

GATHERING WITH SONG AND PRAYER

RECEIVING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Trio “Adagio ma non troppo” from *Trio #2*

Haydn

GATHERING WITH SONG *Come and Fill*

Taize #28

GATHERING WITH PRAYER

Life is a journey, our paths cross here.

May we approach one another with open hearts,

look upon one another with loving kindness,

listen to one another with attentive care,

embrace one another with a spirit of peace,

and if need be, sacrifice something for one another.

We give thanks to Jesus Christ,

who leads us down the paths that cross here,

and whose path is the way of the cross.

*SINGING A HYMN *Creator God, Creating Still*

Black Hymnal 278

BEARING WITNESS TO SUFFERING

We bear witness to those in our world

who are suffering right now

in ways we cannot imagine,

those who are crying out

like the ancient Psalmist:

My heart is in agony within me,

the terrors of death have fallen upon me.

Fear and trembling come upon me,

and horror overwhelms me.

And I say, “O that I had wings like a dove!

I would fly away and be at rest;

truly, I would flee far away.”

We lift up a cry of despair, and a cry of hope,

that the terrors and horrors will cease,

that their fear and trembling will end.

REFLECTING IN SILENCE

READING, REFLECTING, AND PRAYING

READING FROM THE BIBLE

Psalm 23

REFLECTING

SHARING WITH ONE ANOTHER

PRAYING WITH ONE ANOTHER

PRAYING AS JESUS PRAYED

(debts and debtors)

RECEIVING OUR CHOIR’S GIFT *Kyrie Eleison*

Poorman

OFFERING OURSELVES THROUGH OUR GENEROSITY

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND GIFTS IN SERVICE TO GOD

Trio *Andante*

Svendsen

*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 *Amazing Grace*

Black Hymnal 547

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG *This Is My Song*

Black Hymnal 591

*PARTING WITH A SONG *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

My heart is in agony within me,

the terrors of death have fallen upon me.

Fear and trembling come upon me,

and horror overwhelms me.

And I say, “O that I had wings like a dove!

I would fly away and be at rest;

truly, I would flee far away.”

Psalm 55: 4-7

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Discipleship Group** will meet on Wednesday, March 14, 7:30 pm, at church. In this group, we share how we're discerning our call to be a disciple of Christ, as well as the joys and difficulties of our life's journey. We start with some discussion prompts, and then share freely whatever's on one our heart and mind. All are welcome.

On **Easter**, April 1, we will 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.

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

.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.

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.

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 Bodmans'

PARTICIPATING TODAY

Ushers Debby Khort and Kristen Parkhill
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

<http://congregationalchurchofaustin.org>

ucausti@swbell.net

Rev. Thomas J VandeStadt	Pastor
Nodie Murphy	Music Director
Rev. Amelia Fulbright	Labyrinth Student Ministry
Dr. Maimy Fong	Piano
James Anderson	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 11, 2018

The Fourth Sunday of Lent



I Am On My Own

I Fear Evil

I am on my own, I am
desperate with want.
They chase me through
killing fields;
force me over violent seas;
my soul is broken.

For their sake, the unrighteous force me down paths
of suffering.

As I flee through the valley
of the shadow of death,
I fear evil,
for they pursue me;
their rods and their staffs—
they beat me.

My enemies steal the food
from my table;
my head is covered with sores;
my cup is empty.
Surely pain and misery
shall inflict me
for the rest of my life,
and I shall be forsaken
on this earth
until the day I die.