

* HYMN

Your Love, O God



1. Your love, O God, is broad like beach and mead-ow,
2. We long for free-dom where our tru-est be-ing
3. But there are walls that keep us all di-vid-ed;
4. O judge us, Lord, and in your judg-ment free us,



wide as the wind, and our e-ter-nal home.
is giv-en hope and cour-age to un-fold.
we fence each oth-er in with hate and war.
and set our feet in free-dom's o-pen space;



You leave us free to seek you or re-ject you,
We seek in free-dom space and scope for dream-ing,
Fear is the bricks and mor-tar of our pri-son,
take us as far as your com-pas-sion wan-ders



you give us room to an-swer "yes" or "no."
and look for ground where trees and plants can grow.
our pride of self, the pris-on coat we wear.
a-mong the chil-dren of the hu-man race.

Refrain



Your love, O God, is broad like beach and mead-ow,



wide as the wind, and our e-ter-nal home.

Words: Anders Frostenson, trans. by Fred Kaan

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Music: FINLANDIA - Jean Sibelius

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

Kennedy Schuelke

Music Director/Organist

Scott Davis

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.

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.

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.

ONLINE GIVING

We offer two convenient ways to give online: (1) make an online donation at 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

9:00 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

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

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

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Gracious God,
as we turn to your Word for us,
may the Spirit of God rest upon us.
Help us to be steadfast in our hearing,
in our speaking,
in our believing,
and in our living.
Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Romans 8:22-28

New Testament, page 148

THIS IS MY STORY

Jim Bowen

SERMON

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 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. The next class is September 9 at 12:15 p.m. in FLC Garrison Chapel.

OFFERING Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Harold Friedell

Draw us in the Spirit's tether,
for when humbly in thy name,
two or three are met together,
thou art in the midst of them.
Alleluia! Touch we now thy garment's hem.
As disciples used to gather
in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the Father
break the bread and bless the cup:
Alleluia! So now bind our friendship up.
All our meals and all our living
make as sacraments of thee,
that by caring, helping, giving,
we may true disciples be.
Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully.

Percy Dearmer

* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise
God, all crea-tures here be - low: 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 bread and cups are available at the left (north) side station. As you approach the servers, please indicate that you would like to receive gluten-free.

COMMUNION HYMNS

347

Spirit Song

629

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart

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. All gifts left on the rail will go to our English as a Second Language (ESL) Ministry.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

GOING OUT TO SERVE

* BENEDICTION