BIRTHDAY BLESSING
Let us pray:
God, our gracious Creator,
we give you thanks for the gift of life
to those 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
Liturgist: Reverend Cathy Stone
Cantor: Michael Carrillo
Piano: Susannah Willms
Violin: Evelyn Gullatt
Handbell Director: Shirley Derryberry

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
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
All are invited to greet those around them and to fill out the Connections Card.

ENTERING THE HOLY

* 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, always.
Whether we feel triumphant or defeated,
God is there with us.
Come, let us worship together with Emmanuel, God with us.

* HYMN
117  O God, Our Help In Ages Past

OPENING PRAYER

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

SERMON
God Will Never Leave You

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, April 19, at 12:15 p.m. in PLC 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
Art Cheryl Baker

*PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

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.

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
Hymn  You Are Mine  See Insert
617       I Come with Joy

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 Feed My People Breakfast Ministry. For more information, see The Weekly.

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING