

## BIRTHDAY BLESSING

Let us pray:

**God, our gracious Creator,**

**we give you thanks for the gift of life  
to these who celebrate their birthdays in May.**

**Grant that they may make this new year in their lives  
an offering that will enrich your world  
and give you glory.**

**Cause them to grow in wisdom and grace  
and strengthen their trust in your goodness  
all the days of their lives; through Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

The Book of Common Prayer, 1979, alt.



**I have a question...**

## GOING OUT TO SERVE

### \* BENEDICTION

\* HYMN 302 Christ the Lord is Risen Today

### CLOSING MUSIC

+ + +

### ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers are placed by Barrett and Carly Criscoe in loving memory of his brother, Jarrod Criscoe.

### WORSHIP LEADERS

*Preacher*

Reverend Michael Mumme

*Liturgist*

Reverend Taylor Fuerst

*Music*

Michael Carrillo, *Cantor*

Tim Deschner, *Guitar Pong*

Evelyn Gullatt, *Violin*

Susannah Willms, *Piano*

## SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 13, 2018

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 [fumcaustin.org](http://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](http://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 Connections Card.*

## ENTERING THE HOLY

#### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, let us celebrate  
the forgiving, reconciling love of God.

**For once we were lost and felt so far away;  
now we have been found and welcomed home.**

Know that God's love is lavished upon you forever.

**We rejoice at the news of forgiveness and hope!**

Come, let us celebrate and praise the God of Love.  
**Amen.**

#### \* HYMN 297      Beneath the Cross of Jesus

#### OPENING PRAYER

How incredible is your love, O God!

We have been made new in your love  
and reconciled to you and to each other  
in peace and joy.

Be with us this day

as we hear your words of comfort and hope.

Guide our lives

that we may serve you more fully all of our days.

**Amen.**

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**O God,**

**may we hear your word today**

**and be drawn closer to you and to others.**

**Set aside all that separates us from embracing you  
and quiet our warring ways.**

**Amen.**

**SCRIPTURE**      2 Corinthians 5:14-21      New Testament, page 171

**SERMON**      Did Jesus Really Have To Die?

## 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 Connections Card during worship and place it in the offering plate or email Trevor Harper at [trevor@fumcaustin.org](mailto:trevor@fumcaustin.org). The next class is June 3 at 12:15 p.m. in Garrison Chapel of the Family Life Center.*

**OFFERING**      The Gift of Love      Traditional English Melody  
Suzanne Barnard      Arr. Christine Anderson

#### \* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise  
God, all creatures here below: Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-  
lu-ia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise  
Je-sus Christ, whose power up-lifts! Praise the Spir-it, Ho-ly  
Spir-it! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Words: Thomas Ken; adapt. by Gilbert H. Vieira, alt.

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Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN - Geistliche Kirchengesange; adapt. by Ralph Vaughan Williams

## 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

162      Alleluia, Give Thanks to the Risen Lord

288      Were You There

#### 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 support the FreeStore. For more information, see the cover of the FUMC Weekly.*

#### PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING