

from dust to destiny

six weeks in the stories of Genesis

October 4, 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 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

This is the Hour of Banquet and of Song

This is the hour of banquet and of song;
this is the heavenly table spread for me;
here let me feast, and feasting still prolong
the brief, bright hour of fellowship with thee.

Words: Horatius Bonar © 1985 Church Music Publishing

Music: *Morestead*, Sidney Watson © 1964 Oxford University Press

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* CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us acknowledge the company in which we meet:
the church on earth and in heaven;
the faithful who worshipped here before us;
the hundreds of thousands of every place and language.

All of these are gathering on the Lord's day
to open their lives to God's renewing grace.

Let us lift our voices in worship this day!

*** HYMN**

In Christ There Is No East or West

1. In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north;
2. In Christ shall true hearts ev - ery - where their high com - mun - ion find;
3. In Christ is neith - er Jew nor Greek, and neith - er slave nor free;
4. In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north;

but one great fel - low - ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
his ser - vice is the gold - en cord close bind - ing hu - man - kind.
both male and fe - male heirs are made, and all are kin to me.
all Christ - ly souls are one in him through - out the whole wide earth.

Words: Stanzas 1, 2, and 4 John Oxeham; Stanza 3 Laurence Hall Stookey

Stanza 3 © 1987 The United Methodist Publishing House

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Music: *St. Peter*, Alexander R. Reinagle

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 32:22-31

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 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

Creator God, You Made the Earth

Creator God, you made the earth, a gift beyond comparing!
You called it good, you gave it worth, you placed it in our caring.
You give us Christ, who reconciled the things of earth and heaven.
In him, you call each one your child! What wondrous love you've given!
Because we've turned away from you, this world still needs your healing.
Creation longs to be made new through Christ, your love revealing.
God, by your Spirit, may we be communities of caring,
that as we're healed, your world may see the hope that we are sharing.

Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, New Hymns for God and Neighbor

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Music: *St. Columba*, Irish Melody

* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are written below the notes.

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

FEASTING AT THE TABLE OF GRACE

* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant *All*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *All*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant *All*

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!

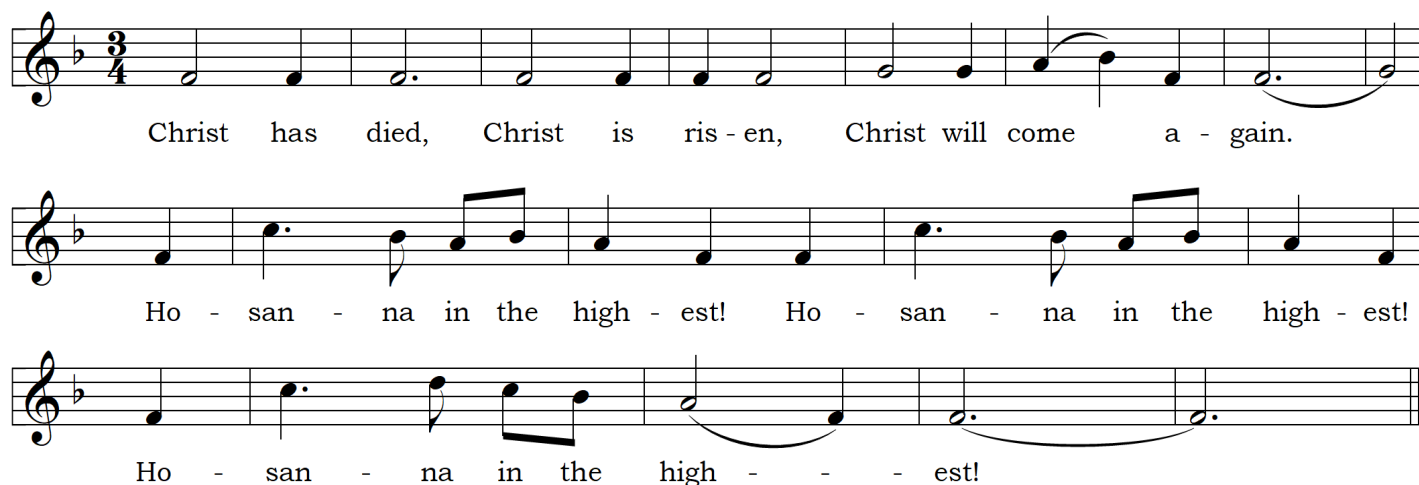
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blest is the One who comes

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:



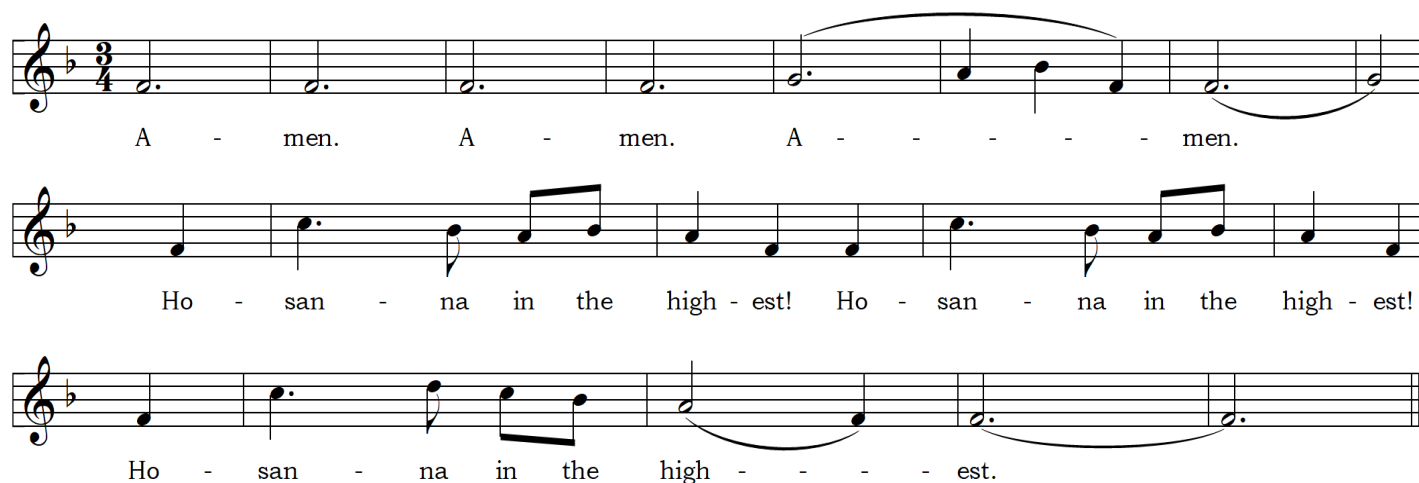
Christ has died, Christ is ris-en, Christ will come a - gain.

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.



A - men. A - men. A - - - - - men.

Ho - san - na in the high - est! Ho - san - na in the high - est!

Ho - san - na in the high - - - - - est.

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 One Bread, One Body

Here, O My Lord, I See Thee

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**

We Are Marching in the Light of God

See Back Page

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed on the chancel in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Bob and Debbie Block. May God continue to bless their journey together as we celebrate this wonderful milestone of love and faith.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Liturgist: Reverend Cathy Stone

Cantors: Stuart Aron, Scott Davis, and Sarah Urías

GREAT THANKSGIVING MUSICAL RESPONSES

Words

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Music: Mark A. Miller

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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.

WE ARE MARCHING IN THE LIGHT OF GOD

We are *march - ing in the light of God, we are march-ing in the light of God.

We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march-ing in the light of God,

We are march - ing in the light of God, we are march-ing in the light of the

march-ing in the light of God,

we are march-ing, Oo we are

light of God, we are march-ing, march-ing, we are march-ing march-ing, we are

march-ing in the light of God. We are march-ing,

march-ing in the light of the light of God, we are march-ing, march-ing, we are

march-ing in the light of God,

Oo we are march-ing in the light of God. {FINAL}

march-ing, march-ing, we are march-ing in the light of God. {FINAL}

* Walking; Singing; Dancing

Words and Music: South African; Arr. Anders Nyberg

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