

GATHERING WITH SONG AND PRAYER

WELCOMING ONE ANOTHER

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

Trio Excerpt from *Piano Quartet #1, 3rd Movement*

Faure

GATHERING WITH SONG *Come and Fill*

Taize # 28

GATHERING AT THE TABLE OF HOLY COMMUNION

As we eat the bread Christ breaks for us,
and drink from the cup Christ pours out,
may we, like Christ himself,
look deeply within ourselves,
and feel deeply within ourselves,
the struggle between our will and God's will.
And in the midst of our struggle,
may we recall Christ's words
as he prayed on his knees:
not my will, but thy will be done.

*SINGING A HYMN *O Jesus Christ, My Grateful Hymns* Black Hymnal 212

READING, REFLECTING, AND PRAYING

READING FROM THE BIBLE

Luke 4: 1-13

REFLECTING

SITTING SILENTLY

SHARING WITH ONE ANOTHER

PRAYING WITH ONE ANOTHER

PRAYING AS JESUS PRAYED

Insert

SHARING CHRIST'S MEAL

REMEMBERING JESUS' WORDS

BLESSING THE MEAL

SINGING BEFORE WE SHARE THE MEAL *In God Alone*

Taize #19

SHARING THE MEAL AND PRAYING AT THE PRAYER NET

All who love Jesus Christ are invited to share in this meal. Please come forward, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup, and eat it as an act of holy union with Christ and his covenant community. If you would like to tie a prayer tie onto our prayer net, please do so after eating the bread you've dipped in the cup.

REFLECTING WITH MUSIC DURING THE MEAL

Trio *In God Alone*

GIVING THANKS FOR THE MEAL

God who is inseparable from all that lives, whose spirit is the breath of life, we open our hearts to you and pour out our deepest gratitude. From the mystery of your creative spirit come sun and rain, soil and air, grain and grape, and all that sustains our lives. From the mystery of your life and light come Jesus and his self-giving love, and all who gather together seeking new life with him. We give you thanks for the bread and the juice, for Jesus and one another. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

OFFERING OURSELVES THROUGH OUR GENEROSITY

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND GIFTS IN SERVICE TO GOD

Trio Excerpt from *Piano Quartet #1, 1st Movement*

Faure

*PRAISING GOD

tune: Old Hundredth

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 PRACTICE CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*SINGING A HYMN *Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts* Black Hymnal 329

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG *This Is My Song* Black Hymnal 591

*PARTING WITH A SONG *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Expect temptation to one's last breath.

Abba Poemen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We never talk about God. Today, after worship, we'll gather after worship to share our beliefs about God, our spiritual experiences, and our doubts and questions. What we say about God also says a lot about us, so this is another way to get to know one another better.

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.

Sam Clubb asks that we **donate fun dress-up clothes** to the nursery to stimulate the imaginations of our young children as they play.

House Meetings are coming up at the end of this month, March 19-25, for our **Vision Process**. The topic for Round 3 is the resources we need to fulfill our spiritual and mission needs, and to ensure our continued presence and ministry for future generations.

Our **Maundy Thursday/Good Friday** service will be held on Friday, March 30, at 7:00 pm.

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

Deacons, Tues, March 6, 7:15 pm, at Joy Penticuff's
Trustees, Wed, March 7, 7:15 pm, at Reuel Nash's
Coord Counc, Tue, March 27, 7:15 pm at the Bodman's

PARTICIPATING TODAY

Ushers Keith and Darcy Beresheim
Scripture Reader Lucy Erda
Fellowship The 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

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Nodie Murphy	Music Director
Amy Rivera	Sunday School Teacher
Rev. Van Herd	Adult Christian Education
Rev. Amelia Fulbright	Labyrinth Student Ministry
Dr. Maime Fong	Piano
Amy Harris	Viola
James Anderson	Violin
Donna Cravens	Office Manager
Victor Cardenas	Custodian

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN

an Open and Affirming Church
of The United Church of Christ

March 4, 2018
The Third Sunday in Lent



No Ways Around, Only Ways Through

We are to recognize
our deeper emotions,
and especially our motivations,
if we are to grow
in the way of life and love.

We are to become
conscious of our inner desires
and personal weaknesses,
to confront and accept them
in uncompromising simplicity and radical sincerity,
without any rationalization or complication.

This is what the Desert Fathers and Mothers
struggled to do.

There are no ways around this struggle;
there are only ways through the struggle.

John Chryssavgis