

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

\* CAROL 251 Go, Tell it on the Mountain

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed in joyful celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ and in glory to the One True Living God. May there indeed be peace on earth among all people with whom God is pleased.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Liturgist  
Reverend Taylor Fuerst  
Pianist  
Susannah Willms

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.

HOLIDAY SEASON  
SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHEDULE

Sunday School classes for every age group *will not* meet today or Sunday, January 1.  
  
Start the new year with a birthday party for Jesus on Sunday, January 8, at 10:00AM in the Family Life Center.

BEGINNING IN 2023  
10:00-10:45AM

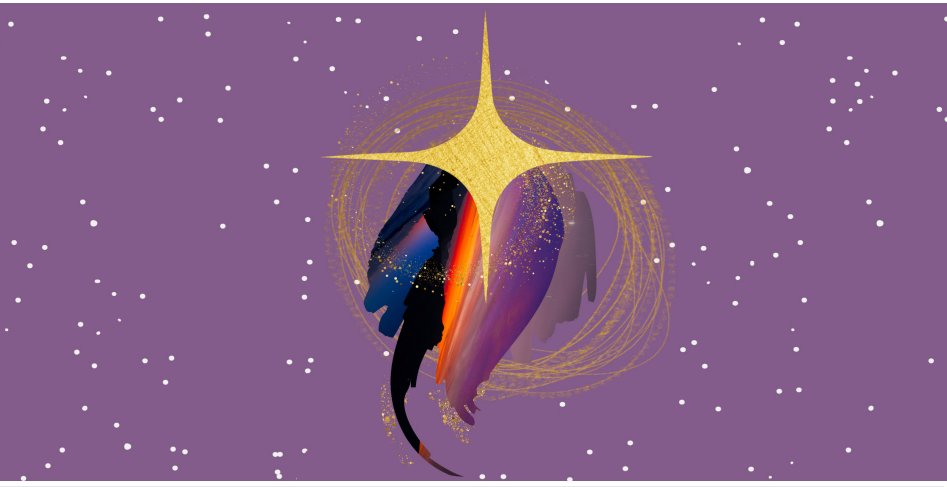
ADULTS | Beginning January 8  
Our classes offer adults a wide selection of age groups, study topics, and learning styles. Many classes are meeting in person and online. To find class contact information, visit [fumcaustin.org/sundayschool](http://fumcaustin.org/sundayschool).

YOUTH | Beginning January 15  
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](http://fumcaustin.org/youth).

CHILDREN | Beginning January 15  
In 2023, Sunday School will begin 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.

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](http://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.



MERRY CHRISTMAS!  
December 25, 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. Because of the holiday, childcare is unavailable this morning. We look forward to the joyful noise children bring to worship.



LEARN MORE AT  
[www.fumcaustin.org](http://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

On This Day Earth Shall Ring

Arr: Gustav Holst

On this day earth shall ring  
with the song children sing  
to the Lord, Christ our King,  
born on earth to save us;  
him the Father gave us.  
Ideo, gloria in excelsis Deo!  
*Therefore, glory to God in the highest!*  
Words: *Piae Cantiones*, trans. Jane M. Joseph  
Music: Piae Cantiones: *Personent Hodie*, arr. Gustav Holst

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing a new song to the Holy One!  
Emmanuel reigns!!  
**Mighty God,**  
**we gather to consider your marvelous works.**

Sing a new song to the Holy One!  
Emmanuel reigns!!  
**Wonderful Counselor,**  
**we gather to delight in your revelation.**

Sing a new song to the Holy One!  
Emmanuel reigns!!  
**Prince of Peace,**  
**we gather to become messengers of your good news.**

\* CAROL 240

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Stanzas 1 and 2

OPENING PRAYER

HEARING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

O Lord,  
even as you entered this world  
with your Son for our salvation,  
now enter our hearts and minds with your Spirit  
that we may hear and understand your word of joy.  
In the name of Jesus Christ our Redeemer.  
Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 148

Old Testament, page 557

\* CAROL 250

Once in Royal David’s City

Stanzas 1 and 2

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 9:2-7

Old Testament, page 606

\* CAROL 228

He Is Born

Stanzas 1 and 2

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

\* CAROL 229

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

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. To sign up, fill out the Connections Card and place it in the offering plate; go online at [fumcaustin.org/firststeps](http://fumcaustin.org/firststeps); or email Amy Wink at [amy@fumcaustin.org](mailto:amy@fumcaustin.org).*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERING

Sing We Now of Christmas

French Carol

Suzanne Barnard

Arr: Cindy Mokebust

\* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING 94

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

HYMNS DURING RECEIVING

230

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Stanzas 1 and 4

219

What Child Is This

Stanzas 1 and 2