



November 23, 2025
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 sent 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

This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made

This is the day the Lord hath made
that all may see his love displayed,
may feel his resurrection's power
and rise again to fall no more,
in perfect righteousness renewed
and filled with all the life of God.

Words: Charles Wesley

Music: *Sussex Carol*, Traditional English Melody; Arr. and Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams

* CALL TO WORSHIP

This day is a gift from God;

**a day to reflect,
to offer thanks,
to seek the good.**

This time is a pause from the fever of life;

**a time to be with one another,
knit into community by God.**

So let us sing,
and listen,
and pray,
and feast.

And let us worship God.

Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, *Hold Fast to What Is Good*

(Used with permission.)

* HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God



1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
 2. Oh, may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3. All praise and thanks to God, Cre-a-tor, now be giv-en,

who won-drous things has done, in whom this world re-joic-es;
 with ev-er joy-ful hearts and ble-sed peace to cheer us,
 the Son, and him who reigns with them in high-est heav-en,

who, from our moth-ers' arms, has blest us on our way
 and keep us still in grace, and guide us when per-plexed,
 the one e-ter-nal God, whom earth and heav'n a-dore;

with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev-er-more.

Words: Martin Rinkart, trans. Catherine Winkworth

Music: *Nun Danket Alle Gott*, Johann Crüger

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God,
give us humble,
teachable,
and obedient hearts,
that we may receive what you have revealed,
and follow where you lead.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

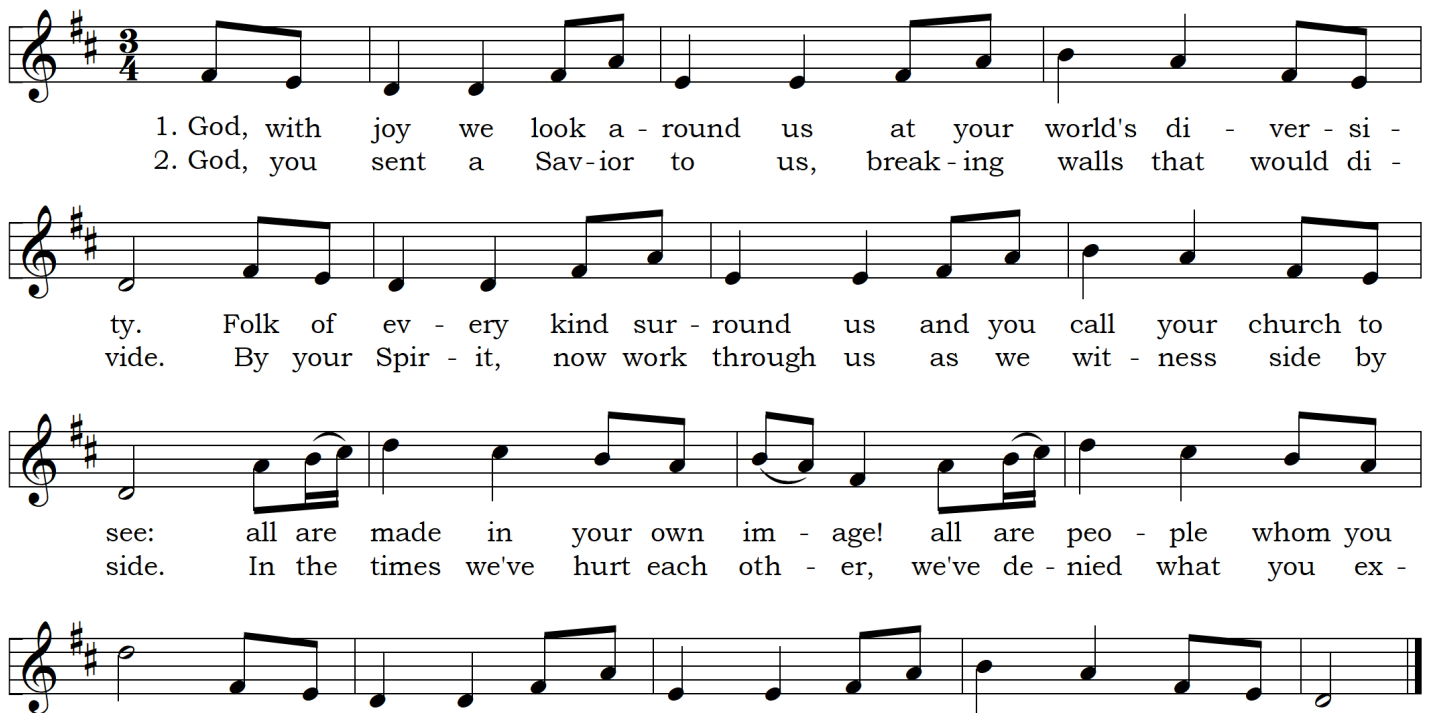
Luke 23:33-43

New Testament, page 18

HYMN

God, with Joy We Look Around Us

Stanza 1 sung seated as children come forward



1. God, with joy we look a - round us at your world's di - ver - si -
2. God, you sent a Sav - ior to us, break - ing walls that would di -

ty. Folk of ev - ery kind sur - round us and you call your church to
vide. By your Spir - it, now work through us as we wit - ness side by

see: all are made in your own im - age! all are peo - ple whom you
side. In the times we've hurt each oth - er, we've de - nied what you ex -

love! God, with joy we look a - round us at your world's di - ver - si - ty.
press: all are made in your own im - age! all are peo - ple whom you love!

Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette © 2006 from *Songs of Grace: New Hymns for God and Neighbor* © 2009 Discipleship Resources

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Music: *Nettleton, Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

HYMN

God, with Joy We Look Around Us
Stana 2 sung seated as children return to their seats

SERMON

What Do We Know?

RESPONDING IN FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

As we pray, please join in the response:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

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.

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, February 22, 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.

MISSION EMPHASIS MOMENT

Feed My People Breakfast

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

Let All the World in Every Corner Sing

Let all the world in every corner sing,
“My God and King!”

The heavens are not too high,
God’s praise may thither fly:
the earth is not too low,
God’s praises there may grow.

The church with psalms must shout,
no door can keep them out:
but, above all, the heart
must bear the longest part.

Let all the world in every corner sing,
“My God and King!”

Words: George Herbert

Music: Ian Higginson © 2007 St. James Music Press

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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

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 November.
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 159

Lift High the Cross

VOLUNTARY

We Thank Thee, God (Cantata 29: Sinfonia)

Johann Sebastian Bach; Arr. Robert Hebble © 1962 The Sacred Music Press

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CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed on the chancel by Josh and Doise Miers in honor of Joseph Miers' eighth birthday.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher

Reverend JD Herrera,
Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Success, Austin Seminary

Liturgist

Reverend Cathy Stone

Music

Scott Davis

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA SALE

ORDER DEADLINE: DECEMBER 7



Poinsettias on the communion rails, around the trees, in the foyers... a great way to celebrate someone you love or who is now in God's hands.

Poinsettias will beautify our Sanctuary from the Third Sunday of Advent (December 14) through Christmas Eve (December 24) and may be picked up after worship on Christmas Eve or on the First Sunday after Christmas (December 28).

Each poinsettia is florist quality and great for replanting. The cost is \$20 per plant. You may order poinsettias by filling in the form below, tearing off this page, and returning it during the offering or in the church office, by contacting Tami Kellberg at tami@fumcaustin.org or 512-478-5684 (ext. 226), or using the QR code. If paying by check, please write "Poinsettias" on the memo line of your check.



Name of donor

Phone number (in case of questions)

Amount enclosed (make check payable to FUMC)

The poinsettia is in memory of _____

The poinsettia is in honor of _____
