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 a las 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

Low in the Grave He Lay

Welcome & Call to Worship
Dawne Meeks

He Lives

Shepherd's Prayer
Robert Rhodes

Agnus Dei

Jeremiah 31:1-6
Claire Trammell

Children's Church

In Christ Alone

John 20:1-18
Today's Message

The Lord's My Shepherd

Remembrances

Living Hope

Communion & Offering
Matthew 26:26-29
Michael Santiago

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

I Will Sing the Wondrous Story

Benediction

Worship Leader: Jeremy Meeks

Today's Message

"Don't Cling to Me"

John 20:1-18

Bradley Steele

April 5, 2026

Children's Ministry (Birth–5th Grade)

Youth VBS Training Meeting: If you would like to help with VBS this year, please plan to attend a VBS training session on Sunday, April 12, from 4:15 - 5 in the Youth Center. If you attended the first training, you do not need to attend this training session.

Family Fishing Fun: Paul Jensen has graciously agreed that UCC families can fish in their tank on Saturday, April 18, from 8:30-9:45 a.m. If you don't have fishing supplies, Jennifer Welch will have extras to share. Some of our UCC men who regularly fish will be available to guide those needing a few fishing tips. More details to come.

Youth Ministry (6th–12th Grade)

The Youth Group will not meet tonight.

Huddles continue this Wednesday from 7-8 p.m. in the Youth Center.

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.

Bilingual Ministry (Open to All)

The Bilingual Ministry will attend worship in the Sanctuary this morning.

News & Notes

Egg Hunt — Immediately following worship we will have an egg hunt for children up through fifth grade. Please gather along the inside north wall of the Sanctuary.

Ladies' Bible Class — Ladies' Bible Class meets at 10 a.m. on Wednesday in the Family Room. Sara Trammell 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 tacos.

Wedding Shower — Make plans to join us for a bridal shower honoring Ella Ice, bride elect of Elijah Tolar. The shower will be held on April 19, from 2-3:30 p.m. at the home of Sara Trammell. The couple is registered on Target and The Knot.

Baby Shower— Save the date for a baby shower honoring Rebecca and Jacob Keahey-Trujillo on Sunday, April 19, at 1 p.m. in the Family Room. The couple is registered on Babylist. Rebecca is the daughter of Rolando and Luisa Trujillo.

Shepherds

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2026 Elder Chair

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Ministers

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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

Wednesday Bible Class Offerings

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

- **Conversations** - MAC 501
- **Wednesday Recharge** - MAC 502 – Currently watching videos by Ray Vander Laan on the book of Exodus.
- **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 233

Daily Readings

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

Monday, April 6
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Exodus 14:10-31; 15:20-21; Colossians 3:5-11

Tuesday, April 7
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Exodus 15:1-18; Colossians 3:12-17

Wednesday, April 8
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Joshua 3:1-17; Matthew 28:1-10

Thursday, April 9
Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 2:8-15; Colossians 4:2-5

Friday, April 10
Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 5:9-6:3; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Saturday, April 11
Psalm 16; Song of Solomon 8:6-7; John 20:11-20

Lift Up In Prayer

Don Baber
Shirley Baber
Vicki Blair
Lucy Hatch
Marshal Kellar
Eddie Mahanay
Peggy Marler
Imogene McAnulty
Tom Milholland
Mike Nance
Kelly Roberts

Prayer Prompts

Pray for bold witnesses to the risen Christ. Acts 10:34-43

Pray with joy in the Lord's saving work.
Ps. 118:1-2,14-24

Pray for faith in the promise of new life.
1 Cr. 15:19-26

Pray to recognize the risen Lord. Jn. 20:1-18

"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*