December 15, 2019
9:00 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.

LEARN MORE AT
www.fumcaustin.org
GATHERING AS THE CHURCH
Asterisks (*) indicate an invitation to stand as you are able.

OPENING MUSIC

GREETING

ENTERING THE HOLY

*CALL TO WORSHIP
When the sun rises what shall we sing?
“My soul magnifies the Lord.”
And when chaos and violence echo on the screen?
“My soul magnifies the Lord.”
For our God is a God of justice and peace.
“My soul magnifies the Lord.”
So when all is wrong, or all is right,
“My soul magnifies the Lord.”
Yes, when all is wrong, or all is right,
We will sing with joy and delight,
of the God of justice, love, and peace.
“My soul magnifies the Lord.”

*HYMN 203
Hail to the Lord’s Anointed

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

MISSION EMPHASIS MOMENT
Christmas Offering
Judy Kostura

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.

SCRIPTURE
Luke 1:46b-55
New Testament, page 54

SERMON
Joy: Delight Can’t Wait

RESPONDING IN FAITH

ADVENT CAROLS: WITHIN OUR HEARTS BE BORN
E’en So Lord Jesus Quickly Come
Paul O, Manz

Peace be to you and grace from him
who freed us from our sins,
who loved us all and shed his blood
that we might saved be.
Sing holy, holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God,
who was and is and is to come;
sing holy, holy, Lord!
Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
for Christ is coming soon!
E’en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
and night shall be no more;
they need no light, nor lamp, nor sun,
for Christ will be their all!

Revelation 22, alt.
The Apple Tree

The tree of life my soul hath seen,
laden with fruit and always green;
the trees of nature fruitless be
compared to Christ, the apple tree.
His beauty doth all things excell;
by faith I know, but ne’er can tell
the glory which I now can see
in Jesus Christ, the apple tree.
For happiness I long have sought,
and pleasure dearly I have bought;
I missed of all, but now I see
‘tis found in Christ, the apple tree.
I’m weary with my former toil,
here I will sit and rest a while;
under the shadow I will be,
of Jesus Christ, the apple tree.
This fruit doth make my soul to thrive
it keeps my dying faith alive,
which makes my soul in haste to be
with Jesus Christ, the apple tree.

Anonymous; collection of Joshua Smith, New Hampshire

Gabriel's Blessing

Gabriel’s Blessing

Brad Heckler and Christina Whitford

In the sixth month,
the Angel Gabriel was sent from God
unto a virgin espoused to a man
whose name was Joseph;
and the virgin’s name was Mary.

Gabriel:
“Hail thou that art highly favored
the Lord is with thee;
blessed are thou among women.
For behold - thou shall bring forth a son
and shall call his name Jesus.”
Mary:
“How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?”

Gabriel:
“The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee
and the power of the Highest
shall overshadow thee;
for with God nothing shall be impossible.”

Mary:
“Behold the handmaid of the Lord.
Be it unto me according to thy word.
My soul doth magnify the Lord,
and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.
For he hath regarded
the lowliness of his handmaiden.
For behold from henceforth
all generations shall call me blessed.
For he that is mighty hath magnified me,
and holy is his name;
and his mercy is on them that fear him
throughout all generations.
He hath showed strength with his arm;
he hath scattered the proud
in the imagination of their hearts.
He hath put down the mighty from their seat
and hath exalted the humble and meek.
He hath filled the hungry with good things,
and the rich he hath sent empty away.
He remembering his mercy
hath hoplen his servant Israel,
as he promised to our forefathers,
Abraham and his seed forever.”
Choir:

What child is this who, laid to rest,
on Mary’s lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?
This is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son, of Mary.
Why lies he in such mean estate
where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear, for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.
So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh,
come peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him.


What Child is This: William C. Dix

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

OFFERTORY

Savior of the Nations, Come
German Chorale
Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland
**PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING**

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.

Re-joice! Re-joice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Words: Thomas Ken, alt.
Music: VENI, VENI, EMMANUEL - plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th century

---

**FEASTING AT THE TABLE OF GRACE**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, Lord God of time and eternity,

for you have opened the eyes of the blind

and unstopped the ears of the deaf;

you have made the lame leap like a deer

and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

You made this world as a playground of delights,

and you called a people to be your companions forever.

In Jesus you showed us who you are,

who we are,

how far we have strayed from you,

and how to become your companions again.
In his death
you opened a path for our redemption,
and in his resurrection
you brought us the joy of forgiveness and everlasting life.

And so our souls magnify you,
with angels and archangels,
and all the company of heaven,
singing the hymn of your unending praise:

Please be seated.

God of blessing,
in Jesus you fill the hungry with good things.
You bestow mercy from generation to generation.
You show us the cost and glory of your salvation
in the breaking and pouring and sharing of bread and wine.
Send down your Holy Spirit,
that your people may be sanctified by your grace,
and these gifts of bread and wine may be for us
the body and blood of your Son Jesus Christ;
who, at supper with his disciples,
took bread,
gave you thanks,
broke the bread,
and gave it to them, saying,
“Take, eat:
this is my body which is given for you;
do this in remembrance of me.”
After supper he took the cup.
Again he gave you thanks,
and gave it to his disciples, saying,
“Drink this, all of you:
this is my blood of the new covenant,
which is shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving,
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ’s offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Delivering God,
we call on you to fulfill your Advent promise.
May waters break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert;
make a highway on which no traveler,
not even fools, shall go astray.
Bring home those who are in exile;
fill their hearts with singing
and shower their heads with everlasting joy.
Unite your church,
clothe us with the fruits of your Spirit,
and fill us with the hope of Advent,
the substance of things hoped for
and the knowledge of things unseen,
until all bow before your throne and worship in your glory,
ever one God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
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 RAIL OFFERING

It is a United Methodist custom to receive a freewill love offering, over and above our regular giving, at the communion rail. Today, all gifts left on the rail will go to our Christmas Offering.
For more information, see The Weekly.
COMMUNION HYMNS

626  Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

207  Prepare the Way of the Lord

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

GOING OUT TO SERVE

*BENEDICTION

*HYMN 218  It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CLOSING MUSIC

CHANCEL FLOWERS
The flowers are placed by Barrett and Carly Criscoe in memory of Barrett’s grandfather, Col. James Boyd Criscoe.

WORSHIP LEADERS
Preacher
Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Liturgists
Dr. Brad King and Gary Diehl

Advent Candlelighters
Kaighin Family

Music Director/Organist
Scott Davis

Associate Choir Director
Mario Contreras

COMMUNION MUSIC
Text: Traditional and Liturgy of St. James; trans. Gerard Moultrie
Music: PICARDY - French carol 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.