

* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise
God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye
heaven-ly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and
angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the
babe, the son of Mary.

Words: Thomas Ken and William C. Dix, alt.
Music: GREENSLEEVES - 16th cent. English melody

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

GOING OUT TO SERVE

* BENEDICTION

* HYMN 202 People, Look East

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed by Ken and Elizabeth Lerner in thanksgiving for the life of Katherine Lerner on her 28th birthday.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Rachel Wright
Liturgists: Reverend Taylor Fuerst and Dr. Brad King
Scripture Reader: Caroline Crisp
Music Director/Organist: Scott Davis
Handbells: Lewis Worthington

SUNDAY PARKING

The church parking lot is reserved for mobility-impaired individuals. All able-bodied members are asked to use the free parking available on Sundays in the Texas Trial Lawyers Association garage at the southwest corner of 13th and Lavaca Streets or at open meters around the church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:45-10:45AM

CHILDREN

Sunday School for children ages three through 5th grade begins at 9:45AM on the 1st Floor of the Education Building. For more information, email children@fumcaustin.org.

10:00-10:45AM

YOUTH

Sunday School for 6th through 12th grade begins in the Great Hall of the Family Life Center. We gather for announcements and then split into middle school and high school groups to awaken to God’s word through fellowship and study. Learn more at fumcaustin.org/youth.

ADULTS

Sunday School is the place where people learn about Christian faith in a loving, supportive environment. Our classes offer adults a wide selection of age groups, study topics, and learning styles. Many classes are meeting in person and online. To find class contact information, visit fumcaustin.org/sundayschool.

GIVING

Cash or checks will be received during the offertory. We offer three convenient ways to give online: (1) through the FUMC App on your smart phone; (2) make an online donation at fumcaustin.org/giving; and/or (3) text FUMCAUSTIN (all caps) to 73256 on your smartphone and follow the prompts. Once your number is registered, future gifts are easier to make.



December 18, 2022
11:00AM

OUR INVITATION

Because we believe that every person is a beloved child of God, on a journey to God, with God, we welcome ALL people, *without exception*, to participate fully in the life of this church.

OUR MISSION

First United Methodist Church exists to build a community where all people are invited to know God’s love and sent to join God in transforming the world.

OUR VALUES

Justice. Working to eradicate injustice for the excluded and marginalized. *Bridge-Building.* Nurturing multigenerational friendships and community partnerships. *Storytelling.* Sharing our stories of faith and of growth. *Active Learning.* Pursuing knowledge and understanding of God. *Service.* Seeking mutually empowering service opportunities. *Constructive Disruption.* Disrupting systems of power to create positive change.

OUR FAMILIES

We love children in worship. Activity clipboards and other materials for children are available at the back of the Sanctuary. Our Family Room in the balcony offers rockers, books, toys, and a diaper change station for parents with infants and toddlers. Childcare is available from 8:45AM-12:15PM for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers in EDU Room 104.



LEARN MORE AT
www.fumcaustin.org

GATHERING AS THE CHURCH

Asterisks (*) indicate an invitation to stand as you are able.

GATHERING VOLUNTARY

GREETING

All are invited to greet those around them and to fill out the Connections Card included in your bulletin.

Response: I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”
Psalm 122:1

ENTERING THE HOLY

INTROIT Creator of the Stars of Night

Creator of the stars of night,
your people’s everlasting light,
O Christ, Redeemer of us all,
we pray you hear us when we call.
Come in your holy might, we pray,
redeem us for eternal day;
defend us while we dwell below
from all assaults of our dread foe.
To God Creator, God the Son,
and God the Spirit, Three in One,
praise, honor, might and glory be
from age to age eternally.

Words: Conditor alme siderum, Latin 9th Cent.; trans. The Hymnal 1982
© 1985 The Church Pension Fund
Music: Conditor alme siderum Mode IV

* CALL TO WORSHIP
We search for light in the shadows of night,
we come to worship,
seeking the love born among us in Christ Jesus.
Shine into our lives and your world this Advent.
Renew our trust in your undying love.

* HYMN 250 Once In Royal David’s City

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

SUNG RESPONSE

207 Prepare the Way of the Lord

ANTHEM If This Child Were Born Today

If this child were born today
in a manger on the hay,
would we see a King?
Would we hear angels sing?
If a star were shining bright,
would we notice in the night?
Would we be the ones to behold God’s Son?
Would we fall on bended knee
worshiping this Babe?
Would we praise with thankful hearts
God’s gift of salvation?
Noel! Born is the King.
Come tenderly on bended knee,
you will see the King.

Words and Music: Berta Poorman and Sonja Poorman
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Noel: Trad. English Carol
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HEARING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Lord,
your Word is a lamp to our feet
and a light to our path.
Give us grace to receive
your truth in faith and love,
and strength to follow
on the path you set before us;
through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 11:1-9 Old Testament, page 609

* HYMN 210 Toda La Tierra (All Earth Is Waiting)
Stanzas 1 and 2 sung seated
as the children come forward.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

* HYMN 210 Toda La Tierra (All Earth Is Waiting)
Stanza 4 sung seated
as the children return to their seats.

SERMON Drawn to the Double Take

RESPONDING IN FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As we pray, please join in the response:
Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory, forever.
Amen.

INVITATION TO THE FAITH JOURNEY

Are you interested in joining First Church? Prior to joining,
we ask all to participate in a First Steps Class to learn about
United Methodist beliefs and the ministry of FUMC, meet the
pastors and other members, and ask questions. To sign up, fill
out the Connections Card and place it in the offering plate; go
online at fumcaustin.org/firststeps; or email Amy Wink at
amy@fumcaustin.org.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERING How Far Is It to Bethlehem? Trad. English Carol
Arr. Anna Laura Page