

## \* 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 Kirchengesänge; adapt. by Ralph Vaughan Williams

## GOING OUT TO SERVE

### \* BENEDICTION

\* HYMN Your Love, O God

See Insert

### CLOSING MUSIC

+ + +

### ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers are placed by Curt and Debbie Shaw in celebration of their 49th wedding anniversary.

### WORSHIP LEADERS

*Preacher*

Reverend Taylor Fuerst

*Liturgists*

Reverend Michael Mumme

Reverend Cathy Stone

Will Strandwitz

*Music Director/Organist*

Scott Davis

*Soloist*

Albert Garcia

## SUNDAY PARKING

The church parking lot is reserved for mobility-impaired individuals. All able-bodied members are asked to use the free parking available on Sundays in the Trial Lawyer's garage at the southwest corner of 13th and Lavaca Streets and at open meters around the church.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

10:00-10:45 A.M.

### ADULTS

Sunday School is the place where people learn about Christian faith in a loving, supportive environment. Our classes offer adults a wide selection of age groups, study topics, and learning styles. Learn more at [fumcaustin.org/sundayschool](http://fumcaustin.org/sundayschool).

### YOUTH

Youth from 6th through 12th grades are invited to wake up with fellowship, study, and donuts! We gather in the Great Hall of the Family Life Center for music and announcements, then split into middle school and high school groups to awaken to God's word. Learn more at [fumcaustin.org/youth](http://fumcaustin.org/youth).

### CHILDREN

For children ages 3 through 5th grade, we offer weekly guided Christian education, led by volunteer church members. Children are grouped by age and grade. Children's classes are located on the first floor of the Education Building. Learn more at [fumcaustin.org/children](http://fumcaustin.org/children).

## ONLINE GIVING

We offer two convenient ways to give online: (1) make an online donation at [fumcaustin.org/giving](http://fumcaustin.org/giving) and/or (2) text FUMCAUSTIN (all caps) to 73256 on your smartphone and follow the prompts. Once your number is registered, future gifts are easier to make.



**AUGUST 19, 2018**  
11:00 a.m.

## OUR MISSION

First United Methodist Church exists to build a community where all people are invited to know God's love and sent to join God in transforming the world.

## OUR INVITATION

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.

## OUR FAMILIES

We love children and encourage you to bring them to worship. Activity clipboards are available in the sanctuary foyer for their enjoyment. Our Family Room in the balcony offers rockers, books, toys, and a diaper change station for parents with infants and toddlers. Childcare is also available for children through age 5 in Rooms 102-104 of the Education Building. Please ask an usher for assistance.

**LEARN MORE AT**  
[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.*

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

Psalm 122:1

## ENTERING THE HOLY

### INTROIT

Let All Things Now Living

Trad. Welsh Melody  
Arr. Katherine K. Davis

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving  
to God the Creator triumphantly raise,  
who fashioned and made us,  
protected and stayed us,  
who guides us and leads to the end of our days.  
God’s banners fly o’er us;  
God’s light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,  
as forward we travel from light into light.  
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
with glad adoration a song let us raise,  
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:  
to God in the highest hosanna and praise!

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### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

From the corners of worry and fear,  
from the shadows where we huddle with our doubts,  
**God calls us to this place of sanctuary  
where we can draw from Love’s deep wells.**  
In every moment where we look for strength to continue,  
in every time we wonder if faith is worth it,  
**Jesus calls us to this time  
where we can welcome the peace given to us.**  
In every person who embraces us with acceptance,  
in every touch that offers healing and hope,  
**the Spirit calls us to see those around us  
as God’s beloved, our siblings of grace.**

### \* HYMN

All Are Welcome

See Insert

## OPENING PRAYER

### MISSION EMPHASIS MOMENT

English as a Second Language (ESL) Ministry

### ANTHEM

Oh! For a Closer Walk with God Charles Villiers Stanford

Oh! for a closer walk with God,  
a calm and heavenly frame;  
a light to shine upon the road  
that leads me to the Lamb!  
Return, O holy Dove, return!  
Sweet messenger of rest;  
I hate the sins that made thee mourn,  
and drove thee from my breast.  
So shall my walk be close with God,  
calm and serene my frame.  
So purer light shall mark the road  
that leads me to the Lamb.

William Cowper

## HEARING GOD’S WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

### SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:22-28

New Testament, page 148

### HYMN 375

There Is a Balm in Gilead  
*Refrain, stanza 2, and refrain sung seated  
as the children come forward.*

### BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING

### HYMN 369

Blessed Assurance  
*Stanza 1 and refrain sung seated  
as the children return to their seats.*

### THIS IS MY STORY

Jim Bowen

### SERMON

## RESPONDING IN FAITH

### PRAYERS OF PETITION

Teach me Your ways, Lord,  
that I may come down from my heights  
and be open to the same Spirit  
who moved over the face of the waters  
in the first day of creation  
and moves also over the chaos of this time  
to fashion a day like this,  
a world like ours,  
a life like mine,  
a kingdom acting as leaven in the bread of earth.  
And make me aware of the miracles of life,  
of warm and cold,  
of starkness and order,  
of screaming wind and impenetrable silences,  
and of the unfathomable mystery of amazing grace  
in which I am kept.

Teach me Your ways, Lord,  
that I may praise You  
for all the surprising, ingenious ways You bless me,  
and for all the wondrous gifts You give me,  
along with all the pain and joy I sustain.  
Teach me Your ways, Lord,  
that I may accept my own talent openly,  
nurture it hopefully,  
develop it faithfully,  
and give it freely.  
Teach me Your ways, Lord,  
that I may love Your kindness  
and practice it toward the hungry of the world,  
the poor and sick, and oppressed,  
that I may learn the healing humility that comes from You.  
Teach me Your ways, Lord,  
so that my heart is flooded with Your mercy—  
emptying it of what makes it firmly opposed to Your ways,  
so that it beats more in rhythm with You  
and pounds greatly for Your kingdom. Amen.

Ted Loder, alt.

### THE LORD’S PRAYER 895

### 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 United 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 September 9 at 12:15 p.m. in FLC Garrison Chapel.*

### OFFERING Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling

Raymond Brown

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,  
calling for you and for me;  
see, on the portals he’s waiting and watching,  
watching for you and for me.  
Come home, ye who are weary come home;  
earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
calling O sinner come home!  
Why do we tarry when Jesus is pleading,  
pleading for you and for me?  
Why do we linger and heed not his mercy,  
mercy for you and for me?  
Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing,  
passing from you and from me:  
shadows are gathering, death beds are coming,  
coming for you and for me,  
oh! for the wonderful love he has promised,  
promised for you and for me;  
though we have sinned, he has mercy and pardon,  
pardon for you and for me.  
Come home, ye who are weary come home:  
earnestly, tenderly, Jesus is calling,  
calling for you and for me.

Will L. Thompson