

REFLECTING ON WHO I LOVE AS MYSELF

Who is my neighbor?

The question implies that some are,
and some are not, my neighbor.

But who?

By what criteria do I decide

who is, and who is not, my neighbor?

Geography? Skin color, nation of origin, ethnicity?

Class? Religion? Gender, sexual orientation?

Cruz sticker, Beto sticker?

Ability, disability? Generation? Species?

Who do I truly love as myself? And who do I not?

We know the answer Jesus gives the lawyer—

a Samaritan man rescues an injured Jewish man,
he is truly a neighbor.

May each of us reflect deeply, seriously, honestly—

who in this world do I truly treat in a neighborly fashion,
who do I not,

who in this world do I truly love as myself,

who do I not?

Why?

PRAYING FOR OURSELVES, ONE ANOTHER, AND THE WORLD

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 TOGETHER AS JESUS PRAYED

debts and debtors

RECEIVING OUR CHOIR'S GIFT *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian* Hogan

READING AND REFLECTING

READING FROM THE BIBLE

Luke 10: 25-37

REFLECTING

Most of us believe that people's basic human rights should not be violated—that crimes like murder, rape, and torture are wrong. Successful dehumanizing, however, creates moral exclusion. Groups targeted based on their identity—gender, ideology, skin color, ethnicity, religion, age—are depicted as less than or criminal or even evil. The targeted group eventually falls out of the scope of who is naturally protected by our moral code. This is moral exclusion, and dehumanization is at its core.

Brene Brown

The first question which the priest and the Levite asked was, 'if I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?' But...the good Samaritan reversed the question, 'if I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to him?'

Martin Luther King, Jr.

OFFERING OURSELVES THROUGH OUR GENEROSITY

OFFERING OUR LIVES AND GIFTS IN SERVICE TO GOD

Trio "Andante" from *Violin Concerto*

Strauss

*PRAISING GOD

Tune: *Lasst Uns Erfreun*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God for all that love has done. Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen

*DEDICATING OUR LIVES AND POSSESSIONS TO GOD

DEPARTING TO PRACTICE CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

*SINGING A HYMN *In the Midst of New Dimensions*

Red Hymnal 315

*OFFERING WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

*TAKING THE LIGHT INTO THE WORLD

*SENDING SONG *The Lord's Peace*

Zinter

*PARTING WITH A SONG *We Are One in the Spirit*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Our **adult Christian education class** is meeting at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings to watch "The Great Churches of Christianity" from The Great Courses. The class meets in the adult CE room on the second floor.

Today after worship, **Texas Freedom Network** will give a presentation after worship on **LGBTQ issues** that will likely arise in the current **Texas Legislative Session**.

On **Sunday, February 17**, we will celebrate the anticipated birth of **Amelia and Jonathan's** second child with a baby shower after worship. If you would like to financially contribute to the purchase of a gift, please do so before the 17th.

On **Sunday, February 24**, **Bill Campbell and Victoria Li** will give a presentation after worship on their trip to **Israel and Palestine** in 2018.

From **March 10 to April 7**, Whit Bodman will lead our **Lenten Program**: "What I Believe, Don't, And Why." The study, reflection, and discussion series will focus on Marcus Borg's, *The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith*, and will be supplemented by other short readings.

After Easter, we will gather folks together to **read and discuss** the book, *Climate Church, Climate World, How People of Faith Must Work for Change*, by Jim Antal, **Forward** by Bill McKibben.

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, Thur, Feb 28, 7:15 pm, at Whit Bodman's

PARTICIPATING TODAY

Ushers Gail Christeson and John Goff
Nursery Assistant Jaime Hadley

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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Nodie Murphy

Rev. Amelia Fulbright

Jonathan Geer

Amy Harris

Tony Rogers

Amy Kent

Sam Clubb

Donna Cravens

Victor Cardenas

Pastor

Music Director

Labyrinth Student Ministry

Piano

Violin

Cello

Sunday School Teacher

Nursery Attendant

Office Manager

Custodian

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AUSTIN

An Open and Affirming Church
Of The United Church of Christ

February 10, 2019

The Season of Epiphany

Who is my neighbor?

Who do I love as myself?

UNITED
CHURCH
OF CHRIST



GATHERING

ACCEPTING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

Trio "Lento" from *Etude of Fr. Chopin*

arr. Jungnickel

GATHERING AS CHRIST'S DISCIPLES

We did not create the far-flung cosmos, the starlight,
the green pastures, or the water that flows through them.

We did not raise ourselves up from the dust,

fill our own veins with blood,

or breathe life's spirit into our own lungs.

We are recipients of the gift of life, wholly dependent
on God and the earth that sustains our lives.

We did not create life, we did not create ourselves,

it is God who created us, and we are God's people.

*May our hearts open to God with gratitude and reverence
like flowers to the sun.*

May Christ teach us how to love and serve,

and how to share all that sustains life.

Renewed by Christ daily, may we be partners

in building a world that is just,

where all enjoy the peace of God's pasture.

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

Red Hymnal 307