



May 26, 2024
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 102.

LEARN MORE AT
www.fumcaustin.org

GATHERING AS THE CHURCH

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

GATHERING VOLUNTARY

GREETING



As you prepare for worship, please greet your neighbors and fill out a Connections Card by scanning this QR code with your smartphone or use the printed version found in the pew in front of you. To let our pastors know about a prayer request for you or someone you love, use the QR code found on page 6 of this bulletin or place your card in the offering basket when it is passed.

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

I Bind Unto Myself Today

Charles Villiers Stanford

I bind unto myself today
the strong name of the Trinity,
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One, and One in Three.

Words: Attr. Patrick; Trans. Cecil Frances Alexander

Music: *St. Patrick's Breastplate*, Irish melody; Adapt. Charles Villiers Stanford

* CALL TO WORSHIP

We exist
because God made us.

We are here
because Jesus calls us.

We are together
because the Spirit binds us to each other.

Without God,
where would we be, who would we be?

Let us worship God,
who makes us a community of love.

Beth Merrill Neel

* HYMN 64

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord,
open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that as the Scriptures are read
and your Word is proclaimed,
we may hear with joy
what you say to us today.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:12-17

New Testament, page 148

HYMN 405

Seek Ye First

Stanza 1 sung seated as the children come forward.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

HYMN 405

Seek Ye First

Stanza 2 sung seated as the children return to their seats.

SERMON

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 what it means to be a member of First Church? First Steps is an informal gathering where you can meet the pastors and staff, learn about United Methodist beliefs, hear more about our many ministry opportunities, ask questions about this community of faith, and explore whether membership at First Church is your next step in faith. The next First Steps Class is Sunday, July 28, at 12:15PM in the FLC Garrison Chapel. Lunch is provided and childcare is available in EDU Room 102. To sign up, fill out a Connections Card and place it in the offering basket or go online at fumcaustin.org/firststeps.

BLESSING OF AT THE WELL SERVANTS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERING

Come Sunday

Spiritual

Duke Ellington / Arr. Alice Parker

Come Sunday,
that's the day.
I believe that God
put sun and moon up in the sky.
I don't mind the gray skies
'cause they're just clouds passing by.
Lord, dear Lord above, God almighty God of Love,
please look down and see my people through.
I believe God is now,
was then and always will be.
With God's blessing,
we can make it through eternity.

Words and Music: Duke Ellington

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* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Praise God, from whom all bles-sings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be - low:
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Je - sus Christ, whose power up - lifts! Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly
Spir - it! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Thomas Ken; Adapt. Gilbert H. Vieira

Music: *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*, Geistliche Kirchengesänge; Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams

Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

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GOING OUT TO SERVE

BIRTHDAY BLESSING

Let us pray:

God, our gracious Creator,

we give you thanks for the gift of life

to these who celebrate their birthdays in May.

Grant that they may make this new year in their lives

an offering that will enrich your world and give you glory.

Cause them to grow in wisdom and grace

and strengthen their trust in your goodness

all the days of their lives;

through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

The Book of Common Prayer, 1979, alt.

*** BENEDICTION**

*** HYMN 88**

Maker, in Whom We Live

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The chancel flowers are placed by Mark and Pam Steves in celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Liturgist: Dr. Brad King

Music: Scott Davis

Soloist: Christina Whitford

PRAYER REQUEST



HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY MUSIC SCHOLARSHIP

In worship, we often sing spirituals, songs, and hymns from the musical traditions of the Black Church. This music, born during enslavement and containing the rhythms and call-and-response patterns of communities native to Africa, began as a way of communicating messages of hope and perseverance, and even secretly sharing information about the underground railroad. These songs and rhythms are also reflected in the development of rock-n-roll, an American cultural phenomenon, and this music is among the building blocks of what is known today as American music.

Today, we share music from these traditions to lift up this witness of hope, determination, inspiration, perseverance, and eternal life. We do so seeking to honor the style and context in which this music originated and acknowledging that many of these songs have sustained the spirits of people of color as they endured pain that was inflicted or worsened by white churches.

Most songs from Black Church traditions were not published until after the names of their creators were long forgotten. In recognition of this, whenever we sing gospel and spiritual songs and hymns, we have begun the practice of contributing ‘royalties’ in an offering that will support the development of young Black musicians.

Currently, that offering will go to support the Gloria Quinlan Endowed Scholarship Fund at Huston-Tillotson University (HTU). HTU is a historically black university located in downtown Austin and is affiliated with both the United Methodist Church and the United Church of Christ. Dr. Quinlan grew up in Houston and began sharing her musical gifts with churches there in her youth. Throughout her career, Dr. Quinlan remained committed to the church and worked as the Minister of Music at Ebenezer Baptist Church.

To contribute to this offering, please specify “Spirituals Offering” on your check or on the envelope provided in the pew or give online at fumcaustin.or/give and select “Spirituals Offering” from the drop down menu.

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 Peak Parking Garage (owned by the Texas Trial Lawyers Association) at the southwest corner of 13th and Lavaca Streets or at open meters around the church. The garage is open from 7:00AM-2:30PM.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00-10:45 AM

ADULTS

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.

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. Learn more at fumcaustin.org/youth.

CHILDREN

Sunday School begins at 10:00AM and parents may take their children directly to their classrooms after getting a guardian sticker and their child's name tag from one of our check in stations. Learn more at fumcaustin.org/children.

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.