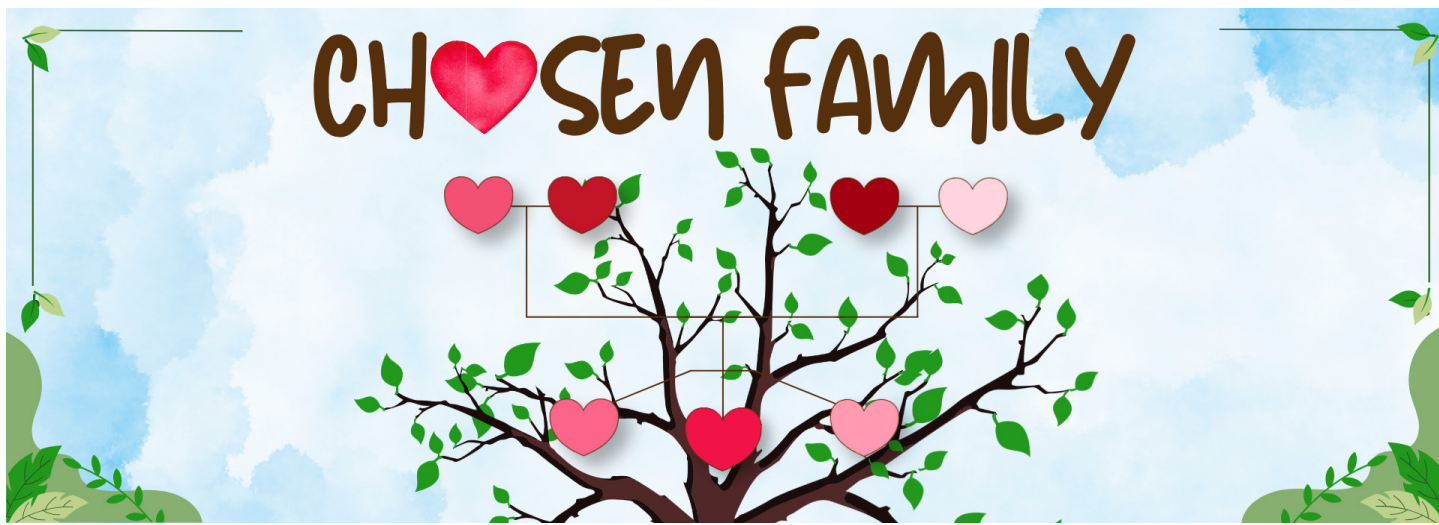




*July 5, 2026
11:00AM*

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

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

O God of Every Nation

O God of every nation, of every race and land,
redeem your whole creation with your almighty hand;
where hate and fear divide us, and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us, and heal our strife-torn world.

Words: William W. Reid © 1958, renewed 1986 The Hymn Society of America

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Music: *Materna*, Samuel A. Ward

* CALL TO WORSHIP

God sees us, each of us,
radiant with original blessing.
**We are the seeds of God’s Dream —
embodiments of incarnate Belovedness.**

Jesus, our earthly teacher,
Christ, our eternal guide,
calls us, collectively,
to awaken to our truest identity.

We are The Beloved Community.
Let us worship God.

* HYMN 428

For the Healing of the Nations

HEARING GOD’S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God,
as we hear the scriptures read and proclaimed,
help us recognize your voice calling us
into the family you are creating—
a community bound by grace, love, and discipleship.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Romans 12:9-21

SERMON

Belonging

RESPONDING IN FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As we pray, please join in the response:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

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

More Love

Four simple words we sing today.
With these four words we ought to pray,
and take to heart this simple phrase:
“More love, less hate.”
It seems so easy on its face.
Four words to heal the human race,
and yet we struggle to create
more love, less hate.
For love we stand!
More love in this land!
Will you join?
Come, take my hand!
More love, less hate.
When fear and violence touch our lives,
hate separates, seeks to divide.
Our faith in love won’t be denied.
Just as the night gives way to dawn,
justice shines forth before too long.
Until that day we will sing on,
“More love, less hate.”

Words and Music: Mark A. Miller © 2017 Hal Leonard LLC

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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! 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:

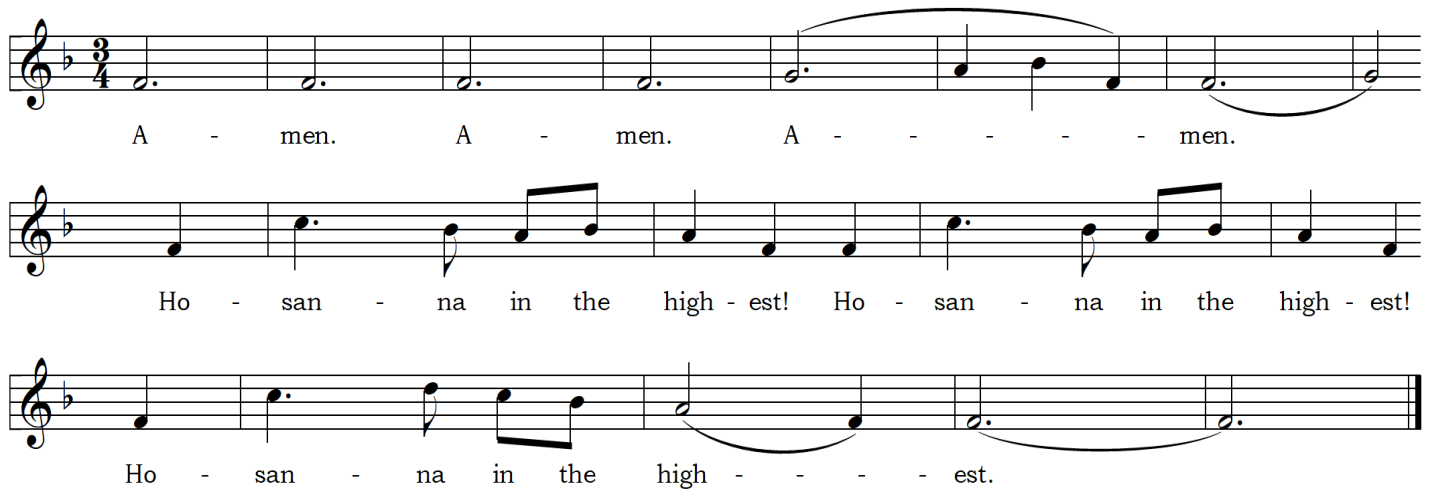
Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.

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

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

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

618	Let Us Break Bread Together	Stanzas 1, 2, and 3
432	Jesu, Jesu	
617	I Come with Joy	

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 437

This Is My Song

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed on the chancel by Curt and Debbie Shaw in honor of their daughter and son-in-law, Leslie and Rob Ivey, who are celebrating their 27th wedding anniversary.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Liturgist: Reverend Cathy Stone

Music: Alan Schlichting

GREAT THANKSGIVING MUSICAL RESPONSES

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SPIRITUALS OFFERING

In worship we often sing songs and hymns from the traditions of the Black Church. This music, born of the enslavement and oppression of Black Americans, began as a way of communicating messages of hope and perseverance. Today we share this music to lift up this witness of determination, inspiration, and eternal life.

Most songs from these traditions were not published until after the names of their creators were long forgotten. In recognition of this, whenever we sing gospel and spiritual songs, we contribute “royalties” as an offering that will support the development of young Black musicians at Huston-Tillotson University.

If you would like to contribute to this offering, please use the envelope provided in the pew or give online at fumcaustin.org/giving and select “Other Designated” in the drop down menu. Please write or type in the memo: Spirituals Offering.

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. To find class contact information, visit fumcaustin.org/sundayschool.

YOUTH

Sunday School for 6th through 12th grade begins in the Great Hall of the Family Life Center. We gather for announcements and then split into middle school and high school groups. Learn more at fumcaustin.org/youth.

CHILDREN

Sunday School for preschool through 5th grade is located on the first floor of the Sanctuary Building. Check in at one of our welcome stations for a name tag and guardian sticker before dropping children off in their classrooms. Childcare is also available for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers from 8:45AM-12:15PM. Learn more at fumcaustin.org/children.

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 Peak Parking Garage (owned by the Texas Trial Lawyers Association) at the southwest corner of 13th and Lavaca Streets or at open meters around the church. The garage is open from 7:00AM-2:30PM.