



**FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER CHRISTMAS**
January 1, 2016
9:00 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

* 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

I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
 how Jesus the Saviour did come for to die.
 For poor on'ry people like you and like I;
 I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus 'twas in a cow's stall,
 with wise men and farmers and shepherds and all.
 But high from God's heaven, a star's light did fall,
 and the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
 a star in the sky or a bird on the wing,
 or all of God's Angels in heaven to sing,
 He surely could have it, 'cause he was the King

I wonder as I wander out under the sky,
 how Jesus the Saviour did come for to die.
 For poor on'ry people like you and like I;
 I wonder as I wander out under the sky.

*** PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING**

147

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.

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

Piano: Susannah Willms

Cantor: Michael Carrillo