

from dust to destiny

six weeks in the stories of Genesis

**October 11, 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 believe children belong in worship. To help them participate, activity supplies, children's Bibles, and other materials are available on the red cart at the back of the worship space. Families may also use the Family Room in the center classroom just off the worship area. A changing station is available in the women's restroom. Childcare for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers is available across the street in the Education Building from 8:45AM–12:15PM.



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

Church of God

Church of God, chosen people,
 sing your praise to God.
God has called you out of darkness
 into marvelous light!
Come, people of God, with joyful song,
 praise God, Creator of all.
God calls us now to follow Christ,
 let hearts be filled with joy!

Words and Music: Sr. Pamela Stotter, alt.; Arr. Margaret Daley

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* CALL TO WORSHIP

When life takes us into hard places,
 God will be our refuge.
When life makes heavy demands on us,
 God will be our strength.
When life starts to feel unmanageable,
 God will be a very present help in trouble.
Let us worship the God who is with us and for us!

* 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, alt.

Music: *Nun Danket Alle Gott*, Johann Crüger

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 50:14-26

HYMN

El Shaddai
Sung as children come forward

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

HYMN

God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale
Sung 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. The next First Steps Class is Sunday, November 15, 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.

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

There's a wideness in God's mercy
like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice,
which is more than liberty.
There is welcome for the sinner
and more graces for the good;
there is mercy with the Savior;
there is healing in his blood.
There is no place where earth's sorrows
are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings
have such kindly judgement given.
There is plentiful redemption
in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members
in the sorrows of the Head.
For the love of God is broader
than the measure of the mind;
and the heart of the Eternal
is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful
we should rest upon God's word;
and our life would be thanksgiving
for the goodness of the Lord.

Words: Frederick W. Faber, alt.

Music: *St. Helena*, Calvin Hampton © 1977 GIA Publications, Inc.

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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

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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 October.

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**

How Can We Name a Love

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed on the chancel by Charlie Roth in loving memory of his mother, Mary Roth-Knowlton, and stepfather, Ken Knowlton.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Reverend John Hathaway

Liturgist: Reverend Melissa Spence

Music: Scott Davis

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. Visit fumcaustin.org/sundayschool.

YOUTH

Sunday School for 6th through 12th grade begins in the Great Hall of the Family Life Center. Learn more at fumcaustin.org/youth.

CHILDREN

Sunday School for preschool through 5th grade is located on the first floor of the Sanctuary Building. Learn more at fumcaustin.org/children.

