



FOUNDATION for the FUTURE

**May 3, 2026
11:00AM**

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 Prelude and Fugue in C Major
(BWV 553)

Johann Sebastian Bach

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

God, We Love This Congregation!

God, we love this congregation!
On this day, we're glad to see friends and neighbors,
gathered, praying, as a church community.
We are drawn by faith and friendship to this holy place and time.
Bless us as our congregation moves together, serving you.

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Music: Scott Davis © 2015 Scott Davis

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* CALL TO WORSHIP

The voice of God gathers us this day;
the warmth of God brings us together as one people.

So we come with joy and sorrow in our hearts,
with acts mighty and faltering,
with kindness and with selfishness,
with doubt and with faith.

So may we bring the fullness of our lives to God.
May we worship well this day.

* HYMN 57

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

Stanzas 1, 2, 3, 5, and 7

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal God,
as we listen for your word,
even in the midst of life's endless distractions,
capture us; convict us; convert us; surprise us; and renew us.

Amen.

John Thornburg

SCRIPTURE

Mark 2:1-12

SERMON

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 today 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 bring it with you to class.

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

Come, Renew Us

Come Lord, come to us, enter our darkness with your light.
Fill our emptiness with your presence,
come, refresh, restore, renew us.
In our sadness, come as joy,
in our troubles, peace,
in our fearfulness, come as hope,
in our darkness, come as light,
in our frailty, come as strength,
in our loneliness, come as love.

Words: David Adam © SPCK Publishing

Music: Eleanor Daley © 2015 JEHMS Inc., a division of Alliance Music Publications, Inc.

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*** PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING**

Praise God, from whom all bles-sings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be -
low: Al-le-lu-ia! Christ is ris-en! 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! Christ is ris-en! 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

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain. gain.

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.

A - men, a - men, a - - - - men.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

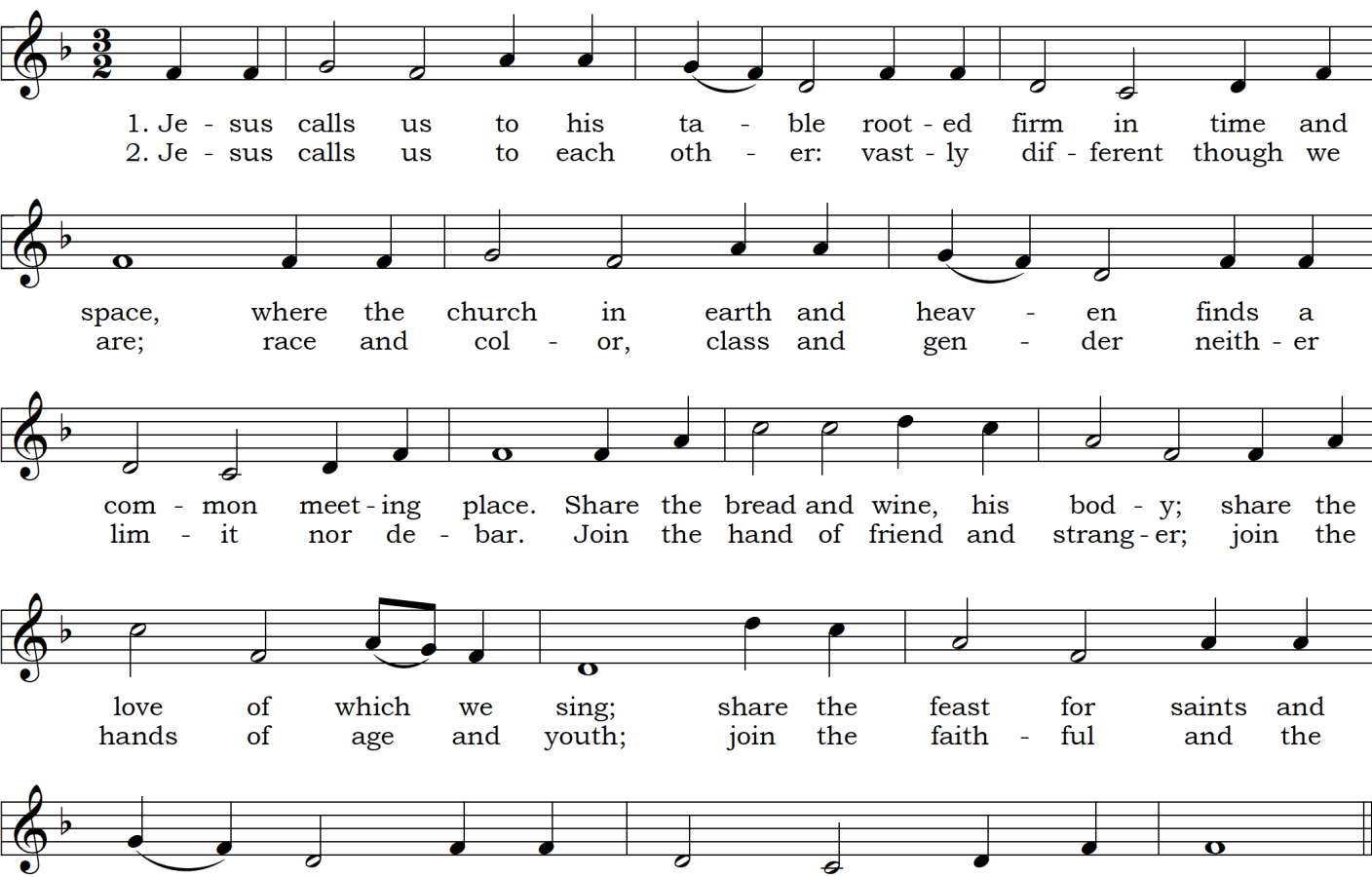
Our God in heaven,
 hallowed be your name.
 Your kingdom come,
 your will be done
 on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread.
 Forgive us our trespasses,
 as we forgive those
 who trespass against us.
 Lead us not into temptation,
 but deliver us from evil.
 For yours is the kingdom,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

HYMNS DURING RECEIVING

Hymn 632 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Hymn

Jesus Calls Us to His Table



1. Je - sus calls us to his ta - ble root - ed firm in time and
 2. Je - sus calls us to each oth - er: vast - ly dif - ferent though we

space, where the church in earth and heav - en finds a
 are; race and col - or, class and gen - der neith - er

com - mon meet - ing place. Share the bread and wine, his bod - y; share the
 lim - it nor de - bar. Join the hand of friend and strang - er; join the

love of which we sing; share the feast for saints and
 hands of age and youth; join the faith - ful and the

sin - ners host - ed by our Lord and King.
 doubt - er in their com - mon search for truth.

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Music: *Beach Spring*, attr. to B. F. White

Hymn 630

Become to Us the Living Bread

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

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

1. "Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, nev - er a - lone.
2. "Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure.
3. "Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, clo - ser to me.

Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you, you are my own.
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er.
Here you heard my dear Son's sto - ry, here you touched him, saw his glo - ry.
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here my ten - der com - fort stilled you.

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless - ing, you are my own."
Go, my chil - dren, sins for - giv - en, at peace and pure."
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour - ished, joy - ful and free."

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed on the chancel by Jan Berger in honor of Ed Berger's birthday on May 7.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Liturgist: Reverend Cathy Stone

Music: Scott Davis

Gathering Voluntary: Tim Wilborn

GREAT THANKSGIVING MUSICAL RESPONSES

From *Deutsche Mess* Franz Schubert; Adapt. Richard Proulx © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. (All rights reserved. Used by permission OneLicense.net #A705700.)

GIFTS MAKE TRANSFORMATION POSSIBLE

Cash or checks will be received during the offertory. We also have three convenient ways to give online: (1) use your smartphone to scan the QR code provided on the front page of the FUMC Weekly and follow the prompts; (2) use the FUMC App on your smart phone; and/or (3) make an online donation at fumcaustin.org/giving.

SUNDAY SCHOOL 10:00-10:45AM

ADULTS

Our classes offer adults a wide selection of age groups, study topics, and learning styles. Many classes are meeting in person and online. Visit fumcaustin.org/sundayschool.

YOUTH

Sunday School for 6th through 12th grade begins in the Great Hall of the Family Life Center. Learn more at fumcaustin.org/youth.

CHILDREN

Sunday School for preschool through 5th grade is located on the first floor of the Sanctuary Building. Learn more at fumcaustin.org/children.