**First Sunday of Lent**
March 1, 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.

**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 Hymns**
617 I Come with Joy
618 Let Us Break Bread Together

**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 United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR). For more information, see The Weekly.

**Prayer After Receiving**

**Going Out to Serve**

* Benediction

**Hymn**
Sunday's Palms Are Wednesday's Ashes See Insert

**Closing Music**

**Chancel Flowers**
The flowers are placed in loving honor of Jinnie Sue Francis by her family.

**Worship Leaders**
Preacher
Reverend Taylor Fuerst
Liturgists
Reverend Cathy Stone
Dr. Brad King
Music Director/Organist
Scott Davis

**Sunday School**
10:00-10:45 A.M.

**Adults**
Sunday School is the place where people learn about Christian faith in a loving, supporting 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

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

Eternal Lord of love, behold your Church walking once more the pilgrim way of Lent, led by your cloud by day, by night your fire, moved by your love and toward your presence bent; far of yet here - the goal of all desire.
Thomas H. Cain

* CALL TO WORSHIP

God of salvation’s joy, we gather to celebrate and revere you.
We come, realising that we are broken. Forgive and re-create us.
God of unfailing love, we gather to worship and honor you.
We come, and because of your compassion, forgive and renew us.
God of new beginnings, we gather to praise and thank you.
We come, and through your grace and mercy, forgive and restore us.
so that with clean hearts we may truly worship you.
Amen.

* HYMN

Lord Through These Forty Days

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Grace-filled God,
we confess that we are mired in sin and cannot get free on our own.
We have judged others based on skin color, gender, sexuality, religion, nationality, and ability.
We have preferred the ease and simplicity of placing others into boxes over the complexity of getting to know one another as siblings.
We have contributed to and often benefited from systems that maintain the power of a privileged few.
We have remained silent in the face of racism and other forms of prejudice.
Through both our action and inaction, war, poverty, and environmental degradation continue on massive scales.
We have ignored your prophets and turned from your command to put you first and your neighbor second.
Forgive our ignorance.
Forgive our silence.
Forgive our sin.
May your love overwhelm us, may your peace disturb us, and may your spirit move us so that we cannot help but do your will at all times and in all places, always glorifying your name.
Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news! Jesus came to call us to repentance. Jesus died that we might be forgiven. Jesus was resurrected that we might know eternal life. In his name, your sins are forgiven. Turn towards God and sin no more.

FEASTING AT THE TABLE OF GRACE

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

OFFERING

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
O cast me not away from thy presence, and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of thy salvation, and uphold me with thy free spirit.
Psalm 51:10-12