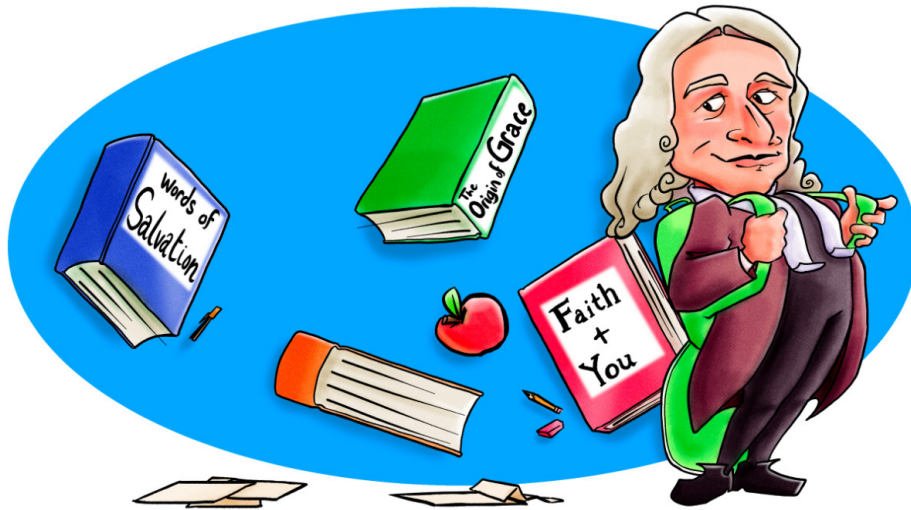




Packed with Grace

Wesleyan Theology
for Your Everyday Life

August 23, 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 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

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 this day to the house of our God.

We are greeted in peace and in love.

Welcome this day to the worship of our Creator.

We worship in hope and with grace.

Welcome this day to our community of faith,

where we are siblings in Christ.

Friends, let us worship God.

Gather Us In



1. Here in this place new light is stream-ing, now is the dark - ness
 2. We are the young -- our lives are a mys - t'ry, we are the old -- who
 3. Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter, here we will take the
 4. Not in the dark of build-ings con - fin - ing, not in some heav - en



van - ished a - way, see in this space our fears and our dream-ings,
 yearn for your face, we have been sung through - out all of his - t'ry,
 bread of new birth, here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light - years a - way, but here in this place the new light is shin - ing,



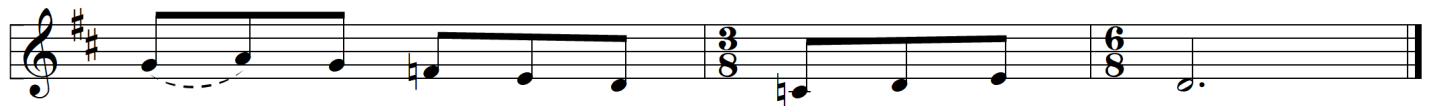
brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new to be salt for the earth.
 now is the King - dom, now is the day.



Gath - er us in -- the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in -- the
 Gath - er us in -- the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in -- the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and



blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in -- all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Words and Music: *Gather Us In*, Marty Haugen © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc.

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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

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

HYMN 334

Sweet, Sweet Spirit
Sung as children come forward

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

HYMN

I Am Yours, O Lord
Sung as children return to their seats

See Back Page

SERMON

Welcome to the 46th Grade

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.

MISSION EMPHASIS MOMENT

Pickle Elementary

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown

Come, O thou Traveler unknown,
whom still I hold, but cannot see!
My company before is gone,
and I am left alone with thee.
With thee all night I mean to stay,
and wrestle till the break of day.
I need not tell thee who I am,
my misery and sin declare;
thyselves hast called me by my name;
look on thy hands and read it there.
But who, I ask thee, who art thou?
Tell me thy name, and tell me now.
Yield to me now, for I am weak,
but confident in self-despair!
Speak to my heart, in blessing speak,
be conquered by my instant prayer.
Speak, or thou never hence shalt move,
and tell me if thy name is Love.
'Tis Love! 'tis Love! Thou diedst for me,
I hear thy whisper in my heart.
The morning breaks, the shadows flee,
pure, Universal Love thou art.
To me, to all, thy mercies move;
thy nature and thy name is Love.

Words: Charles Wesley

Music: *Candler*, Trad. Scottish Melody; Arr. Scott Davis © 2026

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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

* BENEDICTION

* HYMN 369

Blessed Assurance

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed on the chancel by Kim Bowen in honor of her parents, Jim and Jane Bowen, who celebrated their 64th wedding anniversary on August 19.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher: Reverend Taylor Fuerst

Liturgist: Reverend Cathy Stone

Music: Scott Davis

WORSHIP BULLETIN GRAPHIC

Colin Day, *First Church member and recent UT graduate*

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.

I AM YOURS, O LORD

1. I am yours, O Lord, I have heard your voice, and it
2. O the pure de - light of a sin - gle hour that be -

told your love to me; but I long to rise in your
fore your cross I spend, when I kneel in prayer, and with

arms of faith there your grace I pray to see.
you, my God, I com - mune as friend with friend!

Refrain

Draw me near - er, near-er, bless-ed Lord, to the cross where you have
near - er, near - er,

died. Draw me near-er, near - er, near-er, bless-ed Lord, to your gra-cious, lov - ing side.

Words: Fanny Crosby, alt.

Music: *I Am Thine*, William H. Doane