

Carol 251 Go, Tell It on the Mountain

The true light, which enlightens everyone,
was coming into the world.
He was in the world,
and the world came into being through him;
yet the world did not know him.
He came to what was his own,
and his own people did not accept him.

John 1:9-11

Carol 221 In the Bleak Midwinter

But to all who received him,
who believed in his name,
he gave power to become children of God,
who were born,
not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man,
but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son,
full of grace and truth.

John 1:12-14

Carol 240 Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

HOMILY What Child Is This? Cathy Stone

RESPONDING IN FAITH

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.

OFFERTORY Mary's Little Boy Child Jester Hairston

Long time ago in Bethlem, so the Holy Bible say,
Mary's boy child, Jesus Christ was born on Christmas day.
Hark! Now hear the angels sing,
new King is born today,
and we will live forevermore because of Christmas day.
While shepherds watched their flocks by night,
they saw a bright new shining star,
and heard a choir from heaven sing
the music came for afar.
Now Joseph and his wife, Mary,
came to Bethlehem that night,
they found no place to bear her child,
not a single room was in sight.
By and by they found a little nook
in a stable all forlorn,
and in a manger, cold and dark,
Mary's little boy child was born.

*** PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING**
219 What Child Is This

GOING OUT TO SERVE

*** BENEDICTION**

*** CAROL 248** On This Day Earth Shall Ring

CLOSING MUSIC

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WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher
Reverend Cathy Stone

Liturgists
Reverend Taylor Fuerst
Reverend Michael Mumme
Katie Wallingford

Music Director/Organist
Scott Davis

Soloists
Stephanie Andrews
Jaimie Lowe



CHRISTMAS DAY
December 25, 2016
11:00 a.m.

WELCOME

Because we believe that every human being is a beloved child of God, on a journey to God, with God, we welcome ALL persons, *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 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.

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: Jesus Christ is born today.
Alleluia!

ENTERING THE HOLY

INTROIT Good Christian Friends, Rejoice IN DULCIJUBILO

Good Christian friends,
rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say:
News, news! Jesus Christ is born today!
Ox and ass before him bow,
and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
News, news! Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door,
and ye are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this!

14th century/ Latin; translation John Mason Neale

* CALL TO WORSHIP

We are here because we have heard a promise of peace
and we have faith its day will come.
We have heard a rumor of justice
and we have faith its day will come.
We have heard a whisper of hope
and we have faith its day will come.
We have heard a hint of love
and we have faith its day will come.
We have heard of the birth of the Christ-child
and we have faith his day is here.
Welcome to Christmas!
Welcome to worship!

* **CAROL** 234 O Come, All Ye Faithful Stanzas 1,2,3, and 6

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light.

**Those who lived in a land of deep darkness,
on them light has shined.**

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
**and he is named, "Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."**

Christ, the Light of the World, shines in the darkness;
and the darkness has never been able to put it out.

Christ is born.

Give God glory.

PRAYER

Beloved in Christ,
in this Christmastide,
let it be our care and delight
to hear again the message of the Angels,
and in heart and mind to go even unto Bethlehem,
and see this thing which is come to pass,
and the Babe lying in a manger.
Let us read and mark in Holy Scripture
the tale of the loving purposes of God
and the glorious Redemption brought us by this holy Child;
and let us make this church glad with our carols of praise.
But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world;
for peace and goodwill over all the earth;
for the mission and unity of the Church which he came to build,
and especially in this country and within this city.

And because this of all things would rejoice his heart,
let us at this time remember in his name
the poor and the helpless;
the hungry and the oppressed;
the sick and those who mourn;
the lonely and the unloved;
the aged and the little children;
and all those who know not the Lord Jesus,
or who love him not,
or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.
Lastly, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother,
and all those who rejoice with us,
but upon another shore and in a greater light,
that multitude which no one can number,
whose hope was in the Word made flesh,
and with whom, in this Lord Jesus,
we for evermore are one.

These prayers and praises
let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven,
in the words which Christ himself hath taught us:
**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.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

THE WORD BECAME FLESH

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.
He was in the beginning with God.

John 1:1-2

Carol 228 He Is Born

All things came into being through him,
and without him not one thing came into being.
What has come into being in him was life,
and the life was the light of all people.
The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness did not overcome it.

John 1:3-5

Carol 230 O Little Town of Bethlem
Stanzas 1 and 2, sung seated, as the children come forward.

Time With Young Disciples

Carol 230 O Little Town of Bethlem
Stanzas 3 and 4, sung seated, as the children return to their seats.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John.
He came as a witness to testify to the light,
so that all might believe through him.
He himself was not the light,
but he came to testify to the light

John 1:6-8