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**August 9, 2026**  
**11:00AM**

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### **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](http://www.fumcaustin.org)**

# GATHERING AS THE CHURCH

*Asterisks (\*) indicate an invitation to stand as you are able.*

## GATHERING VOLUNTARY

La Réjouissance  
(Royal Fireworks Music)

Music: George Frideric Handel (HWV 351)

## 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

Come, O Come, In Celebration

Come, O come, in celebration, household of the one true God,  
in commitment and rejoicing let us go where Christ has trod.  
As we act in faith and reverence, let us, Lord, the future see;  
fit us for the work of building, dedicate us to the task.

Words: Mary Jackson Cathey © 1990 Hope Publishing Co.

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Music: Scott Davis © 2015 Scott Davis

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## \* CALL TO WORSHIP

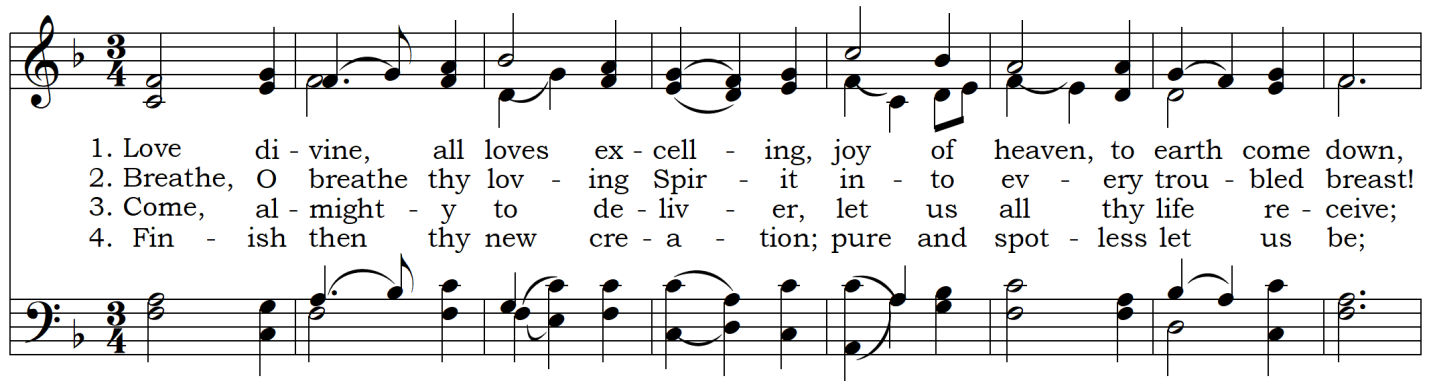
Welcome, friend and stranger —  
**welcome, honored guest.**

We gather as a community to worship God,  
**to be reminded of God’s goodness,**  
to be reminded of the call to be a part of that goodness.

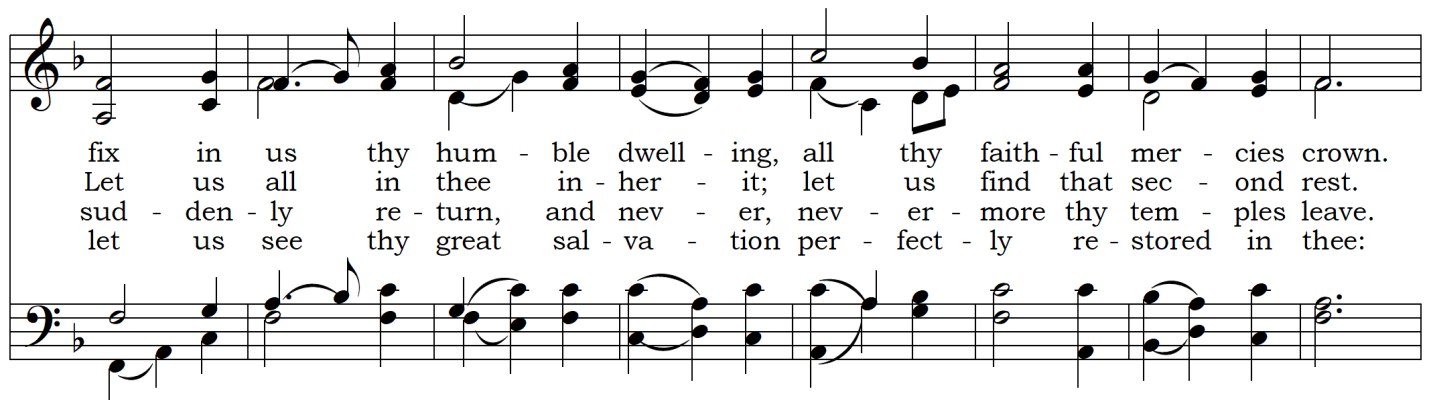
**Let us worship God.**

\* HYMN

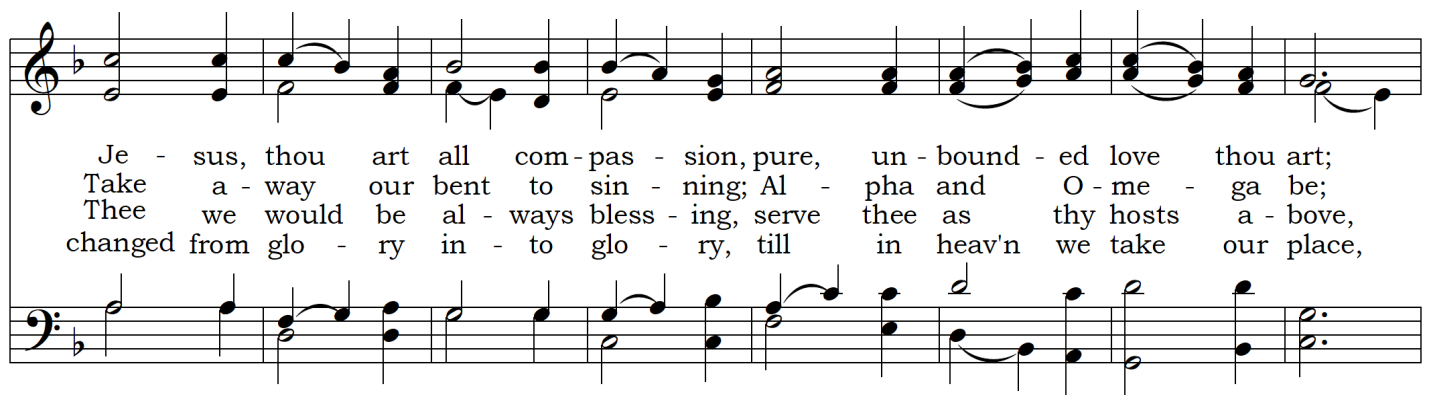
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling



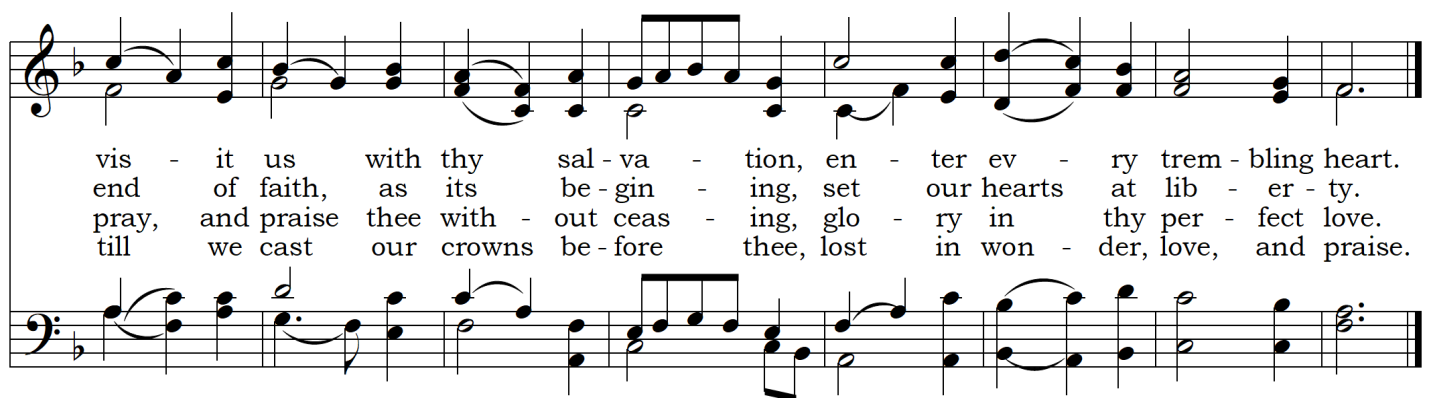
1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cell - ing, joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
 2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast!  
 3. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;  
 4. Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less let us be;



fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
 Let us all in thee in - her - it; let us find that sec - ond rest.  
 sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.  
 let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee:



Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;  
 Take a - way our bent to sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;  
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,  
 changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heav'n we take our place,



vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ry trem - bling heart.  
 end of faith, as its be - gin - ing, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
 pray, and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
 till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

Words: Charles Wesley

Music: *Hyfrydol*, Rowland Hugh Prichard

# HEARING GOD'S WORD

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of love,  
as we hear your Word today,  
quiet the many voices  
that compete for our attention.  
Open our hearts,  
renew our minds,  
and shape us more fully into the likeness of Christ.  
May your Spirit speak through the scriptures,  
and may we have the courage to respond.  
Amen.

## SCRIPTURE

Luke 17:11-19

## HYMN 451

Be Thou My Vision  
*Stanzas 1 and 2 sung as children come forward*

## TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

## MUSICAL OFFERING

How Can I Keep from Singing  
*Suzanne Barnard*

## SERMON

Practicing Gratitude, Finding Wholeness

# 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, 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](http://fumcaustin.org/first-steps).*

## OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

### OFFERTORY

### A Canticle of Love

*Adam Buttyan, Alan Schlichting, Victoria Tijerina-Gordon, and Sarah Urías*

This is my commandment that you love one another as I have loved you.  
Let love be genuine and live in harmony; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good.  
Outdo one another in showing honor; be humble and never conceited.  
Love is stronger than death and jealousy is cruel as the grave.  
Floods cannot drown love and wealth cannot buy it.  
Put love above all else; let Christ's peace rule your hearts.  
Always be forgiving as Christ has forgiven you.  
Love is not jealous or boastful, arrogant, rude or stubborn, irritable, resentful or possessive.  
Love is patient and kind.  
Do not love in word or speech only; love also in deed and truth.  
Receive each other in sincerity.  
Love rejoices in the right it bears, believes, hopes, and endures all things.  
Happy are those who take refuge in God; those who serve the Lord are redeemed.

Words: Adapt. from Scripture by S T Kimbrough, Jr. from The United Methodist Hymnal

Music: Scott Davis © 1992, revised 2026 Scott Davis

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## \* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

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

## 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 August.**

**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

### We Go with God's Blessing



1. We go with God's blessing, our true faith confessing, the people of  
2. With praise and thanks - giving to God ever - living, the tasks of our  
God from this dwell - ing take leave. The ser - vice has end - ed. Oh, now be ex -  
ev - 'ry - day life we will face. Our faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er  
tend - ed the fruits of our wor - ship in all who be - lieve. The seed of the  
car - ing, em - brac - ing God's chil - dren of each tribe and race. With your feast you  
teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls reach - ing, shall blos - som in ac - tion for God and for  
feed us, with your light now lead us; u - nite us as one in this life that we  
all. share. God's grace did in - vite us, and love shall u -  
share. Then may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks -  
nite us to work for God's kin - dom and an - swer God's call.  
giv - ing give hon - or to Christ and his name that we bear.

Words: Omer Westendorf, alt. © 1964 World Library Publications, Inc.

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Music: The Ash Grove, Welsh Folk Tune

## VOLUNTARY

+ + +

## CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed on the chancel by Steve Tackett in honor and celebration of the birthdays of his wife, Pam, on August 4 and his daughter, Cara, on August 8.

## WORSHIP LEADERS

*Preacher:* Reverend Melissa Spence

*Liturgist:* Reverend Taylor Fuerst

*Music:* Scott Davis

*Trumpets:* Nathaniel Mayfield and Brandon Bergeron

## ***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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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.