

HYMNS DURING RECEIVING

626 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
210 Toda la Tierra (All Earth Is Waiting)

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

In gratitude,
in deep gratitude for this moment,
this meal, these people,
we give ourselves to you.
Send us out to live as changed people
because we have shared the Living Bread
and cannot remain the same.
Ask much of us,
expect much from us,
enable much by us,
encourage many through us.
So, Lord, may we live to your glory,
both as inhabitants of earth
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven.
Amen.

GOING OUT TO SERVE

* BENEDICTION

* HYMN Hark the Glad Sound See Insert

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed by Laura Velez in loving memory of her mother, Billye Jean Townes, on what would have been her 97th birthday.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher

Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Liturgist

Reverend Cathy Stone

Advent Candle Readers

Dan, Liz, Kennedy, Rhett, and Elise Kilday

Scripture Reader

Becca Edwards

Music Director/Organist

Scott Davis

FUMC Choir

Mario Contreras

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. Preschoolers meet in EDU Room 102 while older children gather in Wesley Hall and then move to grade-level classrooms where they can be picked up at 10:45AM. Learn more at fumcaustin.org/children.

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 4, 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 Our Souls In Stillness Wait Marty Haugen

For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait,
truly our hope is in you.
O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory,
your radiance shines in all who look to you,
come, light the hearts of all in dark and shadow.

Words: Psalm 95 and “O” Antiphons, adapt. Marty Haugen

Music: Marty Haugen

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* CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to prepare the way;
the way for Christ—
the hope of Christ,
the peace of Christ—
to enter our world,
to enter our hearts.

We cry out together in the wilderness:
the kingdom of heaven has come near.

We come to be part of the light—
the light that shines in the night.

Joanna Harader, alt.

*** HYMN** Down By the Jordan See Insert

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

SUNG RESPONSE

207 Prepare the Way of the Lord

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 Matthew 3:1-12 New Testament, page 2

SERMON Vipers and the Holy
in Unexpected Places

RESPONDING IN FAITH

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. Lunch will be provided. The next class is next Sunday, December 11, at 12:15PM in the FLC Garrison Chapel. 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 There Shall a Star Felix Mendelssohn
From Jacob Come Forth

There shall a star from Jacob come forth,
and a sceptre from Israel rise up;
and dash in pieces princes and nations.
As bright the star of morning gleams,
so Jesus sheddeth glorious beams
of light and consolation!
Thy Word, O Lord, radiance darting,
truth imparting, gives salvation;
thine be praise and adoration!

Words: Numbers 24:17; Psalm 2: 8,9; Philipp Nicolai

Music: Felix Mendelssohn *Christus*, Op. 97

* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Praise God, from whom all bles - sings flow;
praise God, all crea - tures here be - low;
praise God a - bove ye heav - - - 'nly host;
praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. Re-joice! Re-joice!
Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

Words: 9th Century Latin; adapt. Thomas Ken

Music: Veni, Veni, Emmanuel - plainsong, Mode I

FEASTING AT THE TABLE OF GRACE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING See Insert

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.

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP