday, May 6

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

Thursday, May 7

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

Sunday, May 10

- **9:30-9:50am:** Children & Youth Joyful Noise Music Program
- **10am:** Hybrid Worship Service (Zoom link in Friday newsletter)
- **5-6:30pm:** Youth Group

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

Church Office/Administrator: (737) 230-1029
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Youth & Children's Director Kyei Ko: (737) 230-1711

P. O. Box 80588, Austin, TX 78708