**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING**

As we sing the following, those with birthdays in March are invited to come forward for a prayer of blessing.

**WORDS: Samuel Longfellow**
**Music: DEUS TUORUM MILITUM - Grenoble Antiphoner; adapt. by Ralph Vaughan Williams**

**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 March. 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.*

**GOING OUT TO SERVE**

**HYMN** 581  *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service*

**CHANCEL FLOWERS**
The flowers are placed by Steve and Pam Tackett in honor of the Downtowners Sunday School Class for all they have done for them over the years.

**WORSHIP LEADERS**
*Preacher: Reverend Taylor Fuerst  
Liturgists: Reverend Michael Munme and Reverend Cathy Stone  
Music Director/Organist: Scott Davis*

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**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 Texas Trial Lawyer’s Association garage at the southwest corner of 13th and Lavaca Streets and at open meters around the church.

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**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.

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**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.

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**FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT**
March 10, 2019
11:00 a.m.

**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 participate fully in the life of this church.

**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 VALUES**

**OUR FAMILIES**
We love children in worship. Activity clipboards for children are available in the Sanctuary Foyer. 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 EDU Rooms 102-104.

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**LEARN MORE AT**
**www.fumcaustin.org**
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
Eternal Lord of Love, Behold Your Church
Arr. Charles Winfred Douglas

Eternal Lord of love, behold your church walking once more the pilgrim way of Lent, led by your cloud by day, by night your fire, moved by your love and toward your presence bent: far off yet here - the goal of all desire.

CALL TO WORSHIP
Lent calls us to journey,
this and every day,
following Jesus where he leads us.
Lent calls us to journey:
to the place where God covenants with us.
Lent calls us to worship together,
to tell future generations the good news.
Lent calls us to practice justice,
to bring God’s hope to all people.
Lent calls us to faithful living,
to trust the One who gives us life.
Lent calls each of us to take up our cross,
to trust the One who bears it with us.
Lent calls us to journey with God.
Let us worship God,
who walks with us,
this and every day.
Thom Shuman

HYMN
Lord, Through These Forty Days

1. Lord, through these forty days of Lent-
2. Teach us to wait up-
3. Help us to walk the ser-

OPENING PRAYER

ANTHEM
Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God
Michael Bedford

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. O cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with thy free spirit.
Psalm 51:10-12

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Eternal God,
through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son your kingdom has broken into our troubled world.
Help us now to hear your Word, and give us grace to respond in faithful obedience, that our lives might be signs of the new life given through Jesus Christ our Lord.
John Paulson, adapted

HYMN
Tell Me the Stories of Jesus
Stanzas 1 and 2 sung seated as the children come forward.
Stanza 3 sung seated as the children return to their seats.

SCRIPTURE

RESPONDING IN FAITH

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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. The next class is Sunday, April 28, at 12:15 p.m. in FLC Garrison Chapel. To sign up, fill out the Connections Card and place it in the offering plate or email Trevor Harper at trevor@fumcaustin.org.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERING
Wondrous Love
American Folk Hymn
(Southern Harmony)