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.
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
Arise, shine!
The glory of the Lord shines like the sun.
Behold, the nations have come to witness God's light.
Kings have come to behold Christ's brightness.
Lift up your eyes and look around.
The glory of the Lord is all around.
Arise, shine!
Your light has come.

The Abingdon Worship Annual 2018: Worship Planning Resources for Every Sunday of the Year
Abingdon Press. Kindle Edition

*HYMN 254  We Three Kings

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Almighty God,
in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge.
Open our eyes
that we may see the wonders of your Word;
and give us grace
that we may clearly understand and freely choose the way of your wisdom;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-12  New Testament, page 1

SERMON God Has Bigger Plans Than You Do

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. The next class is Sunday, February 2, at 12:15 p.m. in FLC Garrison Chapel. 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

OFFERING  Carol of the Epiphany  John Bell

I sought him dressed in finest clothes,
where money talks and status grows;
but power and wealth he never chose:
It seemed he lived in poverty.

I sought him in the safest place,
remote from crime or cheap disgrace;
but safety never knew his face:
It seemed he lived in jeopardy.

I sought him where the spotlights glare,
where crowds collect and critics stare;
but no one knew his presence there:
It seemed he lived in obscurity.

Then, in the streets, we heard the word
that seemed, for all the world, absurd:
That those who could no gifts afford were entertaining Christ the Lord.

And so, distinct from all we’d planned,
among the poorest of the land,
We touched God in a baby’s hand.

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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.