



**FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER CHRISTMAS**
January 1, 2016
11:00 a.m.

WELCOME

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 attend, join, and participate fully in the life of this church. For a description of our worship services at 9:00 and 11:00 a.m. on Sundays and at 6:30 a.m. on Thursdays, visit our website at www.fumcaustin.org.

FAMILY ROOM

For parents with infants and toddlers, our Family Room, located in the balcony, offers rockers, books, toys, and a comfortable place for diaper changes. Childcare provided by our well-trained childcare staff is also available in Room 103 and 104 of the Education Building. Please ask an usher for assistance.

SUNDAY PARKING

For mobility-impaired individuals as well as those needing close-in parking, reserved handicap and accessible parking spaces are designated by signage along the wall of the Trial Lawyers' building. All able-bodied members are asked to use the free parking in the Trial Lawyer's garage at the southwest corner of 13th and Lavaca Streets and at open meters around the church. This will allow our church parking lot to be used by visitors and those needing access to the handicap entrance and elevator on the north side of the Education Building.

Making Disciples...Making a Difference
www.fumcaustin.org

GATHERING AS THE CHURCH

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

OPENING MUSIC

GREETING

All are invited to greet those around them and to fill out the Communication Card as a way of offering our presence to God.

Response: Rejoice you people, for Christ is born!
Alleluia! Alleluia!

ENTERING THE HOLY

INTROIT

A New Year Carol

Benjamin Britten

Here we bring new water from the well so clear,
for to worship God with, this happy New Year.
Sing levy dew, the water and the wine;
the seven bright gold wires
and the bugles that do shine.
Open you the West Door,
and let the Old year go.
Open you the East Door,
and let the New Year in.

Tom Tiddler's Ground - Walter de la Mare

* CALL TO WORSHIP

How magnificent is all creation!
God's love is poured throughout all God has created.
God's love is poured out upon us each day.
Praise be to God!
Let your souls and spirits rejoice at the goodness of God.
Let all the people praise God! Amen.

* HYMN 379

Blow Ye the Trumpet, Blow

On the day of the Emancipation Proclamation, January 1, 1863, there was a massive celebration at Tremont Temple in Boston. The gathering waited for word of Lincoln's Proclamation. "When the news finally arrived, great jubilation engulfed the crowd. Not surprisingly, this celebration was a deeply spiritual response to a most important moment in the history of black Americans. When a semblance of order was restored following the initial tears and shouting, Frederick Douglass led the throng in a chorus of his favorite hymn, "Blow ye the Trumpet Blow." - David W. Blight in Fredrick Douglass' Civil War: Keeping Faith in Jubilee. This hymn has remained particularly important in African American Methodism, especially in Watchnight services, where the congregation worships through midnight of New Year's Eve and into the new year - a year of jubilee.

OPENING PRAYER

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

* GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2:13-23

New Testament, page 2

SERMON

The Flight to Egypt

INVITATION TO THE FAITH JOURNEY

Worship leads us to make commitments to God. All are called by God to give generously in response to God's generosity and to support the work God is doing through the Church. If your response involves taking a first step to become a follower of Christ and/or a member of this church, fill out a Communication Card and place it in the offering plate. The next First Steps class will be Sunday, January 22, at 12:15 p.m.

A COVENANT PRAYER IN THE WESLEYAN TRADITION

I am no longer my own, but thine.

Put me to what thou wilt, rank me with whom thou wilt.

Put me to doing, put me to suffering.

**Let me be employed by thee or laid aside for thee,
exalted for thee or brought low by thee.**

Let me be full, let me be empty.

Let me have all things, let me have nothing.

**I freely and heartily yield all things
to thy pleasure and disposal.**

**And now, O glorious and blessed God,
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
thou art mine, and I am thine. So be it.**

**And the covenant which I have made on earth,
let it be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

FEASTING AT THE TABLE OF GRACE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

In The United Methodist Church, everyone is welcome at the Lord's Table. It does not matter whether you are a member of this or any church. We welcome all, regardless of age or situation in life.

CONFESSION

**Like King Herod before us,
we hunt down that which threatens our way of life,
and we want to kill.**

**When we feel tricked by those who outsmart us,
we fly into a rage and want to destroy
that which threatens us.**

Forgive us, O God.

**Give us sight and insight
to set aside our fragile egos,
and to flee into your loving and protective arms,
in the name of Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Release the burdens of the past.
Relinquish control from that which is only in God's hands.
Allow the peace of God to dwell in you.
You are forgiven.
Accept the gift.
And also to you. Amen

OFFERTORY

The God of All Eternity

English Folk Melody / Arr. John L. Bell

The God of all eternity,
unbound by space yet always near,
is present where his people meet
to celebrate the coming year.
Let faith of fortune rise or fall,
let dreams and dread both have their day;
those whom God loves walk unafraid
with Christ their guide and Christ their way.
God grant that we, in this new year,
may show the world the Kingdom's face,
and let our work and worship thrive
as signs of hope and means of grace.

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* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

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All Things Bright and Beautiful

Stanza 4

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Almighty God, our Creator and Redeemer,
it is right, always and everywhere,
to give you thanks and praise.
During this Christmas season,
we thank you that your divine nature
took on our human nature;
that in the form of a baby,
you brought light to our dark world;
that out of your love,
you suffered a cruel death upon the cross
at the hands of the people you came to save;
that you have promised to return
and to bring freedom to your creation.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join in their unending hymn:

Intro (first time only) *All*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of hosts, all praise be given!
Bles - sed is the one who came, bring - ing love and light di - vine.

All your glo - ry fills the earth; all your pow - er fills the heavens. Glo - - - - -
Bles - sed is the king who comes in the bread and in the wine.

- - - - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo - - - - -

- - - - - ri - a, in ex - cel - sis De - - o!

The congregation may be seated.

Holy God,
we thank you that Jesus comes to us even now
in this meal which he gave us
to be the sacrament of our redemption.

We remember:
as Mary and Joseph went from Galilee to Bethlehem
and found no room in the inn,
so Jesus went from Bethlehem to Jerusalem
and found no room in the hearts of the people.
As they went out in humiliation to lie in a stable,
so he went out in humiliation to die on a cross.
As in a lowly manger they laid him,
so from a lowly grave you raised him, that we might have life!
As he took on our flesh that Christmas night so long ago,
so on that night in which he gave up his flesh for us,
the Lord Jesus took bread and wine, saying:
“This is my body, given for you.
This is my blood, shed for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

From that night on, in obedience to his command,
your Church has kept this sacred feast,
believing that in it you make present to us the mystery of faith:

Intro *All*

Christ has died, Christ is ris'n, Christ will come to earth a-gain.
 Great the myst-'ry of God's grace; great the myst-'ry of our faith. Glo - - - - -
 - - - - - ri-a in ex-cel-sis De - o. Glo - - - - -
 - ri-a in ex-cel-sis De - o.

Come, Holy Spirit, upon us and upon these gifts
 of bread and wine from your good creation,
 In receiving them, may we experience anew
 Christ's advent and incarnation,
 his crucifixion and resurrection
 and be given a foretaste of the glory
 which his final return will bring.
 And now, may this meal strengthen us,
 to work for that day when Christ shall come in final victory
 and we shall feast forever at your table in the new creation
 Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
 all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father,
 now and forever.

Intro *All*

Glo - - - - - ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De - o!
 Glo - - - - - ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De - o!

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.**

BREAKING THE BREAD

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

We commune by intinction, i.e., by dipping the bread lightly in the cup. After you have communed, you may return directly to your seat or kneel at the rail for prayer and then return.

If you would like to be served in your seat, please let an usher know that, or ask someone sitting near you to communicate that to the servers.

Gluten-free wafers and cups are available at the left (north) side station. As you approach the servers, please indicate that you would like to receive a wafer.

COMMUNION HYMNS

220 Angels from the Realms of Glory

242 Love Came Down at Christmas

413 A Charge to Keep I Have

COMMUNION RAIL OFFERING

It is a United Methodist custom to receive a freewill love offering, over and above our regular giving, at the communion rail. Today, all gifts left on the rail will go to our Christmas Eve Breakfast.

GOING OUT TO SERVE

CLOSING PRAYER

**In gratitude, in deep gratitude
for this moment,
this meal,
these people,
we give ourselves to you.**

**Take 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.**

* BENEDICTION

* HYMN 246 Joy to the World

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Reverend Michael Mumme

Liturgist: Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Music Director/Organist: Scott Davis