If you're new to UCC, or to Churches of Christ, welcome! We want you to feel at home.

BE OUR guest

Worship Practices

Why do we sing a cappella? Churches of Christ have a rich tradition of singing without musical instruments. This enables us to focus on the words of the songs and enjoy the harmony of our voices. Some sing various musical parts (as projected on the side screens). If this seems confusing, just follow along with the song leader (words projected in the middle).

Why do we stand when reading scripture? We do this as a sign of respect to distinguish the Word of God from any other words that are spoken during worship. For the Lord's Supper reading, we sit to signify sitting at the table with Jesus.

What is the Lord's Supper, and who takes it? The Lord's Supper (communion) originated when Jesus ate with his disciples before his crucifixion. During that meal, Jesus took bread and broke it for his disciples to eat. He also took cup of wine and shared it with them. Jesus said to them, "This is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." When the communion trays are passed, you will have the opportunity to eat the bread and drink the wine (grape juice), just as Jesus and his disciples did. We welcome all who wish to remember and celebrate the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus to participate.

Do I need to give during the offering? The offering is collected from UCC members to support the ministry of the church. Some give when the plates are passed. Many others give online. Anyone is welcome to give, but visitors should feel no obligation to do so.

Guest Information

What is Children's Church?
Listening to a sermon can be difficult for young children. Most weeks, we have an optional Children's Church service for children ages 3 through 2nd grade.
An announcement will be made when it is time for Jennifer Welch, our Children's Minister, to lead the children to the place they gather for worship. She will return them to the Sanctuary before the end of service.

What if my child is crying or needs to move around? We love the sound of babies! If your baby or toddler becomes restless, we have a toddler's area in the back of the Sanctuary to allow children to move around. A moms-only sitting room in the rear foyer provides a comfortable space for nursing or feeding your baby. A staffed nursery is also available in the Early Childhood Center.

Servicio Bilingüe en la Capilla – Si deseas adorar a Dios en español, te invitamos a unirte a nuestro servicio especial en la capilla at 10 a.m.
¡Todos son bienvenidos!

Next Steps

What are the Guest Connection Cards? These cards on the back of the pew in front of you provide a way for us to reach out to you and pray for you if you would find that helpful. Please complete the card and drop it in the collection plate when it is passed.

Who can I talk to if I have a spiritual, physical or emotional need? Our Lead Minister, Bradley Steele, would love to meet with you after service. Or feel free to call the church office if you'd rather come by at another time.

Campus Map
Scan this code for a map of our facilities.
uccabilene.org/map

Connection Card
Scan this code to fill out your connection card online.
uccabilene.org/card

WEEKLY focus

A GUIDE FOR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER

Welcome to UCC!

We're so glad you've joined us for worship this morning. This guide is here to help you engage fully in today's service and to support your spiritual practices throughout the week. Inside, you'll find today's songs, Scripture readings, and the names of those participating in worship.

If you're a guest, the back page explains some of our worship practices—things that might be new or different to you. We hope these notes make you feel more at home as we worship and live life together here at UCC.

In the center pages, you'll discover family news, upcoming events, Bible classes, small group opportunities, and a list of our church family members who need prayer. You'll also find Scripture readings for the week to nurture your spirit, plus contact information for our ministers and shepherds.

We invite you to explore these pages, pray over the sick, rejoice with those celebrating milestones, lift up our ministers, shepherds and staff, and walk with us through the week's daily readings.

May this guide help you connect more deeply with God and with our church family.

Worship Slides
Scan this code with your phone camera for worship slides.

UCC UNIVERSITY CHURCH OF CHRIST

Worship

Doxology

Welcome & Call to Worship
Topher Fangio

Here I Am to Worship

Shepherd's Prayer
Jason Morris

How Great Is Our God

Job 19:23-27a
Lily Lemmons

Children's Church

Ancient Words

Luke 20:27-38
Today's Message

Nearer, Still Nearer
Here in This Place

Communion & Offering
Luke 24:28-32
Michael Santiago

When My Love to Christ Grows Weak

Let Us Be Faithful

Benediction

Worship Leader: Jeremy Meeks

Today's Message
"Worthy"
Luke 20:27-38
Bradley Steele

November 9, 2025

Children's & Youth Ministry (Birth–12th Grade)

Game Night: Tonight the Children's and Youth Ministries will combine for a game night! Plan to come and enjoy some "game fun" hosted by Michael and Jennifer from 5-6:30 p.m. in the Family Room. Bring your family's favorite sweet or savory snack to share. Let the games begin!

Campus Ministry (Students & Non-Students)

Sunday Lunch: Join us right after worship for a free lunch just for college students in the MAC (Gym). Come enjoy good food, connect with friends, and meet some new faces.

F·R·I·E·N·D·S in High Places Small Group: Join us Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. for a relaxed time of Scripture, prayer and discussion.

Bilingual Ministry (Open to All)

The Bilingual Ministry meets at 9 a.m. on Sunday morning for class in room 109, and worship at 10 a.m. in the Chapel.

News & Notes

LIFT Card Night — Ladies, join the LIFT Ministry for a card night on Tuesday from 6-8 p.m. in the Family Room. Bring your favorite card game or play one of the games provided!

Ladies' Bible Class — Ladies Bible Class this Wednesday at 10 a.m. in the Family Room. Laura Massingill will be this week's teacher.

Wednesday Night Supper — Join us for Wednesday Night Supper at 5:45 p.m. in the MAC. This week we will serve pizza.

Wedding Shower — Join us on Saturday for a wedding shower honoring Taylor Watson and Austin Britten from 1:30-3 p.m. in the Family Room. The couple is registered on Zola. Austin is the son of Vicki and Sam Britten.

Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes — Make sure you return your filled shoeboxes to the Church Office by next Sunday, November 16.

Manna Market Needs — The following items are needed for this month's Manna Market on November 17. Canned corn, canned black beans, canned pinto beans, cereal, chicken and beef broth, pasta and sauce, canned soups, spice mixes (chili, etc).

Feed the Hungry — On Sunday, November 23, we will have our annual Feed the Hungry collection benefitting the Christian Service Center. Next Sunday we will hand out grocery bags to fill for the Christian Service Center.

UCC Christmas Party— Save the date for our church-wide Christmas party on Sunday, December 14, from 5:30-7 p.m. in the MAC. More details to come!

Shepherds

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Ted Presley
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Kris Southward
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James Thompson
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2025 Elder Chair

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Ministers

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Jennifer Welch
Children's Minister
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Michael Santiago
Youth Minister
michael@uccabilene.org

Jason Craddock
Campus Minister
jason@uccabilene.org

Online Giving

uccabilene.org/give

Nurseries Available

A nursing room is located in the foyer at the back of the Sanctuary. An attended nursery is available during worship in the Early Childhood Center for your convenience.

Wednesday Bible Class Offerings

All classes begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

- **Graduate Student Bible Study -** MAC 501 (starts at 5)
- **Conversations** - MAC 501 - "Holiness in Secular Literature?"
- **Wednesday Recharge** - MAC 502 – Currently watching Season 5 of "The Chosen" as a group. This is open to all.
- **Campus Ministry** - MAC 503 (starts at 6:30)
- **The Bridge** - MAC 504
- **20s & 30s** - Main Building, Room 101
- **Bilingual Ministry** - Main Building, Room 109
- **Youth Ministry** - Main Building, Youth Center
- **3-18 Months** - Early Childhood Center, Room 302
- **18-24 Months** - Early Childhood Center, Room 305
- **Two-Four Year Olds** - Early Childhood Center, Room 309
- **Kindergarten-Fifth Grade** - Main Building, Room 231

Sacred Rhythms for Life

Spiritual disciplines are practices that deepen our relationship with God. Through prayer, Scripture, and worship, we create space to hear His voice and align our wills with His own.

Our Readings for this week from the *Revised Common Lectionary*

Monday, November 10
Semi-continuous: Psalm 98; Haggai 2:10-19; 2 Peter 1:16-21
Complementary: Psalm 123; Job 20:1-11; 2 Peter 1:16-21

Tuesday, November 11
Semi-continuous: Psalm 98; Haggai 2:20-23; 2 John 1:1-13
Complementary: Psalm 123; Job 21:1, 17-34; 2 John 1:1-13

Wednesday, November 12
Semi-continuous: Psalm 98; Zechariah 8:1-17; John 5:19-29
Complementary: Psalm 123; Job 25:1-26:14; John 5:19-29

Thursday, November 13
Semi-continuous: Isaiah 12; Isaiah 57:14-21; Romans 1:18-25
Complementary: Psalm 98; 1 Samuel 28:3-19; Romans 1:18-25

Friday, November 14
Semi-continuous: Isaiah 12; Isaiah 59:1-15a; 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12
Complementary: Psalm 98; 2 Samuel 21:1-14; 2 Thessalonians 1:3-12

Saturday, November 15
Semi-continuous: Isaiah 12; Isaiah 59:15b-21; Luke 17:20-37
Complementary: Psalm 98; Ezekiel 10:1-19; Luke 17:20-37

Lift Up In Prayer

Don Baber
Shirley Baber
Lucy Hatch
Marshal Kellar
Diane King
Eddie Mahanay
Imogene McAnulty
Tom Milholland
Mike Nance
Marvin Perry
Kelly Roberts

Prayer Prompts

Pray for courage to rebuild with hope in God's abiding Spirit. Hag. 2:1-9

Pray for faith to trust God's promised glory and peace. Hag. 2:1-9

Pray to live near the Lord who hears and saves. Ps. 145:17-21

Pray for hope in the God of the living, not the dead. Lk. 20:27-38

"When joy is gone and hearts are sick, O God, you give us Christ as our healing balm. He came in human flesh that he might give himself as a ransom for our salvation and anoint us with the Spirit of consolation and joy. Hear the cry of your people, that we may rejoice in the richness of your love and be faithful stewards of your many gifts. Amen."

Reproduced from *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*