



# LOVE LOOKS LIKE

**February 8, 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 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](http://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

O God of Every Nation

O God of every nation, of every race and land,  
    redeem your whole creation with your almighty hand;  
    where hate and fear divide us, and bitter threats are hurled,  
    in love and mercy guide us, and heal our strife-torn world.

Words: William Watkins Reid, Jr. © 1958 renewed 1986 the Hymn Society of America, admin. Hope Publishing Co.

Music: *Llangloffan*, Welsh Hymn Melody; Harm. David Evans © 1927 Oxford University Press

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### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved community,  
    let us draw the circle wide!  
**And draw it wider still.**

We come —  
    laden with doubts, fears, resentments —  
    **to worship the God**  
    **who gives us faith, courage, renewal.**

We come —  
    overwhelmed with remorse or struggling with what it means to forgive —  
    **to worship the God**  
    **who teaches us true restoration.**

We come —  
with identities varied as the colors of the rainbow —  
**to worship the God**  
**who weaves our many threads into one tapestry.**

We come, and the circle is drawn wide —  
and wider — and wider still!  
**Not by our strength, not by our merit,**  
**but through God's grace.**

\* **HYMN** 428

For the Healing of the Nations

## **HEARING GOD'S WORD**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

God, source of all light,  
by your Word you give light to the soul.  
Pour out on us the spirit of wisdom and understanding  
that our hearts and minds may be opened.  
Amen.

### **SCRIPTURES**

Acts 10:34-43 and Matthew 3:13-17

### **SERMON**

### **\* UNITED METHODIST SOCIAL CREED**

God in the Spirit revealed in Jesus Christ,  
calls us by grace  
**to be renewed in the image of our Creator,**  
**that we may be one in divine love for the world.**

Today is the day  
God cares for the integrity of creation,  
wills the healing and wholeness of all life,  
weeps at the plunder of earth's goodness.  
**And so shall we.**

Today is the day  
God embraces all hues of humanity,  
delights in diversity and difference,  
favors solidarity transforming strangers into friends.  
**And so shall we.**

Today is the day  
God cries with the masses of starving people,  
despises growing disparity between rich and poor,  
demands justice for workers in the marketplace.  
**And so shall we.**

Today is the day  
God deplores violence in our homes and streets,  
rebukes the world's warring madness,  
humbles the powerful and lifts up the lowly.  
**And so shall we.**

Today is the day  
God calls for nations and peoples to live in peace,  
celebrates where justice and mercy embrace,  
exults when the wolf grazes with the lamb.  
**And so shall we.**

**Today is the day**  
**God brings good news to the poor,**  
**proclaims release to the captives,**  
**gives sight to the blind, and**  
**sets the oppressed free.**  
**And so shall we.**

## **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, February 22, 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](http://fumcaustin.org/first-steps).*

## OFFERING OUR TITHES AND GIFTS TO GOD

### OFFERTORY

God Has Work for Us to Do

'Til all the jails are empty and all the bellies filled;  
'til no one hurts or steals or lies,  
and no more blood is spilled: God has work for us to do,  
'til God's will is done and all things are made new.  
"Til age and race and gender no longer separate;  
'til pulpit, press, and politics are free of greed and hate:  
God has work for us to do.  
In tenement and mansion, in factory, farm, and mill,  
in board room and in billiard hall,  
in wards where time stands still,  
in classroom, church, and office, in shops, or on the street,  
in every place where people thrive, or starve, or hide, or meet.  
God has work for us to do.  
By sitting at a bedside to hold pale, trembling hands,  
by speaking for the powerless against unjust demands.  
By praying through our doing, and singing though we fear,  
by trusting that the seed we sow will bring God's harvest near.  
God has work for us to do!

Words: Carl P. Daw, Jr. © 1996 Hope Publishing Co.

Music: Mark A. Miller © 2012 Choristers Guild

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## \* PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

Musical score for 'Presentation of the Offering' in G major, 3/2 time. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: 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!'.

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

Adapt. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

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Music: *Lasst Uns Erfreuen*, Geistliche Kirchengesänge; Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams

## FEASTING AT THE TABLE OF GRACE

### \* THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Musical score for 'The Great Thanksgiving' in B-flat major, 3/4 time. The score consists of three staves of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: 'The Lord be with you. And al - so with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.' The score includes markings for 'Celebrant' and 'All'.

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you. *All* And al - so with you.  
*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts. *All* We lift them up to the Lord.  
*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *All* 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 power and might. might.

Heav - en and earth are full, full of your glo - ry.  
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.

*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. gain.

*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, a - - - - men.

## 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.

## RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

Hymn

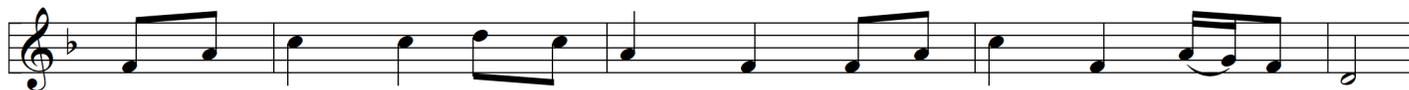
Come Away from Rush and Hurry



1. Come a - way from rush and hur - ry to the still - ness of God's peace;  
2. In the pas - tures of God's good - ness we lie down to rest our soul.  
3. Come, then, chil - dren, with your bur - dens, life's con - fu - sions, fears and pain.



from our vain am - bi - tion's wor - ry, come to Christ to find re - lease.  
From the wa - ters of God's mer - cy we drink deep - ly, are made whole.  
Leave them at the cross of Je - sus; take in - stead his king - dom's reign.



Come a - way from noise and clam - or, life's de - mands and fren - zied pace;  
At the ta - ble of God's pres - ence all the saints are rich - ly fed.  
Bring your thirsts, for he will quench them, he a - lone will sat - is - fy.



come to join the peo - ple gath - ered here to seek and find God's face.  
With the oil of God's a - noint - ing in - to ser - vice we are led.  
All our long - ings find at - tain - ment when to self we glad - ly die.

Words: Marva J. Dawn ©1999 Hope Publishing Co.

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Music: *Beach Spring*, attr. B. F. White

**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****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 February.  
 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

Inspired by Love and Anger

1. In - spired by love and an - ger, dis - turbed by need and pain, in -  
2. From those for - ev - er vic - tims of heart - less hu - man greed, their  
3. To God, who through the pro - phets pro - claimed a dif - frent age, we  
4. God asks, "Who will go for me? Who will ex - tend my reach? And

formed of God's own bi - as, we ask God once a - gain: "How  
cru - el plight com - pos - es a lit - an - y of need: "Where  
of - fer earth's in - dif - frence, its a - gon - y and rage: "When  
who, when few will lis - ten, will pro - phes - y and preach? And

long must some folk suf - fer? How long can few folk mind? How  
are the fruits of jus - tice? Where are the signs of peace? When  
will the wronged be right - ed? When will the king - dom come? When  
who, when few bid wel - come will of - fer all they know? And

long dare vain self in - terest turn prayer and pit - y blind?"  
is the day when pris - 'ners and dreams find their re - lease?"  
will the world be gen - 'rous to all in - stead of some?"  
who, when few dare fol - low, will walk the road I show?"

Words: John L. Bell and Graham Maule © 1998 WGRG Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.

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Music: *Aurelia*, Samuel Sebastian Wesley

VOLUNTARY

## ***CHANCEL FLOWERS***

The flowers are placed on the chancel by Julie Nelson  
in celebration of Mack Hicks' birthday.

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## ***WORSHIP LEADERS***

*Preacher*

Bishop Julius Trimble

*Liturgist*

Reverend Taylor Fuerst

*Cantors*

Scott Davis, Sarah Urías, and Linda VanHorne

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## ***GREAT THANKSGIVING RESPONSES***

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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](http://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](http://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](http://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](http://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.