

from dust to destiny

six weeks in the stories of Genesis

September 13, 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

We Will Worship You, Lord

We will worship you, Lord, with all of our might,
we will praise you with a psalm;
we will worship you, Lord, with all of our might,
we will praise you all day long.

For thou, O Lord, art glorious,
and thy name is greatly to be praised;
may our hearts be pure and holy in thy sight
as we worship you with all of our might.

Words and Music: Daniel Gardner © 1981 Integrity's Hosanna! Music.

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* CALL TO WORSHIP

To see the life that teems around us,
to give thanks for the gifts we have received;
to notice the beauty and promise of each season;
to accept the gift of love and to love in return;
to offer our lives in service to God and our neighbor,
this is to worship God.

Beth Merrill Neel, alt.

* HYMN

O God Who Shaped Creation

1. O God who shaped cre - a - tion at earth's cha - o - tic dawn,
 2. O God, with pain and an - guish a moth - er sees her child
 3. Al - though your heart is bro - ken when peo - ple scorn your ways,
 4. In mer - cy and com - pas - sion your good - ness is re - vealed;

your word of power was spo - ken, and lo! the dark was gone!
 em - bark on dead - end path - ways, al - lur - ing, but de - filed;
 you nev - er cease your search - ing through e - vil's dark - some maze;
 with ten - der - ness you touch us, and bro - ken hearts are healed.

You framed us in your im - age, you brought us in - to birth,
 so too your heart is bro - ken when hate and lust in - crease,
 and when we cease our run - ing, your joys, O God, a - bound
 You claim us as your chil - dren, you strip our pride - ful shame,

you blessed our in - fant foot - steps and shared your splen - dored earth.
 when worlds you birthed and nur - tured spurn ways that lead to peace.
 like joy of search - ing wom - an when trea - sured coin is found.
 with free - dom born of mer - cy we bless your ho - ly name.

Words: William W. Reid, Jr. © The United Methodist Publishing House

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Music: *Lancashire*, Henry T. Smart

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Come, Holy Spirit,
enliven us,
energize us,
and focus our attention.

Come, Holy Spirit,
prepare our hearts
to meet the living God.

Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 3:8-15

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 FLC Room 111. 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.

BLESSING OF YOUTH AND CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

To You, O Lord

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

I place my trust in you, my God.

Save me from shame

and keep me safe always.

Show me your ways, O Lord,

and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and guide me,

for you are the rock of my salvation.

For you have I trusted all the day long.

Gracious and upright, you teach us all your way.

Remember, O Lord, your compassion.

Remember, O Lord, your love.

Remember not the sins and transgressions of my youth.

Remember me according to your steadfast love.

Words: Psalm 25:1-9. alt.

Music: Thomas Keesecker © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

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* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Musical score for 'Presentation of the Offering' in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The score consists of four staves of music. 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!' The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the fourth staff.

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

Musical score for 'The Great Thanksgiving' in F major (two flats) and 3/4 time. The score consists of three staves of music. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The score is divided into parts for 'Celebrant' and 'All'. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with a final double bar line at the end of the third staff.

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!

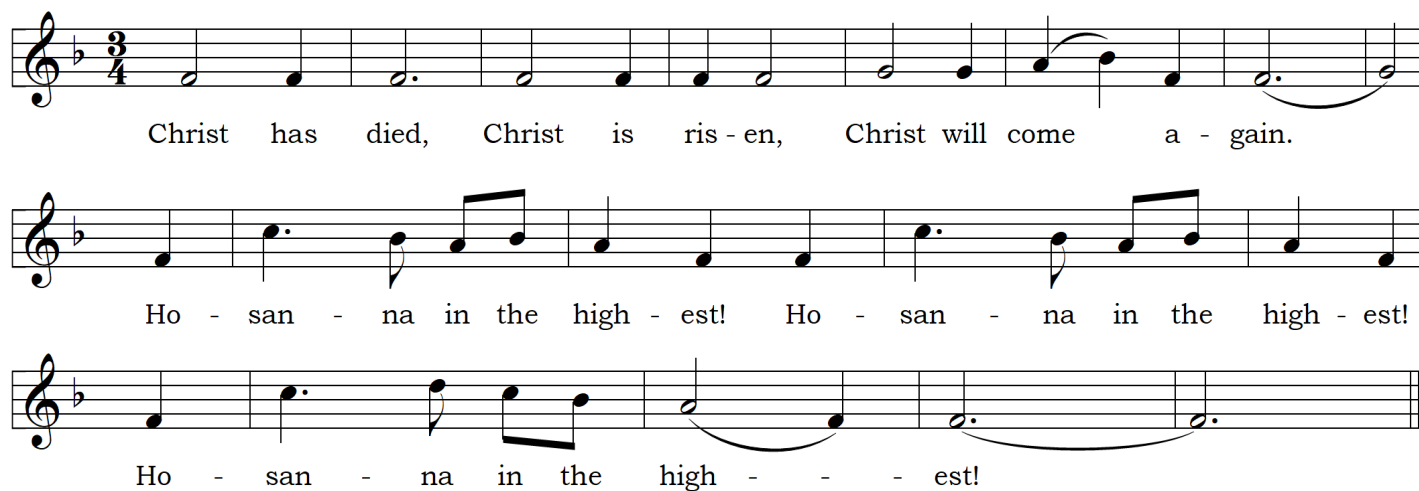
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blest is the One who comes

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.

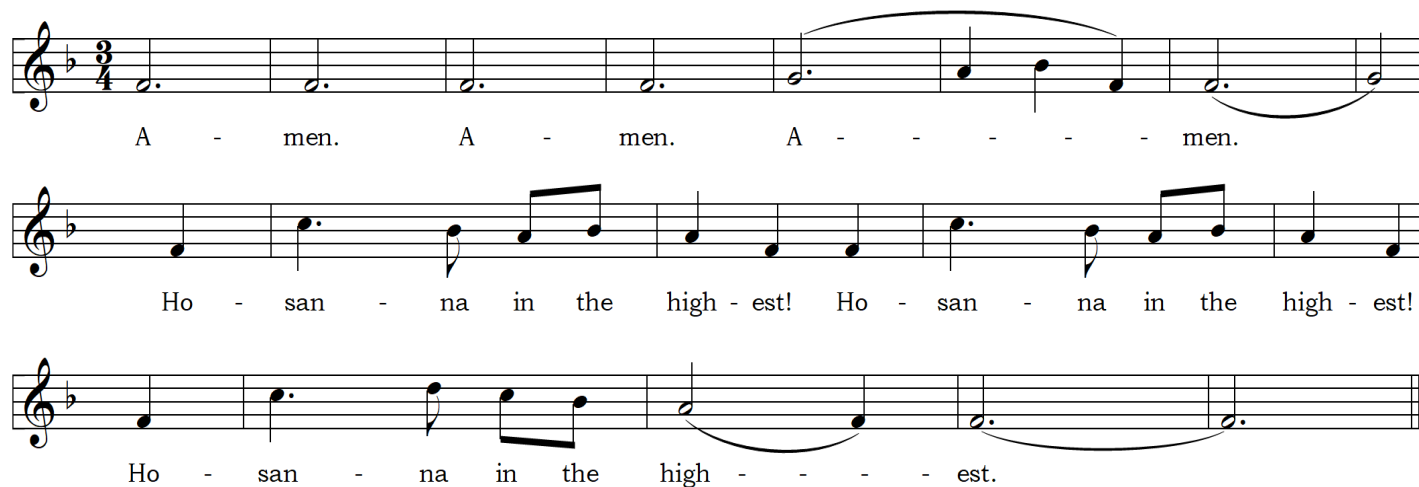
...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



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.



A - men. A - men. A - - - - men.
 Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!
 Ho - san - na in the high - - - - est.

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

Let Us Be Bread

Refrain



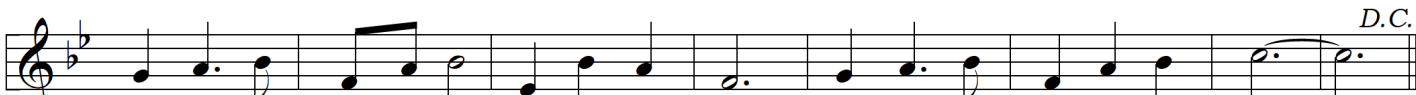
Let us be bread, blessed by the Lord, bro-ken and shared, life for the world.

Fine



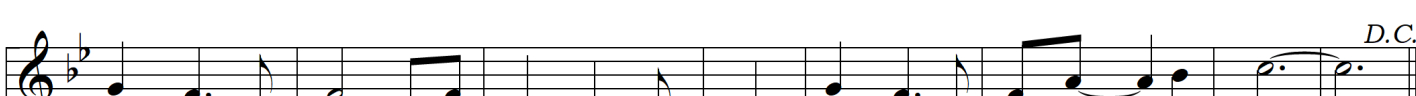
Let us be wine, love free-ly poured. Let us be one in the Lord.____

D.C.



1. I am the bread of life, bro-ken for all. Eat now and hun-ger no more.____

D.C.



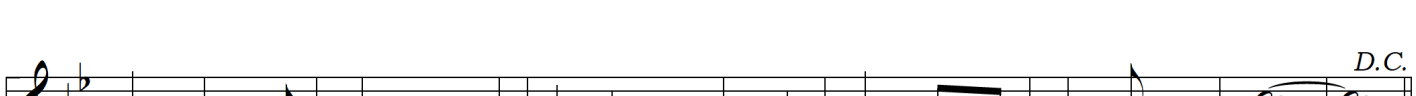
2. You are my friends if you keep my com-mands, no longer ser-vants but friends.

D.C.



3. See how my peo-ple have noth-ing to eat. Give them the bread that is you.____

D.C.



4. As God has loved me so I have loved you. Go and live on in my love.____

Words and Music: Thomas J. Porter © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc.

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Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth

1. Moth-er - ing God, you gave me birth in the bright morn - ing of this world.
2. Moth-er - ing Christ, you took my form, of - fer - ing me your food of light,
3. Moth-er - ing Spir - it, nur-t'ring one, in arms of pa - tience hold me close,

Cre - at - or, source of ev - ery breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.
grain of life, and grape of love, your ver - y bod - y for my peace.
so that in faith I root and grow un - til I flow'r, un - til I know.

The musical notation is written on two staves in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of music and the second staff contains the second line of music.

Words: Jean anzen, based on the writings of Juliana of Norwich © 1991 Abingdon Press

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Music: Trad. English Melody

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

BIRTHDAY BLESSING

Let us pray:

God, our gracious Creator,

we give you thanks for the gift of life

to these who celebrate their birthdays in September.

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.

* BENEDICTION

* HYMN

Amazing Grace

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed on the chancel by Becky Ratliff in memory of Connie Payne.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Liturgist: Reverend Cathy Stone

Cantors: Scott Davis, Courtney Katzmeyer-Vielma, and Victoria Tijerina-Gordon

GREAT THANKSGIVING MUSICAL RESPONSES

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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.