



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 11, 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 register attendance on the Communication Card as a way of offering our presence to God.

Response: A voice cries out in the wilderness,
“Prepare the way of the Lord!”

Luke 3:4

ENTERING THE HOLY

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Today there is good news for us to behold!
**Those who feared that they were worth little to God
have found blessing in God’s sight.**

For in the mercy and love of God,
the blind shall see,
the lame shall walk without pain,
those who could not hear shall be blessed with hearing,
and there shall be peace.
God’s mercy and love is poured out for our parched souls.

Behold! The Lord’s compassion is with God’s people.
Believe in the power of God in all things. Amen.

* CAROL 202

People Look East

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

We wait for light, and lo!
There is darkness;
for brightness, but we walk in gloom.

Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples.

But the Lord will arise upon you,
and nations shall come to your light.

The sun shall no longer be your light by day,
nor for brightness shall the moon give light to you by night.

**For the Lord will be your everlasting light
and your God will be your glory.
We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ.**

ADVENT LESSONS AND CAROLS

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-5

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."

Carol

We Wait for Thee

Victor C. Johnson

Dark is the night and empty the sky,
as the ground lies still and cold.
We pause in solemn anticipation
as we wait for the promise of old.

Come thou Prince of Peace;
come great Lord of lords;
come, and set your people free.
Come Desire of the nations, come.
With joy and hope, we wait for thee.

Revive our hearts and renew our minds,
come, and bring us peace to endure.
Wonderful Counselor, Almighty God,
Emmanuel, God with us.

Come thou Prince of Peace;
come great Lord of lords;
come, and set your people free.
Come Desire of the nations, come.
With joy and hope, we wait for thee.

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SECOND LESSON

Micah 5:2-5a

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Carol 216

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

THIRD LESSON

Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

HOMILY

I Wonder How We Will Know...

OFFERTORY

Advent Peace Canon

Johann Pachelbel

Dona nobis pacem.
(Grant us peace.)

Come thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation
hope of all the earth thou art.
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.

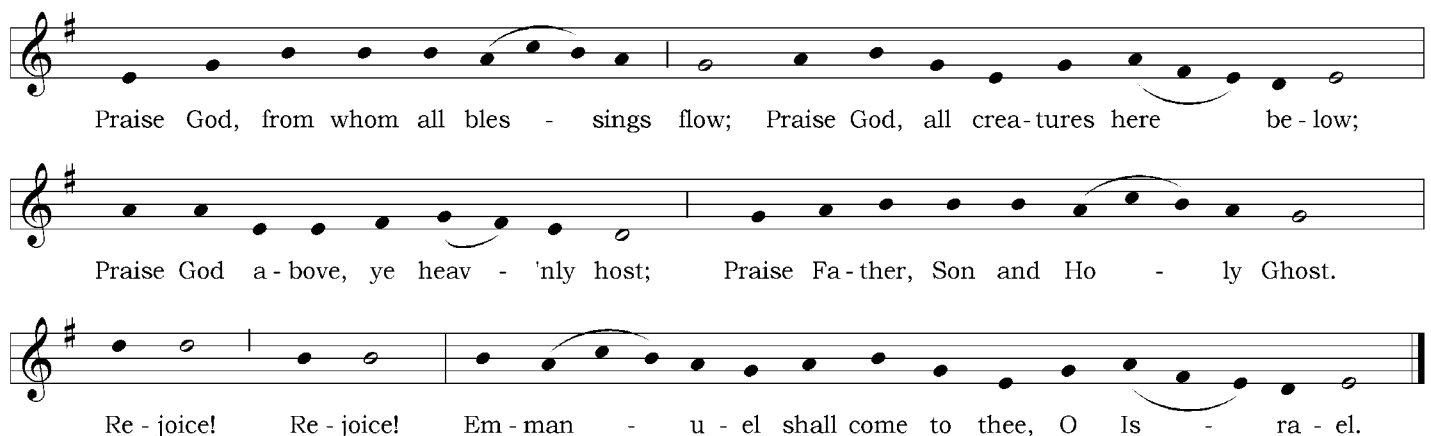
Come thou long expected Jesus,
come to us and bring us peace.
Come thou long expected Jesus,
come to us and bring us peace.
Come and bring us peace.

Words: Charles Wesley, additional text by Ruth Elaine Schram

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* 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: Thomas Ken, alt.; 9th century Latin

Music: VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL - plainsong, Mode 1

FOURTH LESSON

Luke 1:46b-55

“My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

Carol

Magnificat/Sing Out My Soul



* Ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat a - ni - ma me - a Do - mi - num.
Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord who sets us free.

Ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat, ma - gni - fi - cat a - ni - ma - me - a!
Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord God!

* Magnificat anima mea Dominum. (My soul magnifies the Lord.)

Words and Music: Jacques Berthier

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FEASTING AT THE TABLE OF GRACE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

* 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.

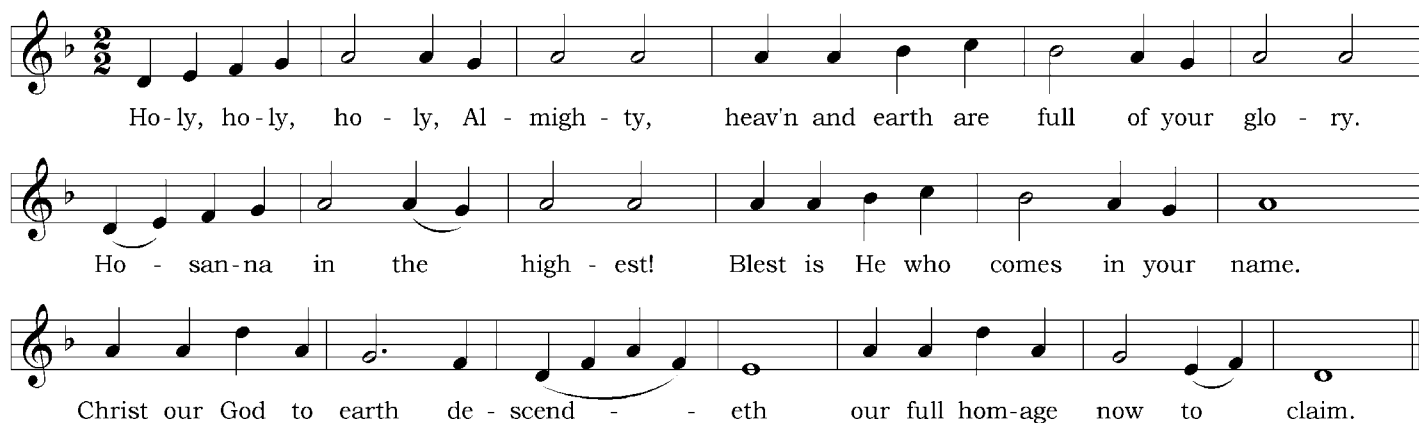
It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image
and breathed into us the breath of life.

When we turned away, and our love failed,
your love remained steadfast.

You delivered us from captivity,
made covenant to be our sovereign God,
and spoke to us through your prophets,
who looked for that day
when justice shall roll down like waters
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream,
when nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war anymore.

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



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho - ly, Al - migh - ty, heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.
Ho - san-na in the high - est! Blest is He who comes in your name.
Christ our God to earth de - scend - - eth our full hom-age now to claim.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ,
whom you sent in the fullness of time
to be a light to the nations.
You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts
and have mercy on those
who fear you from generation to generation.

You put down the mighty from their thrones
and exalt those of low degree.
You fill the hungry with good things,
and the rich you send empty away.
Your own Son came among us as a servant,
to be Emmanuel, your presence with us.
He humbled himself in obedience to your will
and freely accepted death on a cross.
By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection
you gave birth to your Church,
delivered us from slavery to sin and death,
and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat;
this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you,
gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain in glo - ry.
 He will give to all the faith - - - ful His own self for heaven - ly food.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
 and on these gifts of bread and wine.
 Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
 that we may be for the world the body of Christ,
 redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
 one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
 until Christ comes in final victory,
 and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ,
 with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,
 all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,
 now and for ever.

A - men, a - men, a - men, as the light of light de - scend - eth,
 that the powers of hell may van - - - ish as the dark - ness clears a - way.

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

Hymn

Wait for the Lord

Musical score for the hymn "Wait for the Lord". It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near. Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart." The score includes various musical notations such as chords, rests, and melodic lines.

Words and Music: Jacques Berthier

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What Child Is This

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 Mobile Loaves & Fishes Ministry.

GOING OUT TO SERVE

CLOSING PRAYER

**Holy God, your prophets have long spoken
of the one who would come to save us.
Now the promise is fulfilled;
now your kingdom has come near.
Send us as messengers of your way,
to go and tell all the world
of the wonders we have seen
and the good news we have heard;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

* BENEDICTION

* CAROL 196

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

+ + +

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers are placed in celebration of Tom Ausley's 74th birthday by his family.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Pastor: Reverend Michael Mumme

Cantor: Michael Carrillo

Quartet: Jan Morris, Linda Murdock, Tom Richardson, and Dan Wood

Piano: Susannah Willms

Violin: Evelyn Gullatt

COMMUNION MUSIC

Words: Traditional, alt. and Liturgy of St. James

Music: PICARDY - French Carol