

PRAYING TO EMBODY WISDOM

Inspired by Wisdom of Solomon

Wisdom, she wafts like fine mist from God, purifying all she touches.

*May she purify our eyes, that we may see more clearly
what truly is, how things really are.*

Wisdom, she radiates infinite streams of light from the source of light.

*May we see at least one stream of light in our lifetime,
may we follow it to its source, may it enlighten our minds.*

Wisdom, she enters holy souls, making them friends of God and prophets.

*May our souls be an open invitation to wisdom, beckoning her to enter us,
making us friends of God, friends of prophets, prophets.*

Wisdom, she is one, in all things, and gently ordering everything.

*May wisdom order the relations between our lives and everything,
may we live in gentle harmony with all.*

Wisdom, Jesus loved her, embodied her; he was a wise man.

*May we receive wisdom from Jesus, may we love her, embody her;
may we be wise people, with wise hearts and minds, who, like Jesus, live wisely.*

SHARING OUR LIVES IN PRAYER, SHARING CHRIST'S MEAL

REFLECTING SILENTLY UPON OUR LIVES

In silence and stillness, reflect on who has arrived for worship this morning.
What thoughts and feelings, joys and concerns, have you brought with you?

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

If the Spirit is moving you to share a thought or feeling, joy or concern,
please do so now, so we may lift it together in prayer.

LIFTING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS IN PRAYER

PRAYING AS JESUS PRAYED

debts and debtors

RECEIVING OUR CHOIR'S GIFT *Be Thou My Vision*

arr. Young

READING AND REFLECTING

READING FROM THE BIBLE

Wisdom of Solomon 7: 21 - 8:1

REFLECTING

Rev. Dr. Jo Jensen

First, wisdom is not intelligence or smarts, for people who are very intelligent can be fools. Second, wisdom is not erudition or accumulated knowledge or book learning, for well-read people can be fools. Third, wisdom is not merely technical knowledge or skill or know-how, for technological power without wisdom can be a very destructive thing...Intelligence, erudition, skill—three good things, but none is wisdom. Wisdom is the ability to discern paths of shalom in the midst of competing visions and conflicting interests. Such wisdom, at heart, is not an achievement but a gift. Steven Bouma-Prediger and Brian Walsh

OFFERING OURSELVES THROUGH OUR GENEROSITY

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND GIFTS IN SERVICE TO GOD

Trio *Cavatina*

Bohm

*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.

*DEDICATING OUR LIVES AND POSSESSIONS TO GOD

DEPARTING TO PRACTICE CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*SINGING A HYMN *Seek the Ways of Wisdom*

Red Hymnal 174

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG *May the Lord Bless You*

Hunnicut

May the Lord bless you. May the Lord keep you.
May the Lord lift up his face to shine upon you.

May the Lord hold you in his hands.
May his love always protect you from all harm.

May God go with you where'er you walk.
May his love guide you throughout your life.

*PARTING WITH A SONG *Bless God, O My Soul*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our **Adult Christian Education** class is studying material from the **United Church of Christ's Curriculum on "White Privilege."** The class is currently exploring the section, "Becoming an Ally." You can download a copy from our church's website.

On **Sunday, September 23**, the Deacons will host an **orientation for folks who are new to our church**, and who may be considering membership. This is an informal time to get to know one another better and to learn more about our church's denomination, history, and current ministry. We'll gather at church at 9:30 am. If you're new to CCA, please join us for the conversation. Child care will be available.

On **Thursday, October 4**, the **Equal Justice Center** will hold its **annual Mini-Golf Fundraiser** at Peter Pan Mini-Golf, 1207 Barton Springs Rd. from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Enjoy family mini-golf, Franklin BBQ, and local craft beer as you support EJC's vital justice work. If you would like to **contribute toward our church's sponsorship of a hole**, please note on your check memo: EJC Golf sponsorship.

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.

Our **prayer net** hangs on the door towards the front of our sanctuary. Please feel free to tie a prayer tie onto the net before or after the service. Prayer ties are located in the basket near the net.

You can make your **financial contribution** to the Congregational Church of Austin **electronically** through **Tithe.ly**. You can install the app on a smart device or contribute to CCA on the Tithe.ly website. **For more information** about Tithe.ly and how to use the service, please pick up an information sheet in the sanctuary or Fellowship Hall, or ask our Office Administrator, Donna Cravens, to send you one electronically.

UPCOMING BOARD MEETINGS

Coord Council, Wed, Sept 26, 7:15 pm, Whit Bodman's

PARTICIPATING TODAY

Usher Ruth Koenig
Nursery Attendant Rachel Dietz

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

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

The **Youth Group** meets every Sunday (except the first Sunday of the month) after church with the youth from University Christian and University Baptist, to go out for lunch and enjoy a program. Middle and High Schoolers welcome. If you would like to be on the email list for more details, please see Reuel Nash.

Middle School and High School Students remain in the service the first Sunday of each month; other Sundays their Sunday School begins after the Choral Anthem.

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. Child care begins at 9:15 am for the parents of children attending choir practice or the Adult Christian Education Group.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN, UCC

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Rev. Tom VandeStadt Pastor
Nodie Murphy Music Director
Rev. Amelia Fulbright Labyrinth Student Ministry
Dr. Maimy Fong Piano
Amy Harris Violin
Robin Rosson Cello
Sam Clubb Sunday School Teacher
Donna Cravens Office Manager
Victor Cardenas Custodian

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN

An Open and Affirming Church
Of The United Church of Christ

September 16, 2018
The Season of Pentecost

May Wisdom Come Into Our Hearts

GATHERING

Then you will understand righteousness and justice and equity,
every good path;
for wisdom will come into your heart,
and knowledge will be pleasant to your soul;

Proverbs 6: 9-10

ACCEPTING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Trio *Andante cantabile*

Tschaikowsky

*GATHERING WITH SONG

Be the change you want to see in the world,
be the change you want to see in the world,
be the change you want to see in the world,
and change will come to you.

*GATHERING AS DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

May wisdom open our eyes,
that we may see how Christ changes the world,
and may wisdom open our hearts,
that we may pray for this change in ourselves.

May Christ change the world

by changing us,

and may our lives

be the change Christ wants to see in the world.

*SINGING A HYMN *God of Grace and God of Glory*

Red Hymnal 307

