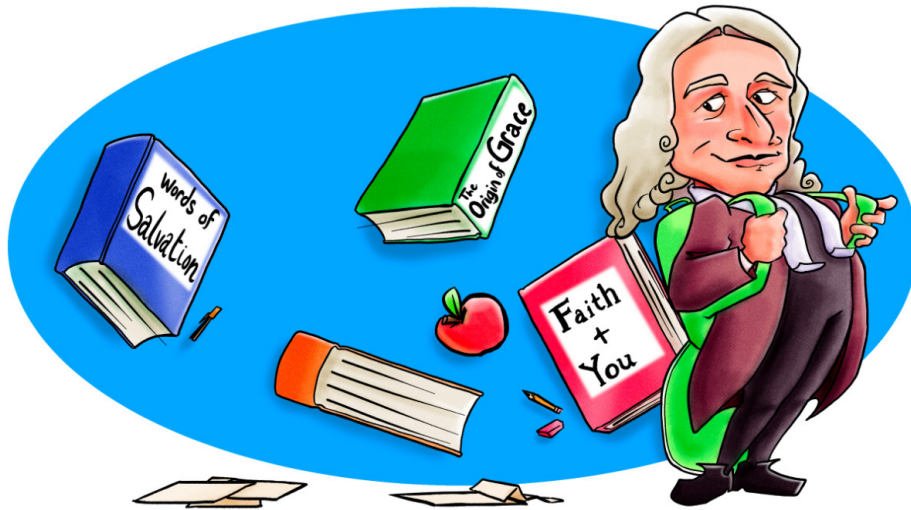




Packed with Grace

Wesleyan Theology
for Your Everyday Life

August 16, 2026
9:00AM

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 to join God in transforming the world.

OUR VALUES

Justice. Working to eradicate injustice for the excluded and marginalized. *Bridge-Building.* Nurturing multigenerational friendships and community partnerships. *Storytelling.* Sharing our stories of faith and of growth. *Active Learning.* Pursuing knowledge and understanding of God. *Service.* Seeking mutually empowering service opportunities. *Constructive Disruption.* Disrupting systems of power to create positive change.

OUR FAMILIES

We love children in worship. Activity clipboards and other materials for children are available at the back of the Sanctuary. Our Family Room in the balcony offers rockers, books, toys, and a diaper change station for parents with infants and toddlers. Childcare is available from 8:45AM-12:15PM for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers in EDU Room 102.



LEARN MORE AT
www.fumcaustin.org

GATHERING AS THE CHURCH

Asterisks () indicate an invitation to stand as you are able.*

GATHERING VOLUNTARY

GREETING

As you prepare for worship, please greet your neighbors and fill out a Connections Card. You can find the printed version in the pew in front of you or you can use the QR code on the front page of the FUMC Weekly. To let our pastors know about a prayer request for you or someone you love, you can use the printed Connections Card that will be placed in the offering basket when it is passed or you can use the QR code found on the front of the FUMC Weekly.

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

Come, O Come, In Celebration

Come, O come, in celebration, household of the one true God,
in commitment and rejoicing let us go where Christ has trod.
As we act in faith and reverence, let us, Lord, the future see;
fit us for the work of building, dedicate us to the task.

Words: Mary Jackson Cathey © 1990 Hope Publishing Co.

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Music: Scott Davis © 2015 Scott Davis

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* CALL TO WORSHIP

Sing a new song!

Make a joyful noise!

Let the sea roar,

and let the sky shimmer.

Let the earth be glad,

and let the children run and play.

Let the old laugh with deep wisdom.

Let the young listen, wide-eyed and wondering.

And let us worship God.

Inspired by Psalm 98; Written by Beth Merrill Neel, alt.

* HYMN 400

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of love,

as we hear your Word today,

quiet the many voices that compete for our attention.

Open our hearts,

renew our minds,

and shape us more fully into the likeness of Christ.

May your Spirit speak through the scriptures,

and may we have the courage to respond.

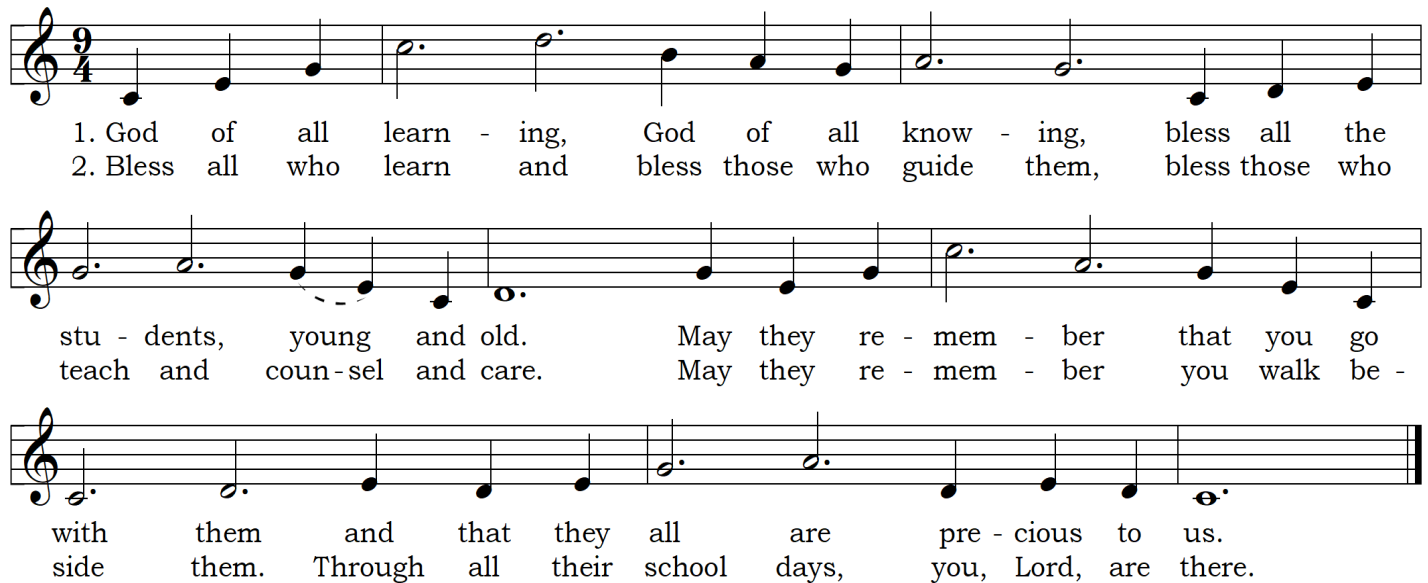
Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 15:1-10

HYMN

God of All Learning
Stanza 1 sung as children come forward



1. God of all learn - ing, God of all know - ing, bless all the
2. Bless all who learn and bless those who guide them, bless those who

stu - dents, young and old. May they re - mem - ber that you go
teach and coun - sel and care. May they re - mem - ber you walk be -

with them and that they all are pre - cious to us.
side them. Through all their school days, you, Lord, are there.

Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette © 2015 Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

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Music: *Bunessan*, Traditional Gaelic Melody

BACK-TO-SCHOOL BLESSING

For a new beginning,
we give you thanks, O Lord.

For books that give us information and wisdom,
we give you thanks, O Lord.

For teachers and other helpers who help us discover the wonder of your world,
we give you thanks, O Lord.

For eyes with which to see and read, hearts to hear, and tongues to speak,
we give you thanks, O Lord.

For a place where we may learn,
we give you thanks, O Lord.

And for these backpacks with which we will carry our books and our belongings,
we give you thanks, O Lord.

The pastor continues the prayer.

HYMN

God of All Learning
Stanza 2 sung as children return to their seats

SERMON

Someone Packed Your Lunch for You

RESPONDING IN FAITH

INVITATION TO THE FAITH JOURNEY

Are you interested in what it means to be a member of First Church? First Steps is an informal gathering where you can meet the pastors and staff, learn about United Methodist beliefs, hear more about our many ministry opportunities, ask questions about this community of faith, and explore whether membership at First Church is your next step in faith. The next First Steps Class is Sunday, September 13, at 12:15PM in the FLC Garrison Chapel. Lunch is provided and childcare is available in EDU Room 102. To sign up, fill out a Connections Card and place it in the offering basket or go online at fumcaustin.org/first-steps.

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

In My Imagination (Nella Fantasia)

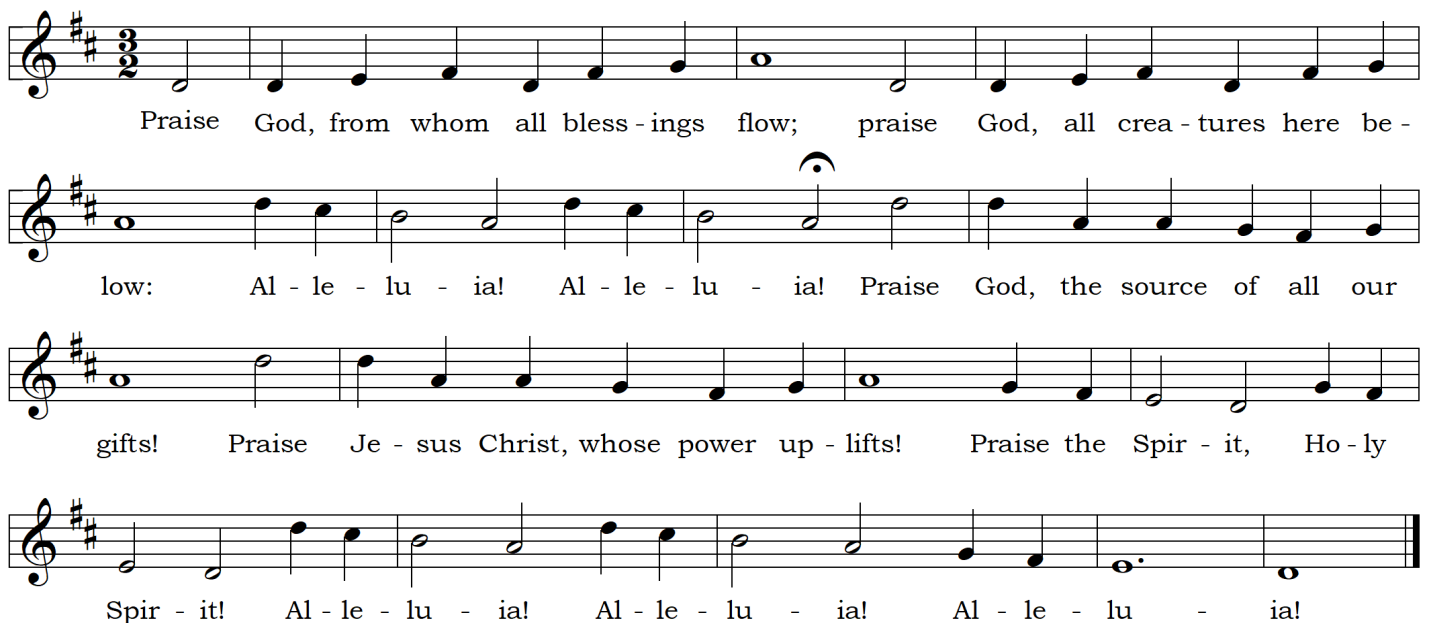
In my imagination I see a world of justice,
where all people live in peace and honesty.
I dream of a world where people will be always free;
they will be ever free like floating clouds full of kindness inside my soul.
In my imagination I see a world of radiance,
where darkest nights are ever brighter.
In my imagination I feel the caress of the warm wind
that breathes over the city like a friend.

Words: Chiara Ferraù

Music: Ennio Morricone; Arr. Audrey Snyder © 2006 EMI Virgin Music LTD, admin. Hal Leonard Music, Inc.

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* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING



The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: 'Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here be - low: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Je - sus Christ, whose power up - lifts! Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly Spir - it! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!'.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all crea - tures here be -
low: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Praise God, the source of all our
gifts! Praise Je - sus Christ, whose power up - lifts! Praise the Spir - it, Ho - ly
Spir - it! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Words: Thomas Ken; Adapt. Gilbert H. Vieira © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

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Music: *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*, Geistliche Kirchengesänge; Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams

FEASTING AT THE TABLE OF GRACE

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant *All*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *All*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant *All*

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor gives thanks, recalling God's story of abundance.

...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord; God of pow'r and might.

Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - - - - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

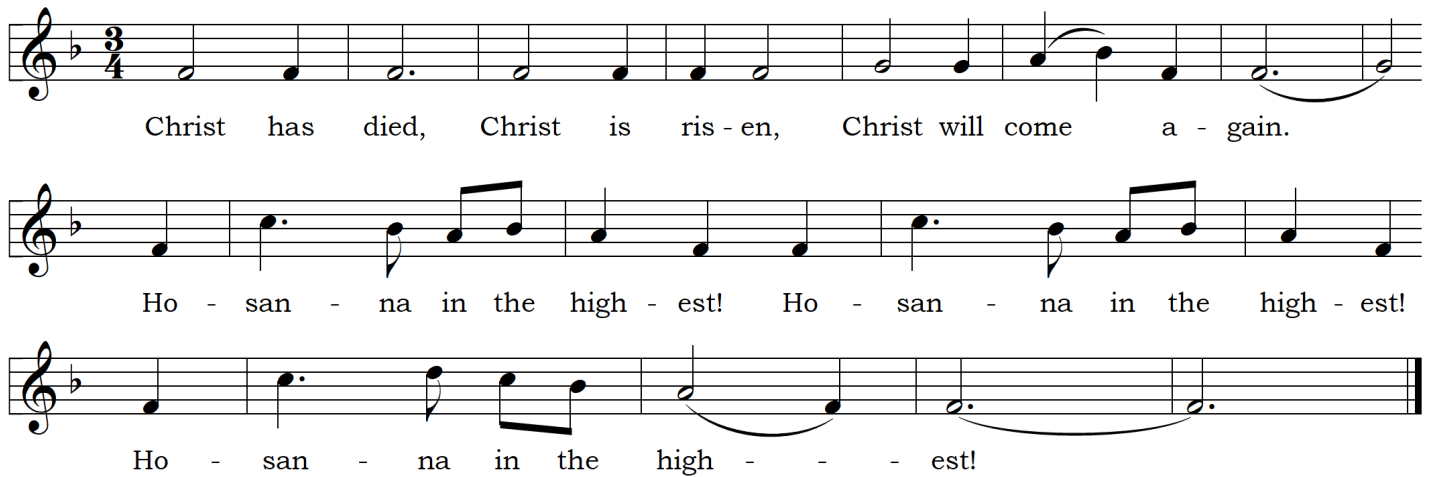
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blest is the One who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

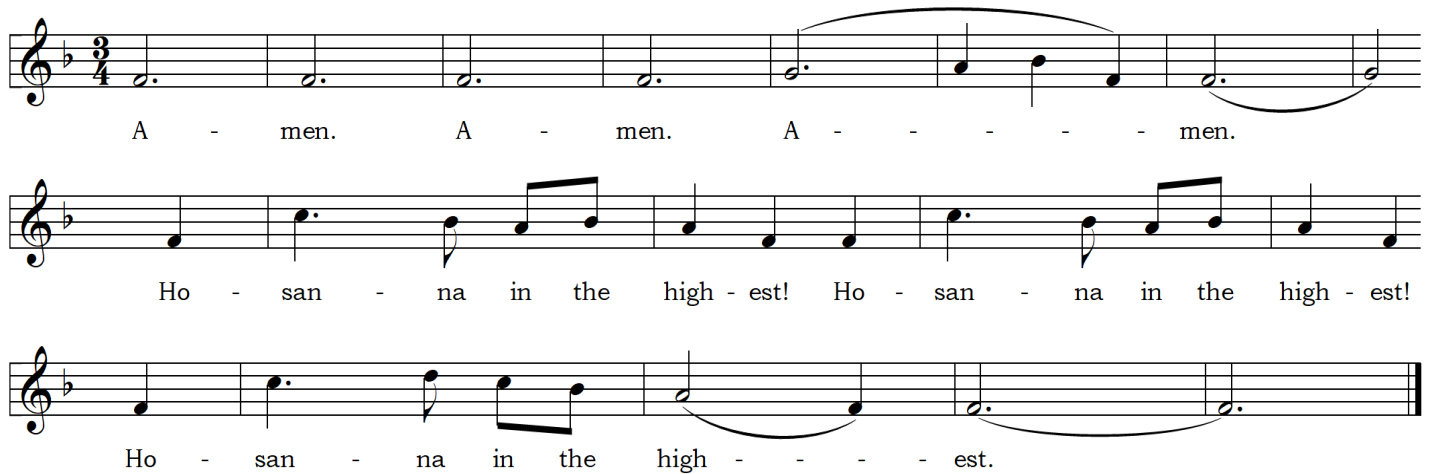
Please be seated. Pastor continues leading the prayer, recalling the acts of Christ.

...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:



Pastor continues leading the prayer, asking God to pour out God's Holy Spirit on us and this meal.

...Through your Son Jesus Christ,
 with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
 all honor and glory are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

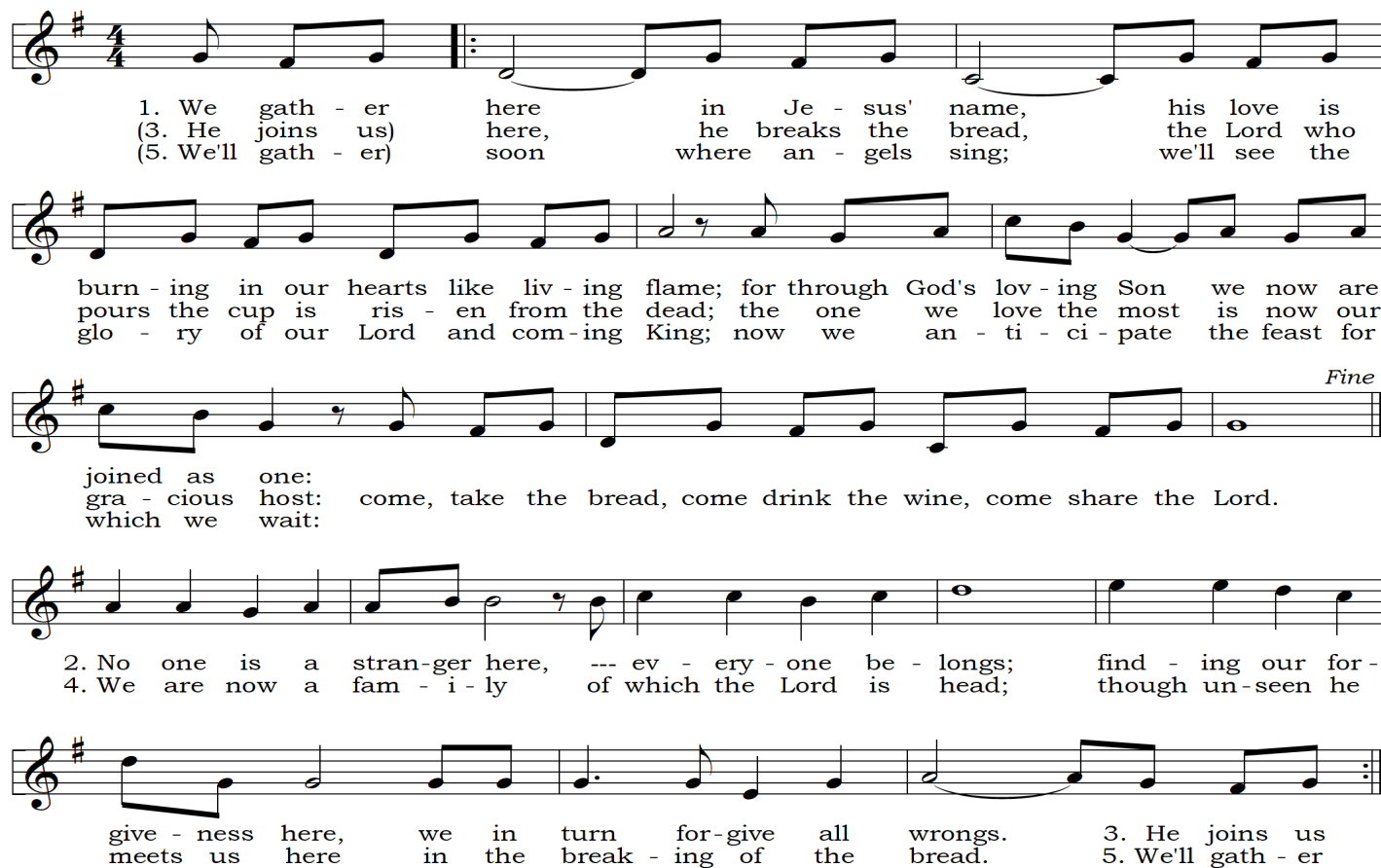


THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our God in heaven,
 hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come,
 your will be done
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread.
 Forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us.
 Lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For yours is the kingdom,
 the power,
 and the glory, forever.
 Amen.

HYMNS DURING RECEIVING

Come Share the Lord



1. We gath - er here in Je - sus' name, his love is
(3. He joins us) here, he breaks the bread, the Lord who
(5. We'll gath - er) soon where an - gels sing; we'll see the

burn - ing in our hearts like liv - ing flame; for through God's lov - ing Son we now are
pours the cup is ris - en from the dead; the one we love the most is now our
glo - ry of our Lord and com - ing King; now we an - ti - ci - pate the feast for

joined as one: come, take the bread, come drink the wine, come share the Lord.
gra - cious host: which we wait:

2. No one is a stran - ger here, --- ev - ery - one be - longs; find - ing our for -
4. We are now a fam - i - ly of which the Lord is head; though un - seen he

give - ness here, we in turn for - give all wrongs. 3. He joins us
meets us here in the break - ing of the bread. 5. We'll gath - er

Words and Music: Bryan Jeffery Leech © 1984, 1987 Fred Bock Music Co.

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Ayudanos O Dios



*A - yu - da-nos, O Dios, con - cé - de-nos tu paz. A - yu - da-nos, O

Dios, con - cé - de-nos tu paz. A - paz. O help us, save us,

grant us peace, O God! A - yu - da-nos, help us, grant us peace, O

God! A - yu - da-nos, O Dios, con - cé - de nos tu paz.

Words and Music: Mark A. Miller © 2016 GIA Publications, Inc.

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PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

In gratitude, in deep gratitude
for this moment,
this meal,
these people,
we give ourselves to you.

Send us out to live as changed people
because we have shared the Living Bread
and cannot remain the same.

Ask much of us,
expect much from us,
enable much by us,
encourage many through us.

So, Lord, may we live to your glory,
both as inhabitants of earth
and citizens of the commonwealth of heaven.
Amen.

GOING OUT TO SERVE

*** BENEDICTION**

*** HYMN**

The Servant Song

See Slides

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed on the chancel by Steve Maple in loving memory of his wife, Sue.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher

Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Liturgist

Reverend Cathy Stone

Cantors

Scott Davis

Courtney Katzmeyer-Vielma

Sierra Vernon

WORSHIP BULLETIN GRAPHIC

Colin Day, *First Church member and recent UT graduate*

GREAT THANKSGIVING MUSICAL RESPONSES

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