



*wait for it...*  
A Gospel Journey Through Advent



December 3, 2017

University Church of Christ exists by the grace of God to be a loving fellowship praising God by living and telling the good news of Jesus.

**WORSHIP**

713 *We Shall Assemble*

Welcome/Family News Bradley Steele

144 *O Worship the King*

A Prayer for Church and World Odell Wilson

155 *Highest Place*

383 *Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross*

Communion Gene Linder

Isaiah 53:1-6

Bread

781 *Thank You, Lord!*

Cup

226 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Offering

Children's Church

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Matthew 1:17-25 Judy Siburt

Royal Danger: Matthew's Scandalous Messiah  
Brent Isbell

578 *We Will Glorify*

*Days of Elijah*

Worship Leader Mark Tate

*If you would like to have someone pray with you, or for you, please make your way to Room 101 at the end of service where there are UCC members waiting just for you.*

*Our Sunday morning service is broadcast live at [www.uccabilene.org](http://www.uccabilene.org).*

**REFLECTIONS**

Brent Isbell, Preaching Minister  
[brent@uccabilene.org](mailto:brent@uccabilene.org)

**Welcome to UCC!** If you are visiting today, thank you for joining our worship assembly. Would you take a minute to fill out a **Connections Card**? Use these cards (found in the seats) to share contact information, request prayers, or let us know you want to be a UCC member. Drop it in the offering plate or submit it online at [uccabilene.org/card](http://uccabilene.org/card).

Today we start a short holiday season series called **Wait for It: A Gospel Journey Through Advent**. Over the next four Sundays—right up to Christmas Eve—we will be looking at the first arrival (or advent) of Jesus in the world through the eyes of the Four Evangelists. Today we begin lighting the candles of Advent with a first stop in the Gospel of Matthew. Today: **Royal Danger: Scandalous Messiah**. Our worship leader today is **Mark Tate**.

**Adult Education Minute:** Today our adult classes continued with Week Two of our series **Christ's Coming and Promised Return**. This fine material is being prepared by **Chris Willerton**. Each week we are looking at various texts about the coming of Jesus. Have you found an adult class? We invite each of you to join us next Sunday at 9:00 a.m. for Week Three (read ahead in Isa 61; Ps 126; Lk 1:46-55; 1 Thes 5; Jn 1).

**Wednesday classes!** This week we continue our Family Room class series with **Mac Ice** called **We Are What We Sing: Forming Faith in 20th Century Churches of Christ**. Our Conversations class (MAC 501) continues a series with **Andie Wearden** and **Jarrold King** talking about **An Inclusive Church: Disabilities in Faith Communities**.

**Calendar Notes:**

- **We Are What We Sing #2** - Wednesday, Dec. 6 (Family Room)
- **An Inclusive Church #2** - Wednesday, Dec. 6 (MAC 501)
- **UCC Christmas Party** - Sunday, Dec. 10, 5 p.m.
- **UCC Office Closed** - December 22, 25; January 1
- **No 9 a.m. classes/10 a.m. worship only** - Sunday, Dec. 24
- **Candlelight Christmas Eve Service** - Sunday, Dec. 24, 6 p.m.
- **No Wednesday PM classes or activities** - Wednesday, Dec. 27
- **No 9 a.m. classes/10 a.m. worship only** - Sunday, Dec. 24

**CLASS TIMES:**

Sunday - 9 a.m.  
Wednesday - 7 p.m.

**WORSHIP TIMES:**

Sunday - 10 a.m., 5 p.m.  
Sanctuary - 8 p.m.

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

733 E. N. 16th Street  
Abilene, TX 79601

**PHONE:** (325) 673-6497  
[www.uccabilene.org](http://www.uccabilene.org)

**NURSERY FACILITIES**

For your convenience, nursery facilities are available during worship in the Early Childhood Center.

**ATTENDANCE:**

Worship - 316	November 26, 2017
Bilingual - 57	Northern Oaks - N/A
Coronado - 63	Chisholm Place - 8
	Silver Springs - 27

**OFFERING:**

November 26 \$8,889.21

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

**Jennifer Welch**, Children's Minister  
[jenniferw@uccabilene.org](mailto:jenniferw@uccabilene.org)

**Children's Church Helpers:** Darby I., Keegan C., Valeria Z., Lizzie B.

**The Giving Tree:** This year the "Giving Tree" located in the foyer will be a different. Please take items from the tree each week and give to individuals the Lord puts in your path.

**Christmas Practice:** The fourth and fifth graders started working this last Wednesday evening on their skit for the Christmas program. We will meet today from 4:15-4:55 p.m. in the auditorium. If your child was not in class this last Wednesday night, but would like to participate, please come today to practice. All students who wish to participate will need to be in Bible class on Wednesday, Dec. 6.

**Christmas Fun:** On Sunday evening, Dec. 17, children will serve Christmas cookies and hot chocolate following the evening chapel service. Children will need to meet in the Family Room at 4:30 p.m. to help set up for our guests. We will attend service together and then serve the treats following service. Children can be picked up at 5:45 p.m. Parents are encouraged to attend and join in on this time of fellowship. If your child is in kindergarten or younger please plan to attend with your child.

## TRANSITIONS

**Joey Roberts**, Communications Minister  
[joey@uccabilene.org](mailto:joey@uccabilene.org)

**Tonight:** The teal group will be at the **Sprott's** (834 Elmwood Drive). If you are in the purple group, check Facebook to see your plans.

**Coming up:** Next week, the UCC Christmas Party will be at 5 p.m. in the MAC. On December 17, the **Bowmans** will host the purple group, but the teal group still needs a host. Let me know if you can. We will not have small groups on Sunday, Dec. 24 or Sunday, Dec. 31. We'll resume small groups in January.

## GATHERINGS

**Bradley Steele**, Young Adults Minister  
[bradley@uccabilene.org](mailto:bradley@uccabilene.org)

**Tonight** we will meet at the **Redmaynes'** house (3749 Duke Lane) at **6 p.m.** for small group.

**Wednesday** we will meet at 7 p.m. for coffee, dessert and Bible study in MAC 504.

Don't forget to join us for **class** on Sunday mornings at 9 a.m. in MAC 504.

## CAMPUS MINISTRY

**Kyle Bowen**, Campus Minister  
[campus@uccabilene.org](mailto:campus@uccabilene.org)

**Welcome:** We would like to welcome any college students with us today.

**Class:** Our Sunday morning class begins at 9 a.m. in MAC 503.

**Dwelling Place**, a time of fellowship, discussion and worship, meets Sundays at 6 p.m. (MAC 503).

**Community Groups**, our small groups, meet Wednesday and Thursday nights at 7 p.m.

## YOUTH MINISTRY

**Jason Craddock**, Youth Minister  
[jason.craddock@uccabilene.org](mailto:jason.craddock@uccabilene.org)

**Football and Tailgate Tonight:** Join us tonight at 4:30 p.m. at the ACU Intramural Field for some flag football followed by some tailgating with hot dogs, chips and drinks outside the Youth Center. Wear a football jersey, team t-shirt, or some eye black and let's have some fun! We will finish at 7:30 p.m. after a devo together. Bring a few dollars to help cover the cost of dinner.

**Huddles Continue Wednesday:** Our small-group Huddles will continue this Wednesday night from 7-8 p.m. The **HS Huddle** will meet at the home of the **Scudders** (658 E.N. 22nd Street), and the **MS Huddle** will meet in the Youth Center. Think of someone to invite for this time of sharing, prayer, study, fun and snacks.

**Christmas Event Schedules:** It's the most wonderful time of the year as Christmas concert season is upon us! The Craddocks (and maybe others) love coming to see Christmas concerts, whether for band, ballet, orchestra or choir, so please let us know when your concerts will be taking place and we'll try our hardest to come.

**Winterfest:** Winterfest is a *huge* youth conference that happens in January each year with thousands of teens in attendance. We will leave on Friday afternoon (1/12) and drive straight to the Arlington Convention Center. We will stay in a hotel on Friday and Saturday night. The cost of the conference, which includes transportation, hotel and conference registration is \$60, so save your Christmas money. The hard deadline for payment is Sunday, Jan. 7.

## NOTES

Today's **5 p.m. Chapel Service** will be led by **Bradley Steele** as the speaker and **Brandon DeLano** as the song leader.

Join **Sanctuary** tonight at 8 p.m. in the Chapel.

The **Quilting Ministry** will meet at 9 a.m. tomorrow morning in Room 208.

**Flapjacks and Flannel:** The 2017 UCC Christmas Party is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 10 in the MAC from 5-6:30 p.m. There will be several forms of entertainment and a visit from a special guest from up north. Make plans to attend, wear your flannel and come enjoy a country Christmas with pancakes, toppings, sausage and a hot chocolate bar. You don't have to bring a thing but yourself.

Join us for **Ask, Seek, Knock**, our prayer time on Thursday at noon.

Next Sunday, Dec. 10, there will be an interest meeting for anyone interested in participating in **short-term mission trips** in 2018. The meeting will be in the chapel directly following worship.

**Have you picked up your new church directory sheets?** Please take one copy per family, and place it in your existing directory binder. If you don't have a binder from the 2014 edition, let us know. If something or someone is missing, or we need to add someone, don't worry, we'll do an update page soon for new members as well as current member updates.

## PRAYER LIST

### UCC ELDERS

Steve Austin  
Richard Cox  
Mark Hamilton  
Eddie Mahanay  
Paul Rotenberry  
Kris Southward, chair  
Mark Tate  
James Thompson  
Gustavo Villanueva

Submit your bulletin items to Joey Roberts before noon on Wednesday.