



May 31, 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 in A Minor (BWV 543)

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

Welcome

Let's walk together for a while and ask where we begin
to build a world where love can grow and hope can enter in.
To be the hands of healing and to plant the seeds of peace.
Singing welcome, welcome to this place.
You're invited to come and know God's grace.
All are welcome the love of God to share
‘cause all of us are welcome here,
all are welcome in this place.

Words: Laurie Zelman and Mark A. Miller

Music: Mark A. Miller © 2007 Abingdon Press

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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.

Beth Merrill Neel, *Hold Fast to What is Good*

* HYMN

God Is Love

1. God is Love, let us a - dore God; God is
 2. God is Love; and love en - folds us, all the
 3. God is Love; and though with blind - ness sin af -

Love, let earth re - joice; let cre - a - tion
 world let in one em - brace: with un - fail - ing
 flicts all hu - man life, God's e - ter - nal

sing be - fore God and ex - alt God with one
 grasp lov - ing - kind - ness guides us through our earth - ly

voice. God who laid the earth's foun - da - tion,
 race. And Sin when hu - man and hearts are break - ing
 strife. Sin and death and hell shall nev - er

God who spread the heavens a - bove, God who breathes through
 un - der sor - row's i - ron rod, then we find that
 o'er us fi - nal tri - umph gain; God is Love, e - ter - nal love.

all cre - a - tion: God is Love, e - ter - nal love.
 self - same ach - ing God deep is with - in the heart of God.
 Love for ev - er o'er the u - ni - verse must reign.

Words: Timothy Rees © A. R. Mowbray & Co. Ltd. Music, renewal 1970 Hope Publishing Co.

Music: *Abbot's Leigh*, Cyril Vincent Taylor © 1942, renewal 1970 Hope Publishing Co.

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HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God,
as we turn to your Word for us,
may the Spirit of God rest upon us.
Help us to be steadfast in our hearing,
in our speaking,
in our believing,
and in our living.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

* HYMN 156

I Love to Tell the Story

Stanza 1 sung seated as children come forward

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

* HYMN 156

I Love to Tell the Story

Stanza 4 sung seated as children return to their seats

SERMON

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. 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.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

This Little Light of Mine

This little light of mine,

I'm gonna let it shine.

Everywhere I go.

All in my heart.

All through the night.

Shine across the land;

O let it shine, let it shine!

Words and Music: Trad. Spiritual; Arr. Mack Wilberg © 2020 Oxford University 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

COMMISSIONING OF APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT TEAM

All of us who take upon ourselves the name of Christian
are called into ministries of love and service after the example of Christ,
who came not to be served, but to serve.

These persons before you have answered the call
to participate in the Appalachia Service Project
by serving the people of Letcher County, Kentucky,
in the name of Jesus Christ.

I commend them to you for your love, care, prayers, and financial support
for the work they will perform.

**We rejoice to recognize you
as ambassadors of this congregation
in ministry to and with our brothers and sisters in Letcher County.**

**Through our prayers and support
we will be united with you in your work there.**

**We pray God's blessings on you
and on the Appalachia Service Project.**

The members of the mission team kneel at the communion rail as the pastor prays for them.

PRAYER OF BLESSING FOR APPALACHIA SERVICE PROJECT TEAM

* BENEDICTION

* HYMN

God of Wonder, Love Unending

See Page 8

CLOSING VOLUNTARY

Fugue in A Minor (BWV 543)

Johann Sebastian Bach

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed on the chancel in celebration of the seventh anniversary of At the Well, a ministry with unhoused women, which began May 23, 2019.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Liturgist: Reverend Cathy Stone

Music: Scott Davis

Gathering Voluntary: Tim Wilborn

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.

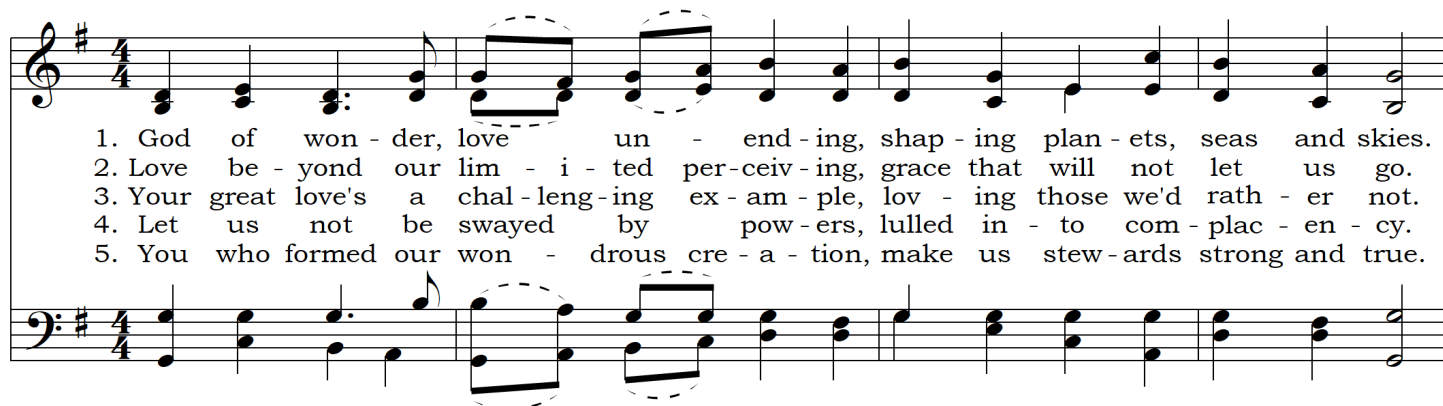
SPIRITUALS OFFERING

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.

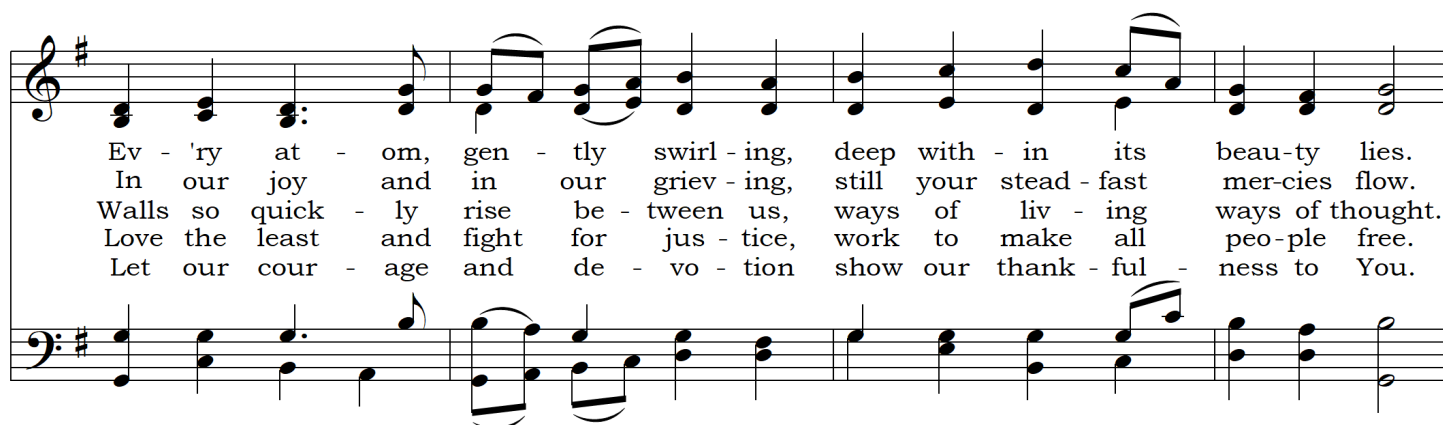
Most songs from these traditions were not published until after the names of their creators were long forgotten. In recognition of this, whenever we sing gospel and spiritual songs, we contribute “royalties” as an offering that will support the development of young Black musicians at Huston-Tillotson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

GOD OF WONDER, LOVE UNENDING



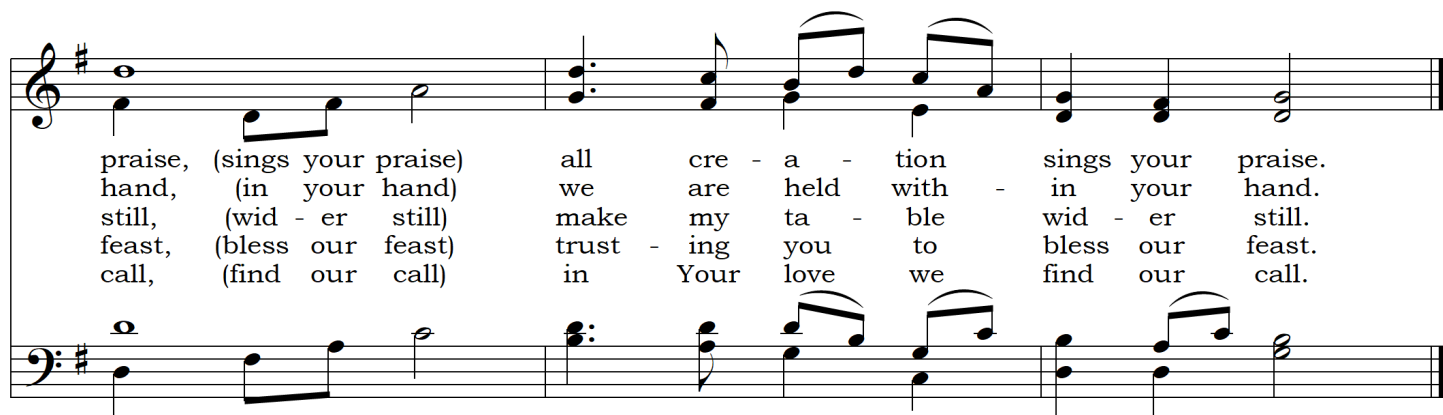
1. God of won - der, love un - end - ing, shap - ing plan - ets, seas and skies.
 2. Love be - yond our lim - i - ted per - ceiv - ing, grace that will not let us go.
 3. Your great love's a chal - leng - ing ex - am - ple, lov - ing those we'd rath - er not.
 4. Let us not be swayed by pow - ers, lulled in - to com - plac - en - cy.
 5. You who formed our won - drous cre - a - tion, make us stew - ards strong and true.



Ev - 'ry at - om, gen - tly swirl - ing, deep with - in its beau - ty lies.
 In our joy and in our griev - ing, still your stead - fast mer - cies flow.
 Walls so quick - ly rise be - tween us, ways of liv - ing ways of thought.
 Love the least and fight for jus - tice, work to make all peo - ple free.
 Let our cour - age and de - vo - tion show our thank - ful - ness to You.



From the small - est to the great - est, all cre - a - tion sings your
 Not by mer - it, not by meas - ure, we are held with - in your
 Let us heed your gra - cious call - ing, make my ta - ble wid - er
 Let us share our loaves and fish - es, trust - ing you to bless our
 In Your peace we find our cen - ter, in Your love we find our



praise, (sings your praise) all cre - a - tion sings your praise.
 hand, (in your hand) we are held with - in your hand.
 still, (wid - er still) make my ta - ble wid - er still.
 feast, (bless our feast) trust - ing you to bless our feast.
 call, (find our call) in Your love we find our call.