Palm Sunday with Procession Word & Eucharist April 13, 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.

╋ GATHERING ↔

The Holy Spirit gathers us into community.

A diversity of music is an important part of our witness, including the acoustics of our nave. As we grow our music ministry, we embark on a restoration campaign for our valued and aged pipe organ.

Welcome to Community

The assembly gathers in the front courtyard of the church building for the blessing and procession with palm branches.

Those not able to join in the procession onsite may take their place inside and online.

Acclamation

Blessed is the one + who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

The assembly raises palm branches as able.

Blessing of Palms & People

Let us pray.

We praise you, O God, for redeeming the world through our Savior, Jesus Christ. Today he entered the holy city in triumph and was proclaimed messiah and king by those who spread garments and branches along the way. Bless these branches + and those who carry them. Grant us grace to follow our Lord in the way of the cross, so that, joined to his death and resurrection, we enter into life with you; through the same Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

Let us go forth in peace, in the name of Christ! Amen!

The onsite assembly proceeds into the building.

All join in waving branches and singing the song on the next page.

You are invited to keep your palm branches with you throughout the liturgy.

When reaching a place inside the building, please remain standing, as able.

Procession

Hosanna (repeated) Music: Nancy Raabe (b. 1954)



Greeting & Prayer of the Day

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. **And also with you.**

Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord, and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!

The assembly is seated.

╋ WORD ↔

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

First Reading

Zechariah 9:9-12 New Revised Standard Version, updated

⁹ Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion! Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem! Lo, your king comes to you; triumphant and victorious is he, humble and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey. ¹⁰ He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war-horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and he shall command peace to the nations; his dominion shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. ¹¹ As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you, I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit. ¹² Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope; today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

The assembly remains seated.

Response

The assembly chants the psalm verses in bold print.



¹Give thanks to the LORD for the LORD is [|] good; God's mercy endures [|] forever. ²Let Israel now [|] declare, "God's mercy endures [|] forever."

 ¹⁹Open for me the gates of [|] righteousness;
I will enter them and give thanks to the [|] LORD.
²⁰"This is the gate of the [|]LORD; here the righteous may [|]enter."

 ²⁶Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the ¹LORD; we bless you from the house of the ¹LORD.
²⁷The LORD is God and has given us ¹light. Form a procession with branches up to the corners of the ¹altar.

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

⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death — even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,¹¹and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

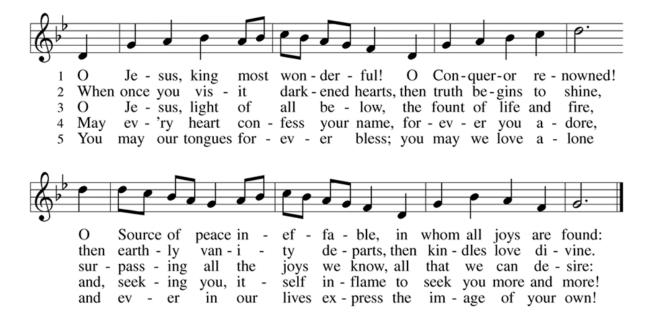
The assembly may stand as we welcome Christ in the Good News.

We turn to face the cross in procession and sing stanzas 1 – 4.

Gospel Acclamation In Procession

O Jesus, King Most Wonderful!

Text: Bernard of Clairvaux (1091-1153) Music: Hiding Place, John Leavitt (1831)



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

Holy Gospel

Luke 19:28-40

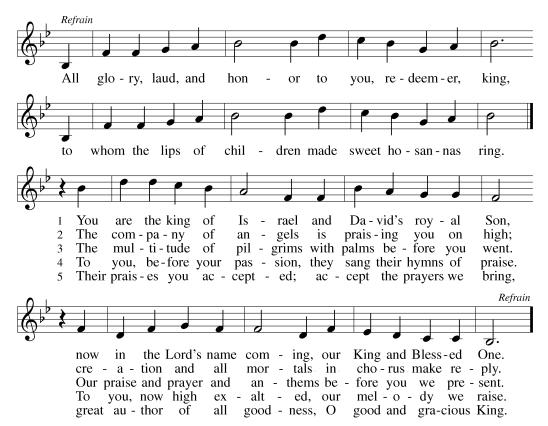
²⁸ After Jesus had said this, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem. ²⁹ When he had come near Bethphage and Bethany, at the place called the Mount of Olives, he sent two of the disciples, ³⁰ saying, "Go into the village ahead of you, and as you enter it you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden. Untie it and bring it here. ³¹ If anyone asks you, 'Why are you untying it?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it.'" ³² So those who were sent departed and found it as he had told them. ³³ As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" ³⁴ They said, "The Lord needs it." ³⁵ Then they brought it to Jesus; and after throwing their cloaks on the colt, they set Jesus on it. ³⁶ As he rode along, people kept spreading their cloaks on the road. ³⁷ As he was now approaching the path down from the Mount of Olives, the whole multitude of the disciples began to praise God joyfully with a loud voice for all the deeds of power that they had seen, ³⁸ saying, "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven, and glory in the highest heaven!" ³⁹ Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to him, "Teacher, order your disciples to stop." ⁴⁰ He answered, "I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out."

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

The assembly sings stanza 5 of the Gospel Acclamation, pg. 7.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day



Text: Theodulph of Orleans, c. 760–821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt. Music: VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN, Melchior Teschner, 1584–1635

On this festival Sunday, the Affirmation of Faith (a Creed) is omitted. The Prayers of Intercession are incorporated in the Thanksgiving at the Table during the communion liturgy. A prayer list is found on page 19.

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.

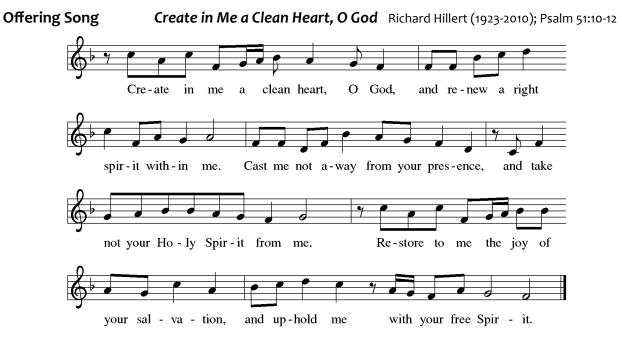
Welcome to Communion & Offering

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.

Offering Music

Ride On, King Jesus African American spiritual

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



Offering Prayer

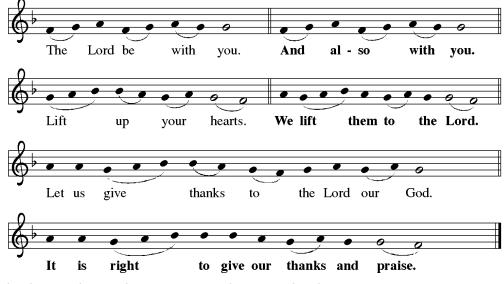
Blessed are you, O living God, through your goodness we offer you this bread: fruit of the earth and work of human hands.

Blessed be God forever!

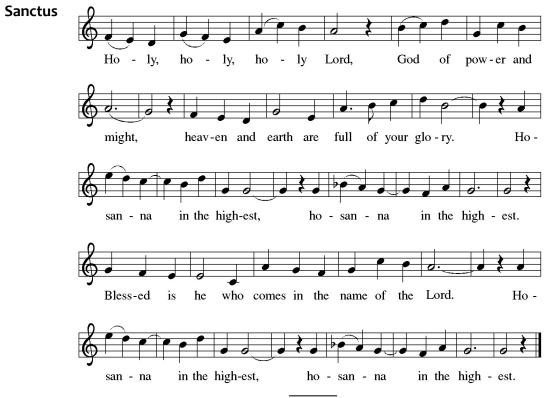
Blessed are you, O living God, through your goodness we offer you this wine: fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

Blessed be God forever!

We praise you, O living God, for creating the fruits of the earth and vine. Amen.



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



Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy, mighty, and merciful God, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent Jesus, your dear Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who proclaimed good news to the poor and marginalized, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering Christ's death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Let us proclaim the mystery of faith: **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remember, Lord God, your one, . . .and preserve us in peace. Remember the people of the nations . . . new, peaceful day with lasting justice. Remember the sick and all who cry out . . . grant them healing and restoration. Remember all the blessed dead . . . through the power of your love.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O God, and unite the wills of all who share in this heavenly food and blessing, the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, + be all honor and glory, in the church and in the world, 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.

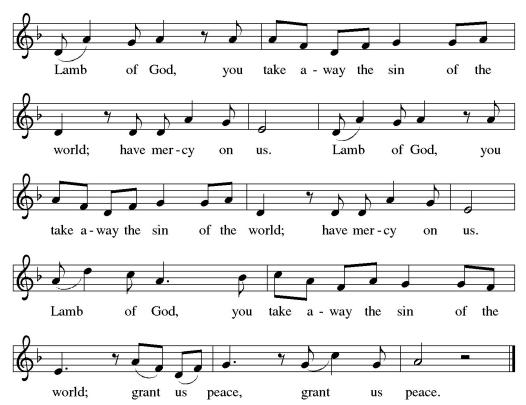
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Breaking the Bread

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.

For those participating onsite, 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

O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us | ELW 431

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939 Music: ALL SAINTS NEW, Henry S. Cutler (1824-1902)

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.**

中 SENDING 中

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

based on Romans 12

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

Filled with Excitement

Text/Music: Rubén Ruiz Avila (b. 1945)



Dismissal to Mission

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest! Go in peace. Jesus meets you on the way. Thanks be to God!

Sending Music

"Palm Sunday Procession" Gene Clarke

Hospitality

All are invited to take palm branches and place them above a door, or behind a wall cross or other symbol of sacred witness.

+ OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED. OUR SERVICE BEGINS. +

EcoPalms

Today we use EcoPalms, which promote social justice, environmental stewardship, and are gathered through sustainable harvest programs. At least half of the farmers in Central Guatemala earn additional income from harvesting fronds and, more than a quarter of household heads support themselves exclusively by collecting fronds. Lutheran World Relief supports and promotes awareness of EcoPalms.

MICAH 6 YOUTH DROP IN CENTER UPDATE

The Micah 6 youth drop in center has an urgent need for the following:

- Men's underwear, t shirts, and shorts (size L, XL)
- Men's and Women's shoes
- Children's clothing
- Phone chargers

Gently used clothing is accepted. Affordable options are available at Target, Costco, Walmart, and Sam's Club. Contact Micah 6 treasurer, Ryan Valentine, <u>Ryan.valentine@gmail.com</u>, regarding reimbursement for these or other Micah 6 purchases. Receipts are required.

Sign up to volunteer at the Micah 6 Food pantry at micah6austin.org. Contact Andy MacLaren, <u>andymaclaren@cs.com</u>,512-947-4186, for information regarding Micah 6 ministries. Thanks for your continued support!

CHICKEN BBQ | SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 6 PM

View the website and upcoming weekly newsletter for details on this great community event!

CELEBRATE LENT, HOLY WEEK, & EASTER

Palm Sunday | April 13, 2025 | 10AM

Blessing & palm procession, Holy Communion, & special music. Hospitality after worship

Maundy Thursday | April 17, 2025 | Noon & 7PM

The Noon liturgy will be abbreviated. 7PM: Confession & Absolution, Holy Communion, footwashing ritual, & stripping the altar in preparation for Good Friday

Good Friday | April 18, 2025 | Noon to 3:00 PM & 7PM

Noon to 3PM: Tre Ore (3 hours) service on the Seven Last Words of Christ (come & go for prayer, reflections, & music)

7PM: Adoration of the Cross liturgy ; passion narrative reading; choral & instrumental music, & prayer around the cross. Virtual Stations of the Cross will be available online.

Holy Saturday: The Easter Vigil | April 19, 2025 | 8:01PM (sunset)

Candlelight procession, stories of salvation, baptismal renewal, Holy Communion, & special music Champagne and chocolate reception

Easter Sunday Worship, Hospitality, & Egg Hunt | April 20, 2025 | 10AM

Flowering of the indoor cross before worship (bring cut flowers). Worship with the resurrection story, Holy Communion, choral & instrumental music. Festive Hospitality & Egg Hunt after worship (bring a basket)

LEADERS IN LEARNING, LITURGY & HOSPITALITY | APRIL 13

Ministers	All the People of God
Altar Care	Nancy Neuse
Assisting Minister	Shannon Aguirre
Building Open/Close	Leigh Northcutt-Benson, Ben Rode
Crucifer	Jerry Don Aguirre
Lector	Betsy Appleton
Livestream Minister	JP Northcutt-Benson
Music Ministers	FELC Choir; Elijah Aguirre, oboe; Marie Straight, trumpet;
	Oliver Rajamani, percussion; Cantor Bryan Rust
Presiding & Preaching	The Rev. Bradley Fuerst
Usher	Terry Porter

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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, including earthquakes; those of various faith traditions & people of goodwill; the whole church throughout the world & all leaders of the church; God's guidance for our congregation community in ministry transition & renewal; those who will visit First English at Holy Week & Easter; the Congregation Council members; the Pastoral Call Committee; the primary pastoral candidate; the Church & CDC staff; 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 gather weekly for prayer; Marian Klumpp, in home hospice care; Sarah Roberts, in treatment for cancer; family member of Pat Thomas, in need; family and friends of Jesse Highum; Pastor Rosemarie Doucette, friend of Michelle Lingo, in post-surgical healing; Betty Green, mother of Paulette Clemons, in the hospital; Freddie Bates, Jr., brother of Paulette Clemons, in the hospital; Elton Powdrill, uncle of Paulette Clemons, who died on April 5; all who are homebound; 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

CDCBoard@felcaustin.org 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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President LaRu Woody felcpresident@felcaustin.org Vice President Leigh Northcutt-Benson Secretary Nancy Baden Treasurer Allen Jensen Financial Secretary Gwen Flory Elijah Aguirre Betsy Appleton Paul Barlow Charlie Boas Margaret Bruesch Lillian Martinez-Rodriguez Kristin Mondy Benjamin Rode Mari Ward

Team Leaders

Support Ministry: Terry Porter Worship Ministry: Trish Karli Learning Ministry: Leigh Northcutt-Benson Betsy Appleton

<u>Staff</u>

Pastor In Transition **Cantor** Bryan Rust cantor@felcaustin.org **Child Development Center Director** Dr. Paulette Clemons director@firstenglishcdc.org CDC Staff Tertia Bonner, Charity Douglas Lauren Eichhorn, William Matthews 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**

Call Committee

<u>FELCTransitionMinistry@felcaustin.org</u> Tim Atkinson Randy Baden Allen Jensen Erin McCracken (Chairperson) Nikki Northcutt Lillian Martinez-Rodriguez Barbara Schutz

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.