

from dust to destiny

six weeks in the stories of Genesis

September 13, 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

We Will Worship You, Lord

We will worship you, Lord, with all of our might,
we will praise you with a psalm;
we will worship you, Lord, with all of our might,
we will praise you all day long.
For thou, O Lord, art glorious,
and thy name is greatly to be praised;
may our hearts be pure and holy in thy sight
as we worship you with all of our might.

Words and Music: Daniel Gardner © 1981 Integrity's Hosanna! Music.

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* CALL TO WORSHIP

To see the life that teems around us,
to give thanks for the gifts we have received;
to notice the beauty and promise of each season;
to accept the gift of love and to love in return;
to offer our lives in service to God and our neighbor;
this is to worship God.

Beth Merrill Neel, alt.

* HYMN

O God Who Shaped Creation

1. O God who shaped cre - a - tion at earth's cha - o - tic dawn,
 2. O God, with pain and an - guish a moth - er sees her child
 3. Al - though your heart is bro - ken when peo - ple scorn your ways,
 4. In mer - cy and com - pas - sion your good - ness is re - vealed;

your word of power was spo - ken, and lo! the dark was gone!
 em - bark on dead - end path - ways, al - lur - ing, but de - filed;
 you nev - er cease your search - ing through e - vil's dark - some maze;
 with ten - der - ness you touch us, and bro - ken hearts are healed.

You framed us in your im - age, you brought us in - to birth,
 so too your heart is bro - ken when hate and lust in - crease,
 and when we cease our run - ing, your joys, O God, a - bound
 You claim us as your chil - dren, you strip our pride - ful shame,

you blessed our in - fant foot - steps and shared your splen - dored earth.
 when worlds you birthed and nur - tured spurn ways that lead to peace.
 like joy of search - ing wom - an when trea - sured coin is found.
 with free - dom born of mer - cy we bless your ho - ly name.

Words: William W. Reid, Jr. © The United Methodist Publishing House

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Music: *Lancashire*, Henry T. Smart

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 3:8-15

HYMN

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

Sung as children come forward

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

HYMN

Have Thine Own Way, Lord

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 today at 12:15PM in FLC Room 111. 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.

BLESSING OF YOUTH AND CHILDREN SUNDAY SCHOOL LEADERS

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

To You, O Lord

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.
I place my trust in you, my God.
Save me from shame and keep me safe always.
Show me your ways, O Lord, and teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and guide me, for you are the rock of my salvation.
For you have I trusted all the day long.
Gracious and upright, you teach us all your way.
Remember, O Lord, your compassion.
Remember, O Lord, your love.
Remember not the sins and transgressions of my youth.
Remember me according to your steadfast love.

Words: Psalm 25:1-9. alt.

Music: Thomas Keesecker © 2009 Augsburg Fortress

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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

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 September.

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

VOLUNTARY

+ + +

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The flowers are placed on the chancel by Becky Ratliff in memory of Connie Payne.

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. 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.

