

**GATHERING WITH SONG
AND SHOUTS OF JOY**

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

SHARING OUR ANNOUNCEMENTS

ENTERING JERUSALEM WITH JESUS CHRIST

Luke 19: 29-40

The Palms

Faure

Choir with Jonathan Zercher, baritone

***SHOUTING OUT WITH JOY**

Blessed is the king, the messiah, the Christ,
who has come, who is here, in the name of the Lord!
He has come this very day, and if we don't praise God,
the stones themselves will shout out with joy,
for all creation is a witness to this day!

*Our souls magnify the Lord,
our spirits rejoice in God, our savior,
for the messiah has come!*

The messiah has looked with favor upon us:

*the lowly, the poor, the weak, the hungry, the oppressed,
the sick, the sinner, the persecuted, the outcast.*

*The messiah has called us blessed, he has done great things for us,
he has been merciful to us. Holy is his name!*

The messiah has come, the messiah is here,

*to scatter those whose hearts are infected with pride,
to bring down the powerful from their thrones,
to lift up the lowly, to fill the hungry
and send the rich away empty.*

*God has sent us the king, the messiah, the Christ, to help Israel,
to fulfill the promise made to Abraham and our ancestors.*

*Blessed is the king, the messiah, the Christ,
who has come, who is here, in the name of the Lord!*

***SINGING OUT WITH JOY** *All Glory, Laud and Honor*

Red Hymnal 155

**PRAYING FOR OURSELVES,
ONE ANOTHER, AND THE WORLD**

SILENTLY REFLECTING UPON OUR LIVES

SHARING FROM THE DEPTHS OF OUR LIVES

LIFTING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS IN PRAYER

PRAYING AS JESUS PRAYED

(debts and debtors)

READING AND REFLECTING

READING FROM THE BIBLE

Luke 22: 31-34; 39-53

REFLECTING

OFFERING OURSELVES THROUGH OUR GENEROSITY

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND GIFTS IN SERVICE TO GOD

Trio Improvisation on *Go to Dark Gethsemane*

***PRAISING GOD**

Old Hundreth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God for all that love has done. Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

***DEDICATING OUR LIVES AND POSSESSIONS TO GOD**

DEPARTING TO MINISTER

***HYMN** *Ah, Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended?*

Red Hymnal 163

***TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD**

***SENDING WITH SONG** *What Wondrous Love Is This?*

...he lifts his face and looks
into my eyes and I look back until
we are both staring hard
at each other. He wants to know
just where in this bright, blue-faced world
he might be safe. He wants to go on with the
flow of his life.

Mary Oliver

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our **Good Friday Service** will be held on Friday, March 30, at 7:00 pm. Please join us as we remember Jesus' last supper with his disciples and bear witness to his crucifixion on the cross. You'll be able to **park for free** in the Coop Garage that evening.

On **Easter**, April 1, we'll have our traditional **Easter brunch** after the service. Please bring your Easter favorites, which might include deviled eggs, steamed asparagus wrapped in ham, or anything else that you associate with Easter. We will also have a sign-up sheet for people willing to help with **clean-up** afterwards.

Our **Adult Christian Education** group is studying the relationship between racism and our nation's criminal justice system. A listing of the readings for this study can be found at our church web site under the Ministry and Adult Ed links.

We have two upcoming **after-worship discussions**. On **April 8**, the folks gathering for "Notes to myself..." will meet after worship. On **April 29**, we'll gather to answer Jesus' question to his disciples: "Who do you say that I am?"

The **Micah 6 Sunday Drop-In Meal** preparers and servers will meet on **Sunday, April 22**, after worship to discuss whether to extend our commitment to prepare and serve meals throughout 2018 and into 2019.

In response to the rise of Islamophobia in our nation, our church is participating in the **Interfaith Action for Human Rights** banner project by hanging a banner that says, "We Stand With Our Muslim Neighbors."

The **rainbow stole** on the pulpit is in support of the struggle of all **LGBTQ** people for equity and justice, and for a life that is free from prejudice, intimidation and violence.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Coord Council, Tue, March 27, 7:15 pm, at the Bodman's Deacons, Wed, April 4, 7:15 pm, at Joy Penticuff's Trustees, Thu, April 5, 7:15 pm, at Reuel Nash's

PARTICIPATING TODAY

Ushers Ruth Koenig and Jo Jensen
Scripture Reader Dennis Murphy
Fellowship Host Deacons

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

The **Adult Christian Education Group** meets Sundays at 10:00 am on the 2nd floor.

Middle School and High School Students remain in the service the first Sunday of each month; other Sundays their Sunday School begins after the "Time With Children."

Elementary Sunday School is held during the 11:00 am service, immediately following "Time With Children." The children will be escorted from the Sanctuary to the 2nd floor Christian Education room, and can be picked up from there after the service.

Infant and Toddler Care is available throughout the service in the Nursery.

Children's bulletins and crayons are available on the table in the back of the Sanctuary.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN, UCC

408 West 23rd Street (512) 472-2370 office
Austin, TX 78705-5214 (512) 472-1175 fax
Congregational.faithweb.com ucausti@swbell.net
<http://congregationalchurchofaustin.org>
ucausti@swbell.net

Rev. Thomas J VandeStadt Pastor
Nodie Murphy Music Director
Rev. Amelia Fulbright Labyrinth Student Ministry
Jonathan Geer Piano
Amy Harris Violin
Tony Rogers Cello
Amy Rivera Sunday School Teacher
Sam Clubb Nursery Attendant
Donna Cravens Office Manager
Victor Cardenas Custodian

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN

an Open and Affirming Church
of the United Church of Christ
March 25, 2018
PALM AND PASSION SUNDAY



GATHERING IN A SPIRIT OF HOPE AND JOY

And Mary said,
"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the
lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations
will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things
for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the
thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our
ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants
forever."

Luke 1: 46-55