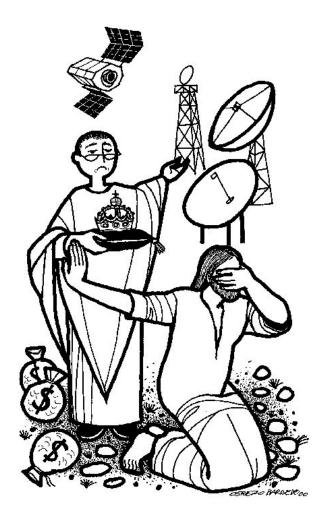
First Sunday in Lent Word & Eucharist March 9, 2025 | 10 AM | Onsite & Online





God Loves. We Love. Everyone! Dios Ama. Amamos. Todos! 3001 Whitis Avenue Austin, Texas 78705 info@felcaustin.org 512.478.1933 church 512.478.5424 cdc www.felcaustin.org

a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America-a sanctuary church body in the United States

Everyone is welcome. This means you.

Welcome to First English Lutheran Church & Child Development Center (FELC). We are a congregation of the Southwestern Texas Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). You are invited to fully participate in a community of faith and friendship that gathers for worship, relationship building, personal growth, and service in the community and the world. Following the example of Christ, this congregation welcomes you exactly as you are.

Worship is at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we encounter God, express our theology, define our identity, and are formed and transformed as the people of God. As we are gathered together, we receive the Word of God, give thanks, and are sent to be living, active images of divine love.

We are committed to the work of racial equity, justice, and advocating for marginalized groups. We welcome people in all places on the journey of faith and life. We celebrate differences in age, appearance, economic status, ethnic origin, nationality, race, family configuration, marital or relationship status, political leaning, religious background, and those who are differently abled physically or mentally. Since 1989, FELC has openly welcomed persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities and expressions to full participation in the church and society. For more on our welcome and life, visit www.felcaustin.org.

If this is one of your first times with FELC, please use the online Welcome Visitors information form and provide feedback on your visit <u>http://www.felcaustin.org/forms/visitors</u>.

When we gather in the **Chapel of the Saints**, we gather as the saints of God in prayer, worship, and community. We gather with the saints of the past that we remember in various ways: the names engraved on the Columbarium, the Cloud of Witnesses mobile hanging in the Chapel containing the names of all who have died at FELC since 1936, and the icons displayed on the walls that remind us of people who inspire our faith and action today. The icons in the Chapel, by artist Kelly Latimore, are diverse saints, ancient and contemporary, and eight more are installed in the hallway outside the north transept entrance. The Columbarium consists of separate niches that can hold up to two urns each.

All Gender Restrooms, with infant changing tables, are located in the hallway off of the sanctuary near the fellowship hall. **Hearing assistance devices** are available for the sanctuary, with two options: an earpiece, or a hearing loop for those who use hearing aids; please connect with an usher for a hearing assistance device. **Seat cushions**, for use on our wood pews and chairs are available from an usher in the narthex.

We acknowledge the presence of God's people living on this land long before European conquest. These lands and waters have sustained the Coahuiltecan, Comanche, Jumanos, Lipan Apache, Sana, Tonkawa, and other indigenous peoples for thousands of years. Gathering today to worship on ancestral homelands, we acknowledge and honor our indigenous sisters, siblings, and brothers who continue to care for the land and water and call this land home.

The First Sunday in Lent, Year C

The Holy Spirit gathers us into community.

These forty days called Lent (not counting Sundays) are like no other. It is an opportune time to return to the God who rescues, to receive the gifts of God's grace, to trust with the heart and confess with the mouth the wonder of God's love in Jesus, and to resist the temptation of hate and apathy. This is no small pilgrimage on which we embarked. It is a struggle Jesus knew. It is a struggle Jesus shares. It is a journey of love.

The assembly offers responses and acclamations printed in bold.

Hymns and Songs are found in the red worship book.

The worship music offered in Lent is often quieter and simpler, with more emphasis on the voice and less on other instrumentation. A diversity of music is an important part of our witness, including the outstanding acoustics of our nave. As we grow our music ministry, we embark on a significant restoration campaign for our valued and aged pipe organ

Gathering Kyrie

Music: Bret Hesla (b. 1957)

The assembly remains seated as we offer this Kyrie.

The Kyrie, or Song of Mercy, is an ancient part of Christian liturgy. In traditional form, the Greek text is "kyrie eleison," meaning "Lord, have mercy." The assembly gathers, calling on God's mercy.



Mercy! They cry mercy. Have mercy! Hear the cry. They cry from the deep. Where, oh where is home? When children come home, when they come, only then, I am home. Text: Leah Lax

Call to Praise & Prayer

At the sound of the singing bowls, the assembly may stand.

We face the main entrance to the church and the cross in procession.

Gathering Song at the Procession

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say | ELW 611 Text: Horatius Bonar (1808-1889) Music: KINGSFOLD, English folk tune

Confession & Forgiveness of Sin

Blessed be God: Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit. God's mercy endures forever. Amen.

The Lord God is merciful, full of grace – patient, true, and kind.

Therefore, let us confess our sin against God, ourselves, and our neighbors.

The assembly kneels or is seated. Extended silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and live in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness.

Beloved, God continues to show mercy. God always pardons you from all your sin, through the grace of Christ. God will forever strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirt, as Christ lives in your hearts and lives through faith. You are God's forgiven people, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The assembly continues to kneel or be seated for prayer.

Greeting & Prayer of the Day

In the wilderness, on the journey, and through the pilgrimage, God wanders with you. And also with you.

Lord God, you led your ancient people in the wilderness and brought them to a promised land. Guide us now, so that, following the way of Jesus, we may move through the wilderness of this world in the life you alone give us; through Jesus Christ, our only Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

Welcome to Community

The assembly is seated.

+WORD+

God speaks in scripture, preaching, song, silence, and prayer.

First Reading

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition

The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand.

¹ "When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess and you possess it and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the LORD your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'Today I declare to the LORD your God that I have come into the land that the LORD swore to our ancestors to give us.' ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the LORD your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the LORD your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, ⁷ we cried to the LORD, the God of our ancestors; the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression.

⁸ The LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O LORD, have given me.' You shall set it down before the LORD your God and bow down before the LORD your God. ¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the LORD your God has given to you and to your house."

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The assembly remains seated.

Response

Psalm 91: 1-2, 9-15 Anglican Chant

God will give the angels charge over you, to guard you in all your ways. (Ps. 91:11)

The assembly chants the psalm verses in bold print.



¹You who dwell in the shelter of the Most [|] High, who abide in the shadow of the Al - [|] mighty—
²you will say to the Lord, "My refuge and my [|] stronghold, my God in whom I put my [|] trust."
⁹Because you have made the Lord your [|] refuge, and the Most High your habi - [|] tation,
¹⁰no evil will befall [|] you, nor shall affliction come near your [|] dwelling.
¹¹For God will give the angels charge over [|] you, to guard you in all your [|] ways.
¹²Upon their hands they will bear you [|] up, lest you strike your foot against a [|] stone. ¹³You will tread upon the lion cub and [|]viper; you will trample down the lion and the [|]serpent.
¹⁴I will deliver those who cling to [|] me; I will uphold them, because they know my [|] name.
¹⁵They will call me and I will answer [|] them; I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor [|] them.
¹⁶With long life will I satisfy [|] them, and show them my sal - [|]vation.

Children and families are invited to gather near the baptismal font.

Faith of a Child & Spirit Space

Prayer: Thank you, God, for your beautiful world, for Jesus' love, for church friends and family, and for making me, me. Amen.

We welcome children with a Spirit Space in the North Transept for gentle play and reading, including a rug, floor pillows, soft blocks, and coloring supplies. Children and adults can engage the Spirit Space throughout the liturgy. We welcome children by encouraging them and celebrating the joy and livelihood they offer in life and throughout the liturgy and space.

Second Reading

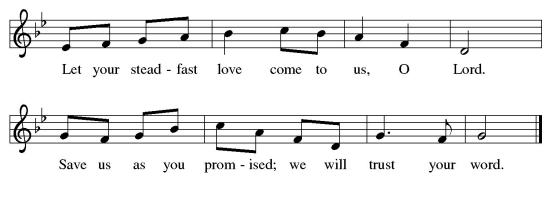
Romans 10:8b-13

As we confess that Jesus is Lord, we are saved.

^{8b} "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim), ⁹ because if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. ¹⁰ For one believes with the heart, leading to righteousness, and one confesses with the mouth, leading to salvation. ¹¹ The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." ¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. ¹³ For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The assembly may stand to welcome Christ in the good news.



The holy gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord.

Holy Gospel

Luke 4:1-13

The temptation of Jesus in the wilderness for forty days.

¹Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, ² where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. ³ The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." ⁴ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" ⁵ Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. ⁶ And the devil said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. ⁷ If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." ⁸ Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'" ⁹ Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, ¹⁰ for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,'¹¹ and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'" ¹²Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'" ¹³ When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

Sermon

For the first three Sundays in Lent our prayer time will enfold stations to engage prayer. The second portion of Lent will incorporate a creedal affirmation of faith and spoken intercessions.

Prayer & Meditation

We invite your prayers: for the earth; the nations; the poor, ill, oppressed, lonely, homeless, homebound, imprisoned, bereaved, and joyful; for justice and mercy; for the communities where we live, worship, play, and work; for ourselves, our loved ones and our enemies; and for the sorrows and thanksgivings we bring today. A prayer list is found on page 19.

Healing Prayer

We invite children and adults desiring healing prayer, which may include the laying on of hands and anointing with oil, to come to a minister who will pray with and for you.

Moving on the Labyrinth

We invite you to utilize the Labyrinth in the Chapel of the Saints. You may remove footwear and move on the Labyrinth with others.

Labyrinths are ancient symbols that combine the imagery of the circle and the spiral into a single, winding path that leads to a center. Unlike a maze, you can't get lost in a labyrinth because there are no dead ends or tricks. Here are some tips for walking a labyrinth:

- Focus internally: The path is in full view, so you can focus on your breathing and your prayer.
- Follow the return path: You use the same path to return from the center as you did to get there.

Anthem

Hide Not Thou Thy Face Music: Richard Farrant (d. 1580)

Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord, and cast not off thy servant in thy displeasure; for we confess our sins unto thee and hide not our unrighteousness. For thy mercy's sake, deliver us from all our sins. Psalm 27:10

The assembly remains seated to sing.

Hymn



Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947 Music: SLANE, Irish traditional Text © 1996 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved.

The assembly may stand.

Sharing the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you all. And also with you.

The assembly returns to their places.

The exchange of peace within the gathered community is an ancient Christian practice. Gentle signs of reconciliation and love renew and build relationships prior to coming to God's table for Eucharist.

Welcome to Communion & Offering

We reflect on our stewardship of the gifts of God entrusted to us for the mission of the church and the care of those in need. God welcomes our generosity. Financial gifts may be shared through the offering plate or online at www.felcaustin.org/information/giving.

The assembly may stand as bread, wine, and other gifts are presented and the meal is prepared.

Offering Song

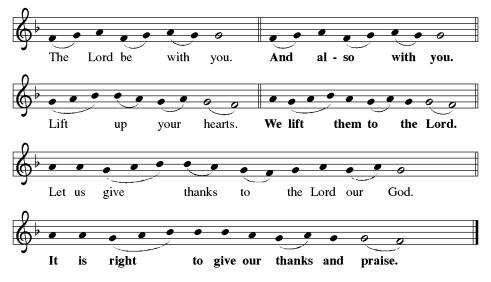
Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God Richard Hillert (1923-2010); Psalm 51:10-12



Offering Prayer

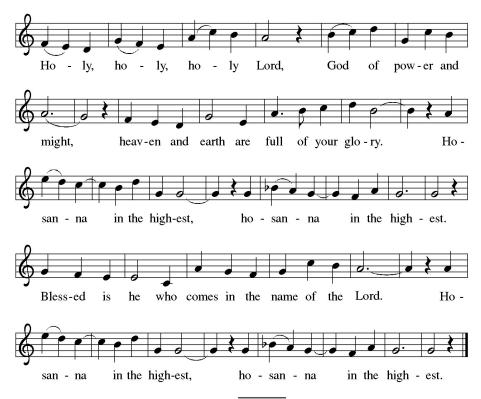
Bless us, Lord God, and these your gifts, which we are about to receive from your bounty; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving



It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . join their unending hymn:

Sanctus



Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy God, Merciful Guide ... because of sin, fear, and rejection.

In the night in which he was betrayed ...

Trusting that Christ journeys with us through life and death, we proclaim the mystery of faith: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Send your Spirit to be our beacon as we are led by your grace. Bless this meal as it brings us close to you and you close to us.

Send us out from the gift of this table . . . of love and compassion.

Glory and praise to you, O God, through + Jesus, our Way, with the Spirit, our Companion, in your holy church and your holy world, with our fellow travelers, now and forever. **AMEN.** Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen. Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu nombre. Venga tu reino. Hágase tu voluntad en la tierra como en el cielo. Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia. Perdona nuestras ofensas como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden. No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal. Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria, ahora y siempre. Amén.

Our Creator in heaven, holy is your name, your kin-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sin, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kin-dom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

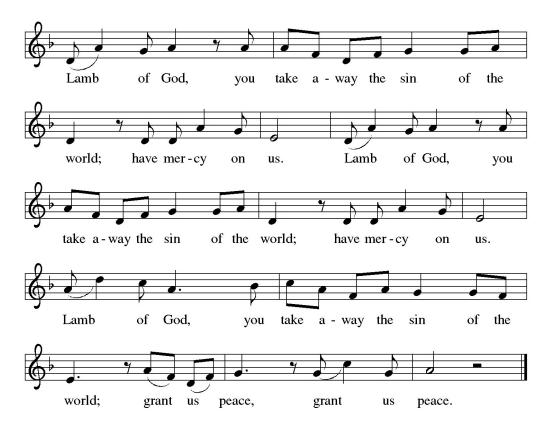
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Breaking the Bread

We break this bread to be the body of Christ. We will love one another as Christ loves us.

The assembly may be seated.

Agnus Dei: Lamb of God



Invitation to Communion & Blessing

God, in Christ, fully welcomes people of every age to this Meal, which is known by many names: the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion, the Mass, the Sacrament, the Eucharist. We encourage you to participate in ways that are meaningful for you.

Ushers will direct you by the center aisle to a station to receive bread in your hand for you to eat, then proceed to a station and receive a small cup, where wine will be poured and consumed. Gluten-free wafers/ grape juice are available upon request. If you desire not to receive bread or wine, you are invited to a station where a minister will offer a prayer of blessing. Then, return to your seat by a side aisle. We join in prayer, meditation, and music. If you desire communion or a blessing at your place, let an usher or minister know.

Communion Music

Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil | ELW 721

Text: From An African Prayer Book, Desmond Tutu, b. 1931 Music: GOODNESS IS STRONGER, John L. Bell, b. 1949

The assembly remains seated as we offer our thanks.

Prayer after Communion

Dear Jesus, in this meal of grace, you have blessed and nourished us with your real presence. Thank you. We humbly pray that we may bear your life-giving hope in a world of beauty and need. **Amen.**

₽SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission and service with the world.

Community Invitations & Announcements

The assembly may stand as we pray for God's courage and receive God's blessing.

Prayer for Courage

Let us pray together.

O God, you have called your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths untrodden, through things unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us, and your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

God's Blessing

Live with courage; hold fast to what is good; render to no one evil for evil; bless those who persecute you – bless and do not curse them; love your neighbor, love your enemy, love your true self; empower the weak; lend to those who ask; align yourself with the least, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit; and the blessing of God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you, and all you love, serve, and resist, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sending Song

O God of Every Nation | ELW 713

Text: William W. Reid Jr., b. 1923 Music: LLANGLOFFAN, Welsh tune, 19th cent.

Dismissal to Mission

Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. Thanks be to God.

Hospitality

+ Our Worship Has Ended. Our Service Begins. ↔

MINISTERS SERVING IN LEARNING, LITURGY, & HOSPITALITY | MARCH 9

Ministers	All the People of God
Adult Faith Formation	Betsy Appleton
Altar Care	Nancy Neuse
Assisting Minister	Nikki Northcutt
Building Open/Close	Ben Rode, Kristin Mondy
Children's Faith Formation	Nancy Baden
Crucifer	JD Aguirre
Lector	Trish Karli
Livestream Minister	JP Northcutt-Benson
Music Ministers	FELC Choir; Elijah Aguirre, oboe;
	Oliver Rajamani, percussion; Cantor Bryan Rust
Presiding & Preaching	The Rev. Travis Fitzgold
Ushers	Randy Baden, Terry Porter

Visit felcaustin.org to learn more about the FELC welcome, worship, community life, learning, engagement, racial justice, and reconciliation ministries, and the CDC. To subscribe to a weekly email newsletter, contact office@felcaustin.org.

WORSHIP IN LENT | WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12, 19, 26; APRIL 2, 9

All are welcome to a service of quiet reflection in the sanctuary with the liturgy of Holden Evening Prayer, every Wednesday in Lent at 7 PM.

ELCA WORLD HUNGER LENTEN PRAYER CALENDAR AND WORD IN SEASON DEVOTION BOOKLETS FOR APRIL, MAY & JUNE ARE AVAILABLE ON THE WELCOME TABLES.

ONGOING NEEDS FOR MICAH 6 FOOD PANTRY

First English and the community provide year-round support for the Micah 6 Food Pantry and Street Youth Drop-in Center. Current Critical needs for the Micah 6 Food Pantry and Youth Drop-in Center:

- 15 oz. Canned Vegetables, including Green Beans, Corn, Spinach/greens, Pinto or Black Beans
- 15 oz. Canned Fruit, any variety
- 15 oz. Canned Meat, including Chicken and Tuna
- Luncheon meat
- Dry Goods
- Rice, 1 to 2 lb. bags
- Dried beans, 1 to 2 lb. bags
- Skillet dinners (hamburger helper or other boxed meals)
- Side dishes (Rice a Roni, Mac n Cheese, or other side item)
- 18 oz. peanut butter

Please do not send large containers or bulk products that have to be divided prior to distribution. Leave donations in the bins at the front of the sanctuary in the north transept.

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PRAYER CONCERNS & JOYS

As a community of faith, we pray for:

the citizens, immigrants, & refugees of the United States; the national, state, local leaders of the United States; the people in all places of war, oppression, & conflict; those who advocate for safety, justice, & equity for all; all families living with violence, including gun violence; all in need of safe shelter, nourishing food, & quality care, & for those who offer it; all who offer protection, defense, & advocacy in our communities & in this nation; those living with & recovering from severe weather & natural disasters; those of various faith traditions & people of goodwill; Muslim friends & neighbors who observe the month of Ramadan; the whole church throughout the world & all leaders of the church; His Holiness, Pope Francis; God's guidance for our congregation community in ministry transition & renewal; the Congregation Council members; the Pastoral Call Committee, & the candidates they engage; the Church & CDC staff; Teresa del Aguila, FELC custodial care matriarch, recovering from surgery; the Child Development Center students & families; the CDC Board members; Micah 6 Ministries & partner congregations, & executive director, the Rev. Barry Smith; benevolence ministry partner LuMin, & campus pastor, the Rev. Bradley Fuerst; benevolence ministry partner Global Refuge, & CEO Krish O'Mara Vignarajah; Lutheran Disaster Response; all seeking healing, and those living with addiction, cancer, & spiritual, health, & employment crises; FELC Care Ministers: FELC Prayer Circle, who weekly gather for prayer; all who are homebound; Marian Klumpp, in home hospice care; Sarah Roberts, in treatment for cancer; all who have died; all in any need & thanksgiving.

The FELC Prayer Circle gathers faithfully to offer prayer. Contact: <u>bschutz@sbcglobal.net.</u>

FELC LEADERSHIP

Child Development Ctr Board of Directors

<u>CDCBoard@felcaustin.org</u> President Sig Rydquist, FELCDC Parent Vice Pres. Merrily Porter, FELC Secretary Erin McCracken, FELC Treasurer vacant Kevin Incorvia, CDC Parent Drew Newell, CDC Parent Anthony Schoggins, CDC Parent Anne Wiebe, FELC

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Worship Trish Karli Learning Ministry Leigh Northcutt-Benson, Betsy Appleton

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Pastor In Transition Cantor Bryan Rust cantor@felcaustin.org **Child Development Center Director** Dr. Paulette Clemons director@firstenglishcdc.org CDC Staff Tertia Bonner, Lauren Eichhorn Kambrea Richardson, Alexis Tovar Loretta Wall, Magdalena Gonzalez Shelby Williams Church Office Administrator Dawn Wetzel office@felcaustin.org **Custodial Care** Teresa del Aguila & family **FELC Bookkeeper** Melissa Kruckenberg **FELCDC Bookkeeper Emily Mikas**

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