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.

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.
OPENING MUSIC

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

OFFERING

Bethlehem Wind

Joseph M. Martin

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise

God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye

heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

This is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and

angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the

babe, the son of Mary.

WORDS FOR ASSURANCE

The One who started this work in you will stay with you to complete it. God isn't finished with us yet, but grace is ours today and always, refining us, purifying us, forgiving us, and making us whole. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

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

Hope is gravity for the broken, pulling us up.
Hope is manna in the wilderness, when we want to give up.
Hope is seeing stars in the city, when we forget the sky is there.
Hope is the anthem of faith, and the reason we are here.

So come to this place with your hopes and your fears, for the God of new life is drawing near.
Let us worship God.

* HYMN 196 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

HEARING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Speak to us, Lord.
Speak to us in the waiting, the watching, the longing, the sorrow, the sighing.

Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days, and walk with us until the day of your coming.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 2:1-5

Old Testament, page 600

SERMON

Hope: God’s Promised Day Can’t Wait

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 and place it in the offering plate, go online at fumcaustin.org/firststeps, or email Trevor Harper at trevor@fumcaustin.org.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, you paint a picture of a better world—a world of peace and joy, of equality and grace. But we turn our heads and close our eyes, afraid that you might want us to help. You ask us to be brave, and we are complacent. You ask us to speak out, but instead we stay quiet. You ask us to listen, and we assume we are the experts. You lead with love, and we wait on the sidelines. Forgive us for always being ten steps behind you. Forgive us for all the ways we are works in progress. Fill our hearts with a hope that won’t let go. Gratefully we pray, Amen.

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.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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babe, the son of Mary.

WORDS: Thomas Ken and William C. Dix, alt.

Music: GREENSLEEVES - 16th century English melody

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