GOING OUT TO SERVE

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 December.
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.

* BENEDICTION

* HYMN 202 People, Look East

CLOSING MUSIC

CHANCEL FLOWERS
The flowers are placed by our Downtowners Sunday School Class in celebration of the December birthdays.

WORSHIP LEADERS
Preacher
Reverend Taylor Fuerst
Liturgists
Reverend Cathy Stone
Dr. Brad King
Donna Shands
Advent Candlelighters
The Higgs Family
Music Director/Organist
Scott Davis
Associate Conductor FUMC Choir
Mario Contreras

WORSHIP MUSIC
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Words: Thomas Ken and William C. Dix, alt.
Music: GREENSLEEVES - 16th century English melody

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.

DECEMBER 8, 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
Justice. Working to eradicate injustice for the excluded and marginalized.
Bridge-Building. Nurturing multigenerational friendships and community partnerships.
Storytelling. Sharing our stories of faith and of growth.
Active Learning. Pursuing knowledge and understanding of God.
Service. Seeking mutually empowering service opportunities.
Constructive Disruption. Disrupting systems of power to create positive change.

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.

LEARN MORE AT www.fumcaustin.org
GATHERING AS THE CHURCH

Asterisks (*) indicate an invitation to stand as you are able.

OPENING MUSIC

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

Of the Father's Love Begotten
Dominius Mysterium

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be, he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he of the things that are, that have been and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore. Christ, to thee with God the Father, and, O Holy Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, and unwearied praises be: honor, glory and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore. Amen.

Aurelius Clemens Prudentius
Translation by John Mason Neale and Henry W. Baker

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Prepare the way!
Deck the halls and light the candles. Prepare the way!
Open the doors and sing a song of hope. Prepare the way!
Make space in our hearts for a new kind of love. Christ is coming. Prepare the way!

* HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
Stanzas 1, 2, 4, and 6

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

Miles Warren George
Son of Michael and Molly George
Sally Lynn George
Daughter of Jon and Emily George

ANTHEM

There Shall a Star
from Jacob Come Forth (Christus)

There shall a star from Jacob come forth, and a sceptre from Israel rise up. As bright the star of morning gleams, so Jesus sheddeth glorious beams of light and consolation! Thy Word, O Lord, radiance darting, truth imparting, gives salvation. Thine be praise and adoration!

Christian Karl Joseph von Riemann
Philipp Nicolai; translation by Catherine Winkworth

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Speak to us, Lord.
Speak to us in the waiting, the watching, the hoping, the longing, the sorrow, the sighing, the rejoicing. Speak to us by your Word in these Advent days, and walk with us until the day of your coming. Amen.

SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 11:1-10
Old Testament, page 609
Matthew 3:1-12
New Testament, page 2

HYMN

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
Stanzas 1 and 2 sung seated as the children come forward.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

HYMN

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming
Stanza 3 sung seated as the children return to their seats.

SERMON

Peace: Repentance Can't Wait

RESPONDING IN FAITH

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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. 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 DEDICATION

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

* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

OFFERING

Comfort, Comfort O My People
24 Psalms of David, Geneva

"Comfort, comfort O my people, speak of peace!", now says our God; comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning under sorrow's load. To God's people now proclaim that God's pardon waits for them! Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever! For the herald's voice is crying in the desert far and near, calling us to true repentance, since the Kingdom now is here. Oh, the warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way! Let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him! Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain! Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign! For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad, and, O flesh shall see the token that God's word is never broken.

Johann Olearius; translation by Catherine Winkworth

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

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

OFFERING

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God, all creatures here above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds-guard and angels sing; haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the savior of Mary.