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 February.
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.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS
* BENEDICTION

* HYMN 369   Blessed Assurance

CLOSING MUSIC   *   *   *

CHANCEL FLOWERS
The flowers are placed in honor of Mary Higgs by Merianne Gaston.

WORSHIP LEADERS
Preacher: Reverend Taylor Fuerst
Liturgists: Reverend Cathy Stone and Dr. Brad King
Music Director/Organist: Scott Davis
Associate Conductor: Mario Contreras
Handbell Director: Shirley Derryberry

WORSHIP MUSIC
Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Words: Thomas Ken; adapt. by Gilbert H. Viera
Adapt. © 1980 The United Methodist Publishing House
(All rights reserved. Used by permission OneLicense.net #A705700.)
Music: LASST UNS ERFREUEN - Geistliche Kirchengesänge; adapt. by Ralph Vaughan Williams

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.

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY
February 9, 2020
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.

LEARN MORE AT www.fumcaustin.org
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.

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
Gustav T. Holst

O God, beyond all praising, we worship you today and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay; for we can only wonder at every gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end: we lift our hearts before you and wait upon your Word, we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

Michael Perry
(All rights reserved. Used by permission OneLicense.net #A705700.)

*CALL TO WORSHIP
When we pass through the waters, God is there with us.
When we suffer and feel hopeless, God is there with us.
When we are joyful and celebratory, God is there with us.
When we feel triumphant or defeated, God is there with us, always.

COME, let us worship together with Emmanuel, God with us.

* HYMN 117 O God, Our Help In Ages Past

OPENING PRAYER

ANTHEM
A Journey of Faith
Don Boig

The church of God has stood through all the ages, a source of strength to all who gather there; a place for all who seek God's love to join in worship and in prayer.
We honor those who bravely came before us, who learned by faith to lay their fears aside.
They walked in grace and served with joy for they trusted the Lord to be their guide.
Their faith in Christ would not be broken; as they walked in the light of his word; and with the love and grace they found in this place, they went forth to serve the Lord.
The church of God will stand through all the ages, a light of hope to shine so all may see; a place for all to share God's love and find the comfort that they need.
And as a faithful family of believers, we stand as one, united in God's name.
We'll place our trust in Christ our Lord, and his praises we loudly will proclaim!
Our faith in Christ will not be broken!
We will walk in the light of his word; and with the love and grace we find in this place, we will go and serve our Lord.
Faithful servants forever, we will go forth hand in hand facing challenges together as we follow God's command.

Don Boig and Nancy Price
© 2000 Harold Flammer Music, Shawnee Press, Inc.
(All rights reserved. Used by permission OneLicense.net #A705700.)

HEARING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Holy God, Word made flesh, let us come to this word open to being surprised.
Silence our agendas; banish our assumptions; cast out our casual detachment.
Penetrate the corners of our hearts with your Word.
We know that you can, we pray that you will, and we wait with great anticipation.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE
Isaiah 43:1-7 Old Testament, page 637

HYMN
You Are Mine
Stanzas 1 and 2 sung seated as the children come forward.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

HYMN
You Are Mine
Stanzas 3 and 4 sung seated as the children return to their seats.

SERMON
God Will Never Leave You

RESPONDING IN FAITH

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
As we pray, please join the response: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

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 19, 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
American Folk Hymn Promised Land
Arr. Cheryl Baker

*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING
As we sing the following, those with birthdays in February are invited to come forward for a prayer of blessing.