

* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise
God, all creatures here be low; praise God above, ye
heaven-ly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and
angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the
babe, the son of Mary.

Words: Thomas Ken and William C. Dix, alt.
Music: GREENSLEEVES - 16th cen. English melody

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

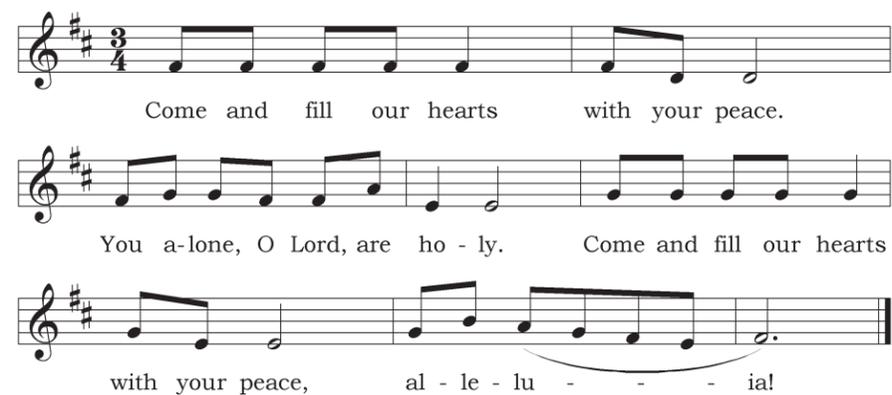
We commune by intinction, i.e., by dipping the bread lightly in the cup. After you have communed, you may return directly to your seat or kneel at the rail for prayer and then return. If you would like to be served in your seat, please let an usher know that or ask someone sitting near you to communicate 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

209 Blessed Be the God of Israel

Hymn We Gather at Your Table, Lord See Insert

Hymn Come and Fill



Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy. Come and fill our hearts
with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!

Words and Music: Jacques Berthier
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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 Offering in support of the Lydia Patterson Institute. For more information, see the insert.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

GOING OUT TO SERVE

* BENEDICTION

* HYMN 213 Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

CLOSING MUSIC

+ + +

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers are placed on the altar by Davis Covin in honor of Trevor Harper's birthday.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher

Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Liturgists

Reverend Michael Mumme

Reverend Cathy Stone

Terry Purdy

Advent Wreath

Andy, Melanie, Caroline, and Maddie Greene

Music Director/Organist

Scott Davis



FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT
December 3, 2017
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 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.

Response: I was glad when they said to me,
“Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

Psalm 122:1

ENTERING THE HOLY

* CALL TO WORSHIP

The world is a cacophony of noise!
All around you,
sounds of empires under construction and calls for war;
the noise of envy clamoring for more,
the sound of pride keeping its place of prominence.
How can you begin to pray,
much less to hear God speak?
Yet the prophet’s horn calls—be silent!
Listen!

Listen, all you busy people!
Listen, all you tired souls!
Listen—the voice of God calls!
The prophet speaks!
**Our world is noisy, Lord.
We can hardly hear you!**
Silence the voices within and the noises without.
Listen for the one who calls your name.

**We are listening Lord.
Do not give up on us.
Call us again.**
Now, we are listening.
Now, our hearts are quiet.
Let us worship God with anticipation,
for God is still speaking.
**Come down, O Lord of hosts,
and speak to us once again.**

* **HYMN 211** O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Stanzas 1, 2, 3, and 6

OPENING PRAYER

HEARING GOD’S WORD

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

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;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:2, 6

Today we remember the prophets of old,
who demanded to be heard,
who dared to speak of a child to come,
unexpected liberator of the people,
vulnerable incarnation of the Holiest of Holies,
a new name for God.

**Today we give thanks for the prophets among us,
who bring to us surprising new visions of hope,
who challenge us to think outside the box,
who show us a future we never anticipated.**

On this first Sunday of Advent,
we light this candle as a symbol of the prophets
who renew our faith and remind us of what may be.
We light the first Advent Candle.

CHORUS 207 Prepare the Way of the Lord
Cantor sings first, all join the second time.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 64:1-9 Old Testament, page 658

SERMON The Prophets Horn: God Interrupts

RESPONDING IN FAITH

INVITATION TO THE FAITH JOURNEY

Are you interested in joining FUMC? Prior to joining, we ask all to participate in a First Steps Class to learn about Methodist beliefs and the ministry of FUMC, meet the pastors and other members, and ask questions. To sign up, fill out the Communication Card during worship and place it in the offering plate.

OFFERING Of the Father’s Heart Begotten

Piae Cantiones

Arr. David Willcocks

Of the Father’s heart begotten,
ere the world from chaos rose,
he is Alpha: from that Fountain
all that is and hath been flows;
he is Omega,
of all things yet to come the mystic Close,
evermore and evermore.

By his word was all created;
he commanded and ‘twas done;
earth and sky and boundless ocean,
universe of three in one,
all that sees the moon’s soft radiance,
all that breathes beneath the sun,
evermore and evermore.

He assumed this mortal body,
frail and feeble, doomed to die,
that the race from dust created
might not perish utterly,
which the dreadful Law had sentenced
in the depths of hell to lie,
evermore and evermore.

O how blest that wondrous birthday,
when the Maid the curse retrieved,
brought to birth mankind’s salvation,
by the Holy Ghost conceived;
and the Babe, the world’s Redeemer,
in her loving arms received,
evermore and evermore.

This is he, whom seer and sybil
sang in ages long gone by;
this is he of old revealed
in the page of prophecy;
Lo! he comes, the promised Saviour;
let the world his praises cry!
Evermore and evermore.

Sing, ye heights of heaven, his praises;
Angels and Archangels, sing!
Wheresoever ye be, ye faithful,
let your joyous anthems ring.
Every tongue his name confessing,
countless voices answering,
evermore and evermore!

Prudentius (b.348) trans. R. F. Davis