

forgiveness

November 9, 2025
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 sent 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!**”

Psalms 122:1

ENTERING THE HOLY

INTROIT

This Is the Day the Lord Hath Made

This is the day the Lord hath made
that all may see his love displayed,
may feel his resurrection's power
and rise again to fall no more,
in perfect righteousness renewed
and filled with all the life of God.

Words: Charles Wesley

Music: Sussex Carol, Traditional English Melody; Arr. and Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams

* CALL TO WORSHIP

A creativity that designed the universe,
a love that never ceases,
a pursuit of reconciliation no matter the cost,
a hope that cannot be quenched,
these are the things of God,
then let us worship God.

* HYMN 139

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

NEIL AND RONNIE JUNE PETTY

Neil,

on this day of your Baptism,
we invite you to publicly profess your faith in Jesus Christ for the first time,
affirming these vows both for yourself and for your child,
who you promise to raise in Christian community.

Annie,

we invite you to re-affirm the faith in which you have been Baptized through these vows:

Do you renounce the spiritual forces of wickedness,
reject the evil powers of this world,
and repent of your sin?

I do.

Do you accept the freedom and power God gives you
to resist evil, injustice, and oppression
in whatever forms they present themselves?

I do.

Do you confess Jesus Christ as your Savior,
put your whole trust in his grace,
and promise to serve him as your Lord,
in union with the Church which Christ has opened
to people of all ages, nations, and races?

I do.

Will you nurture this child in Christ's Church,
that by your teaching and example they may be guided
to accept God's grace for themselves,
to profess their faith openly,
and to lead a Christian life?

I will.

According to the grace given to you,
will you remain faithful members of Christ's holy Church
and serve as Christ's representatives in the world?

I 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 these persons in the Christian faith and life,
praying for them, teaching them, and leading them
in acts of service and mission?

We will.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

BAPTISM WITH THE LAYING 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

Neil and Ronnie June,

**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 siblings
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.**

RECEPTION INTO THE CHURCH

Neil,

**having affirmed your faith and received the Sacrament of Baptism,
I ask you to make these vows of membership:**

**As a member of Christ's universal church,
will you be loyal to the United Methodist Church,
and do all in your power to strengthen its ministries?**

I will.

**As a member of First United Methodist Church,
will you faithfully participate in its ministries
by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness?**

I will.

Members of the household of God,

I commend these persons to your love and care.

**Do all in your power to increase their faith,
confirm their hope,
and perfect them in love.**

We give thanks for all that God has already given you
and we welcome you in Christian love.

Together with you,
we will form a community of love and forgiveness.

We will proclaim God's good news
and live according to the example of Christ.

As members together with you in the body of Christ
and in this congregation of the United Methodist Church,
we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church
by our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness,
that in everything God may be glorified through Jesus Christ.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God,
give us humble, teachable, and obedient hearts,
that we may receive what you have revealed,
and follow where you lead.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 7:36-50

New Testament, page 63

HYMN 365

Grace Greater than Our Sin
Stanza 1 sung seated as children come forward

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

HYMN 365

Grace Greater than Our Sin
Stana 4 sung seated as children return to their seats

SERMON

On Receiving

RESPONDING IN FAITH

PASTORAL 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 16, 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.

MINISTRY MOMENT

Charlie Roth

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

Bless the Lord, O My Soul

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits;
who forgives your iniquities, and who heals your afflictions;
who redeems your life from destruction, and crowns you with tenderness.
His loving kindness shall not fail.

Words: Psalm 103

Music: Johann Sebastian Bach; Arr. Evelyn R. Larter © 2008 St. James Music 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

* BENEDICTION

* HYMN 88

Maker, in Whom We Live

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed on the chancel by Laura Velez in celebration of Olivia Greene's 20th birthday on November 11.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher

Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Liturgist

Reverend Cathy Stone

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. To find class contact information, visit 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.

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.

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.