



May 31, 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

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 156

I Love to Tell the Story

Stanzas 1 and 4

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

INTRODUCTION

In baptism,

God names us as God's own beloved children;

God promises to be our God and welcomes us into the family of Christ;

God makes Christ's death and resurrection for us present to us and at work in us.

The baptism of believers' children

especially makes visible the prevenient nature of grace—

that God reaches out to, and accepts, us

before we reach out to, and accept, God.

At the same time, in baptism,

we acknowledge for ourselves and our children

the gift and claim of God's grace,

and we commit ourselves and our children

to live out of God's grace as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ.

Thus, baptism marks the birth, at any age,

of a disciple of Jesus Christ.

PRESENTATION

Who is presented for baptism?

Gilbert Iseul Ficus Van Hoorn

Child of Matthew and Victoria Van Hoorn

PARENT'S RE-AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Because the role of parents and the church

is crucial to a child's experience of grace,

we ask you to re-commit yourself

to the vows of the baptismal covenant:

Do you re-affirm your renunciation of sin

and your confession of faith in Jesus Christ as your Savior,

putting your whole trust in his grace,

and promising to serve him as your Lord,

by loving others as Christ loved you

and resisting evil, injustice, and oppression?

We do.

Do you commit yourselves to work for God's reign on earth

through the church, which Christ has opened to all people,

participating actively in its ministries

with your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness?

We do.

Will you nurture your child in Christ's Church,

that by your teaching and example,

he may grow to know the grace of God,

profess his faith in Christ openly,

and live as a faithful disciple of Christ's church?

We will.

CONGREGATION'S RESPONSE

Do you as Christ's church reaffirm both your rejection of sin
and your commitment to Christ?

We do.

Will you nurture this child in the Christian faith and life,
praying for him, teaching him, and leading him
in acts of service and mission?

**With God's help we will proclaim the good news
and live according to the example of Christ.**

**We will surround Gilbert
with a community of love and forgiveness,
that he may grow in his trust of God,
and be found faithful in his service to others.**

**We will pray for him,
that he may be a true disciple
who walks in the way that leads to life.**

BAPTISM WITH THE LAYING ON OF HANDS

ANointing WITH OIL

*Following the biblical custom of anointing prophets (I Kings 19:36), priests (Exodus 29:7)
and kings (I Kings 1:39), candidates are anointed at their baptism as a reminder that
all Christians share in the royal, prophetic, priestly ministry of Jesus Christ.*

PRESENTATION OF THE BAPTISMAL CANDLE

*A candle, lighted from the Paschal Candle, is presented to the newly baptized to signify that the
light of the One who overcame the darkness of sin and death now shines in their life.*

WELCOME OF THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

**Gilbert,
we give thanks that God has claimed you
with an everlasting love that will never, ever let you go;
and we will never let you forget that!**

**We rejoice to welcome you as our sibling
in the family of Christ.**

**Our story is now your story:
you have ridden in the ark with Noah;
you have passed through the sea with Moses;
Christ's death and resurrection for you are at work in you,
transforming you into the image of God.**

**Grow with us in grace,
confess Christ crucified,
proclaim his resurrection,
and share with us in his royal priesthood.**

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

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 the FLC Garrison Chapel. 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.

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

Make me a channel of your peace:
where there is hatred let me bring your love,
where there is injury, your pardon, Lord,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.
Where there's despair in life let me bring hope,
where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving of ourselves that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.
O God, grant that I may never seek so much
to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved, as to love with all my soul.

Words: Attr. St. Francis

Music: Sebastian Temple; Arr. Martin Neary © 1967, 1997 Oregon Catholic 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

FEASTING AT THE TABLE OF GRACE

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

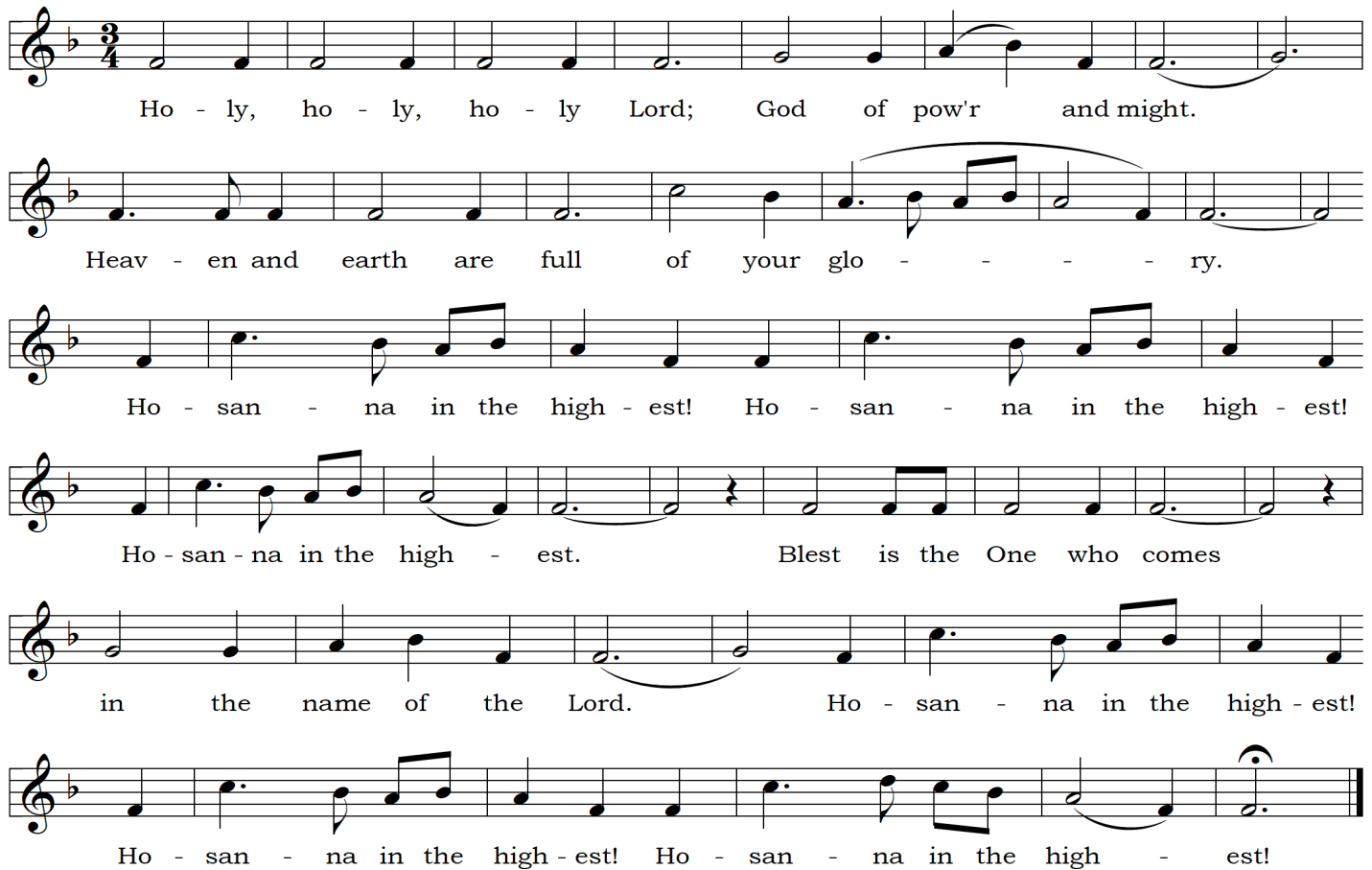
Celebrant The Lord be with you. *All* And al-so with you.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts. *All* We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant 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.

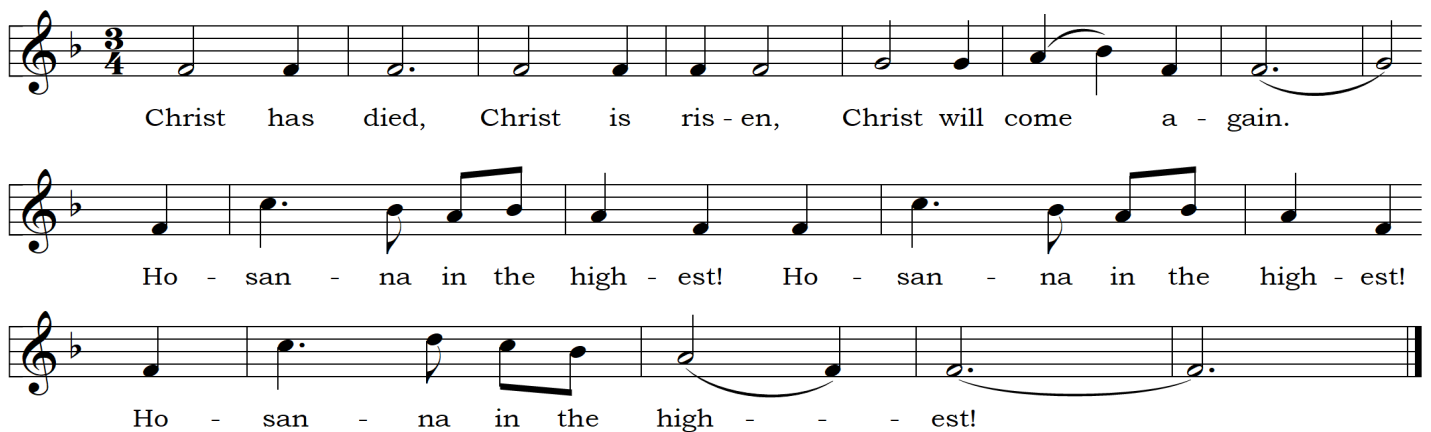
...And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



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.

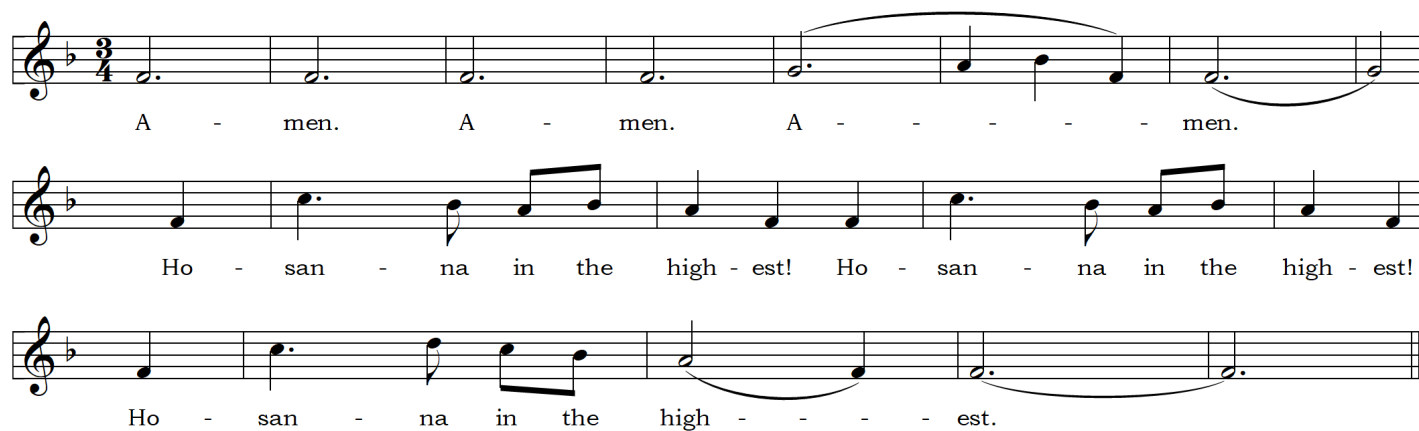
...And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:



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.

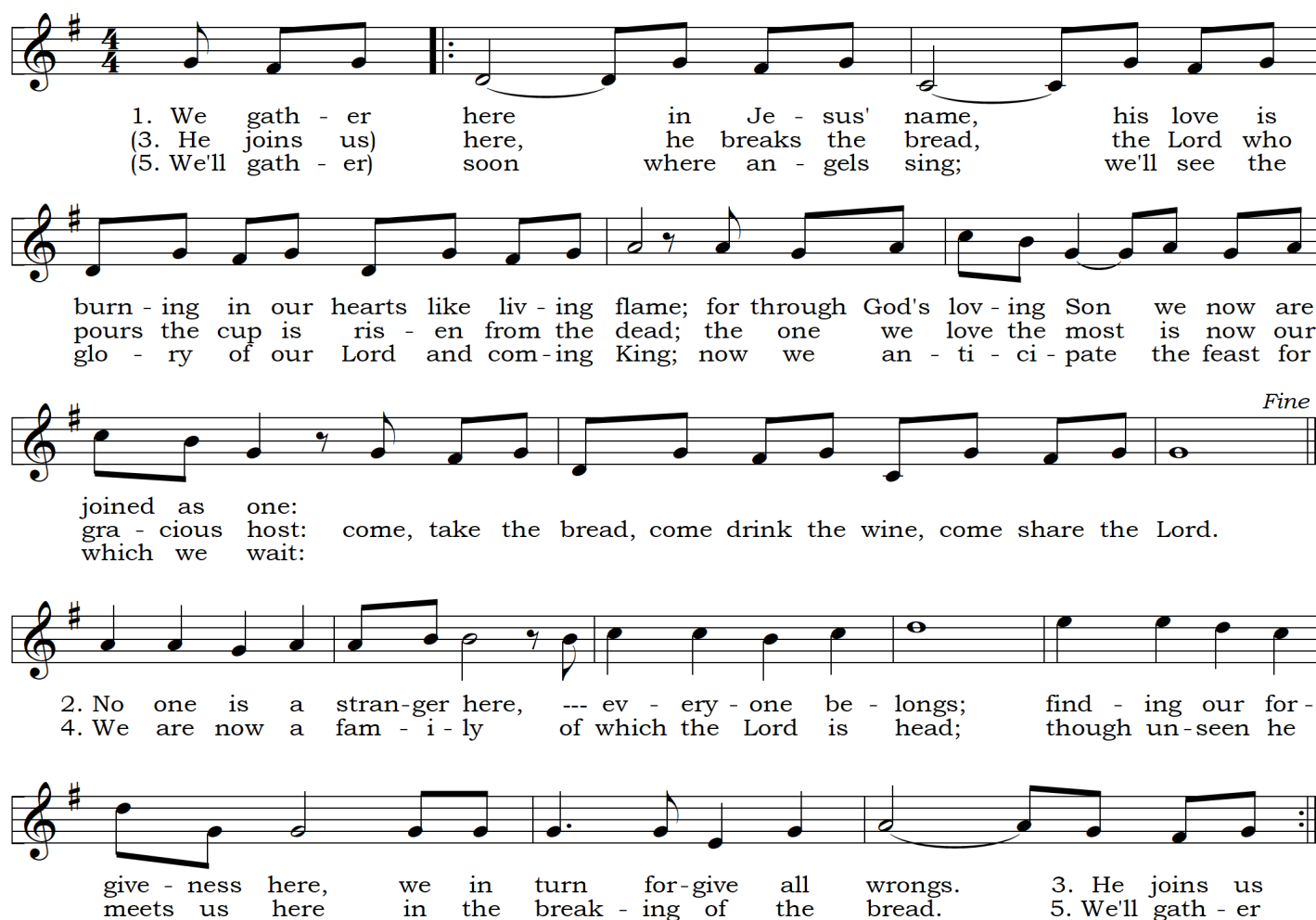
...Through your Son Jesus Christ,
 with the Holy Spirit in your holy church,
 all honor and glory are yours, almighty God,
 now and forever.



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 Come Share the Lord



1. We gath - er here in Je - sus' name, his love is
(3. He joins us) here, he breaks the bread, the Lord who
(5. We'll gath - er) soon where an - gels sing; we'll see the

burn - ing in our hearts like liv - ing flame; for through God's lov - ing Son we now are
pours the cup is ris - en from the dead; the one we love the most is now our
glo - ry of our Lord and com - ing King; now we an - ti - ci - pate the feast for

Fine
joined as one:
gra - cious host: come, take the bread, come drink the wine, come share the Lord.
which we wait:

2. No one is a stran - ger here, --- ev - ery - one be - longs; find - ing our for -
4. We are now a fam - i - ly of which the Lord is head; though un - seen he

give - ness here, we in turn for - give all wrongs. 3. He joins us
meets us here in the break - ing of the bread. 5. We'll gath - er

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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

Gof of Wonder, Love Unending

See Page 11

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

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

Cantors

Scott Davis

Courtney Katzmeyer-Vielma

Victoria Tijerina-Gordon

GREAT THANKSGIVING MUSICAL RESPONSES

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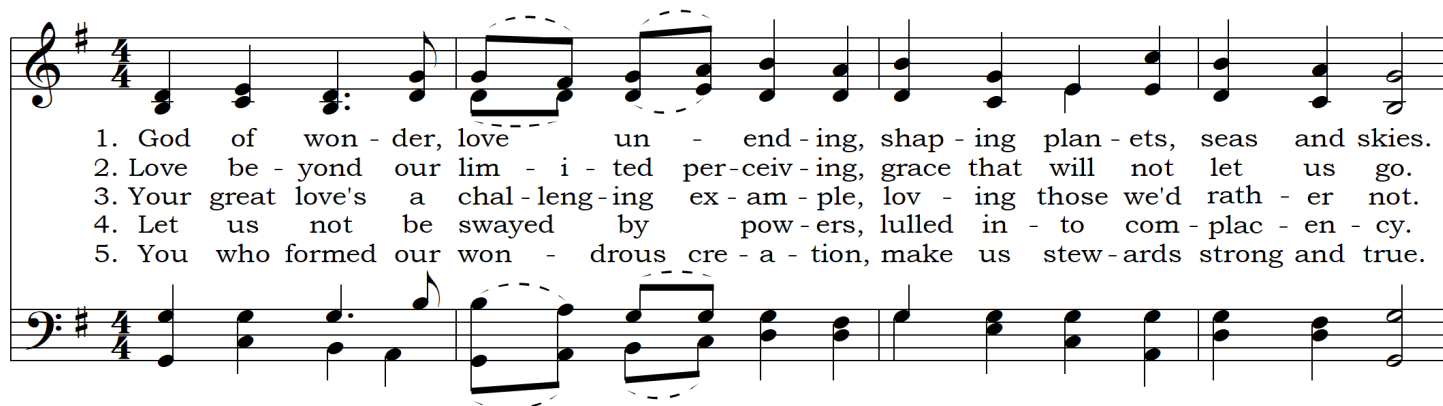
SPIRITUALS OFFERING

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.

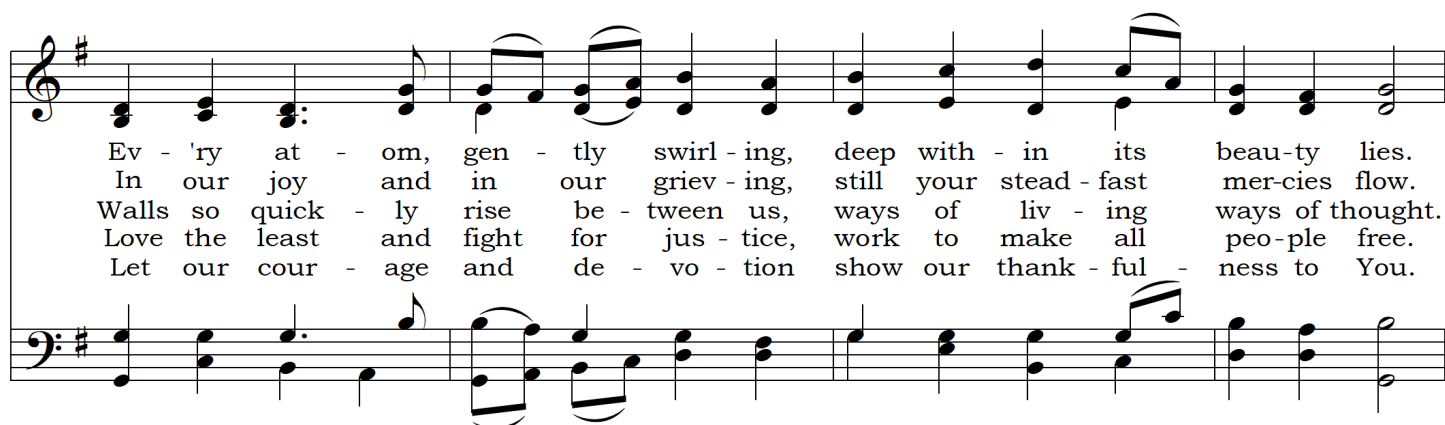
Most songs from these traditions were not published until after the names of their creators were long forgotten. In recognition of this, whenever we sing gospel and spiritual songs, we contribute “royalties” as an offering that will support the development of young Black musicians at Huston-Tillotson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

GOD OF WONDER, LOVE UNENDING



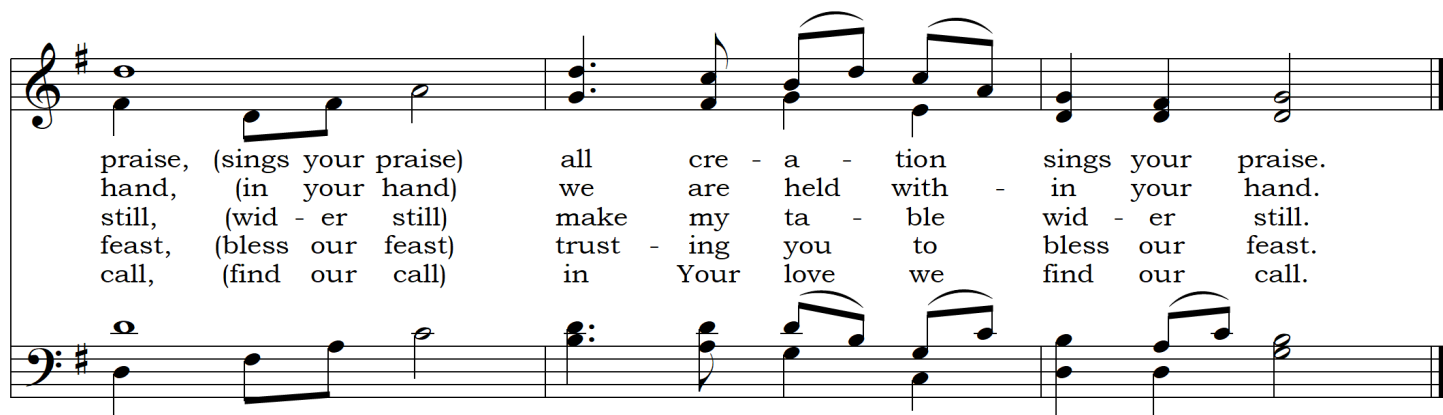
1. God of won - der, love un - end - ing, shap - ing plan - ets, seas and skies.
 2. Love be - yond our lim - i - ted per - ceiv - ing, grace that will not let us go.
 3. Your great love's a chal - leng - ing ex - am - ple, lov - ing those we'd rath - er not.
 4. Let us not be swayed by pow - ers, lulled 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.

