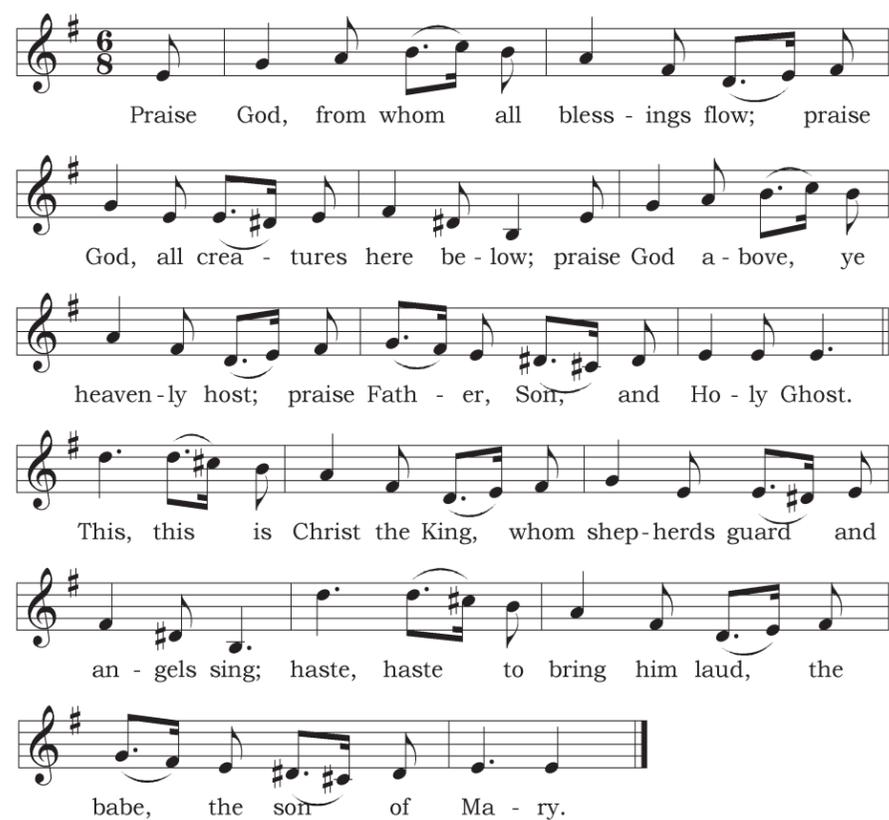


INVITATION TO THE FAITH JOURNEY

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

* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING



Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise
God, all creatures here below; 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

GOING OUT TO SERVE

* BENEDICTION

* HYMN 117 O God, Our Help in Ages Past

CLOSING MUSIC

+ + +

ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers are placed by George Gaston in celebration of Merianne Gaston's retirement.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher

Reverend Michael Mumme

Liturgist

Reverend Cathy Stone

Music Director/Organist

Scott Davis



FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 31, 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

In the beginning was the Word,

and the Word was with God,

and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.

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.

John 1:1-4

* **HYMN 240** Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

OPENING PRAYER

ANTHEM God Is Working His Purpose Out Martin Shaw

HEARING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God,

may our hearts be open to receive this day

that which has been hidden

since the foundation of the world,

so that our lives might bear fruit

for the saving of the world.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE Colossians 1:9-23a New Testament, page 188

HYMN 242 Love Came Down at Christmas

Stanzas 1 and 2 sung seated as the children come forward.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

HYMN 242 Love Came Down at Christmas

Stanza 3 sung seated as the children return to their seats.

SERMON The Cosmic Christ

RESPONDING IN FAITH

HYMN 399 Take My Life, and Let It Be

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.

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.