

ASHLAND PLACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2nd Sunday of Lent ▪ February 28, 2021

❖ Please Stand, Bold Print— Congregation Reads Aloud

WELCOME AND PARISH NOTICES

Rev. Kristen Curtis Wright

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY *Three chimes signify the presence of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

PRELUDE

Meditation on "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"
Jennifer Bemis

arr. Barr

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God, who made a covenant with Abraham.

Let us worship God, who granted Abraham his son.

Let us worship God, whose covenant provided Abraham a great nation.

We worship you, Lord!

We worship you, Lord!

We worship you, Lord!

HYMN OF PRAISE

Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Dr. Sterling Boykin

God of call and covenant, God of transformation and redemption, God of the Lenten journey, help us to hear your still, small voice and to discern your will. Open us to change and growth, that we may walk with Jesus Christ. Amen.

PSALTER READING

Psalms 22:25-31, selected verses

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;

my vows I will pay before those who worship the Lord.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied;

those who seek the Lord shall praise the Lord! May your hearts live for ever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;

and all the families of the nations shall worship before the Lord.

For dominion belongs to the Lord who rules over the nations. Posterity shall serve the Lord;

each generation shall tell of the Lord,

and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn.

Surely the Lord has done it.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION & WORDS OF ASSURANCE

O God you are faithful to your promises.

Forgive our lack of faith, O faithful God! See beyond our apathy and our thoughtlessness,

Our self-centeredness and our wrong choices. See into our hearts and know who we are.

Hear the Good News:

God is faithful to forgive. Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.

Thanks be to God.

OFFERTORY PRAYER and OFFERTORY

What Wondrous Love

arr. Dixon

Virtual Choir

Offering plates are available at each exit. To submit your pledge or financial gift electronically, please visit www.apumc.com to make your secure online donation. You may also mail a check to the church at 15 Wisteria Avenue, Mobile, AL 36607.

❖ **DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above ye heavenly hosts; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

❖ **PASSING OF THE PEACE**

EPISTLE LESSON

Romans 4:13-25

MORNING PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER

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. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Amy True

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 17:1-9, 15-16

SERMON

Covenants & Second Chances: Covenant with Abraham

Dr. Sterling Boykin

❖ **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day He rose from the dead; He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. **universal***

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP and BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee

Neumark

✠ **FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are given with thankfulness to God and in celebration of Zal Chitty Sr's 80th Birthday, with love from his family.

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2021

Romans 4:13-25

¹³ For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴ If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵ For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

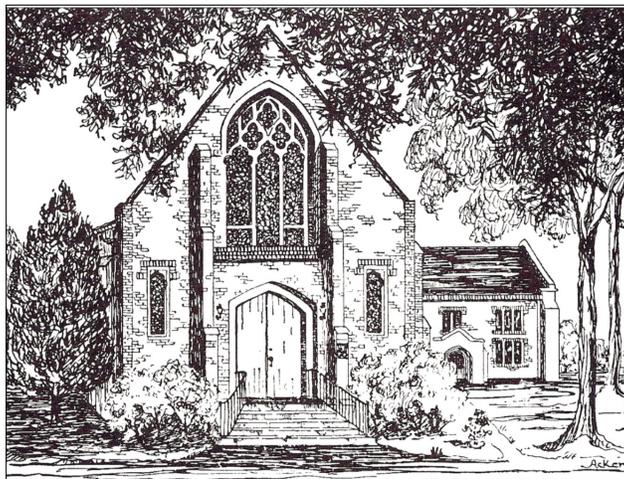
¹⁶ For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷ as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸ Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹ He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰ No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹ being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²² Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” ²³ Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴ but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵ who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

17 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, “I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ² And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous.” ³ Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴ “As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵ No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶ I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷ I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

¹⁵ God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶ I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

Notes:



CIRCLE OF CONCERN:

Please hold these members in your prayers: John Allen, Jean Brown, Sharon Coggin, Linda Lee Counts, Jane Ford, Mary Wit Fowler, Margaret Graham, Erveta Haas, Freddie Jones, Thalia Laird, David Mann, Peggy Mann, Valencia and Calvin Montgomery*, Burton Roton, Nancy Scott, Nyla Smith, Kathryn Willingham. (*new this week)

FINANCIAL UPDATE:

2021 GIVING UPDATE, FEBRUARY 21

Giving Received: \$ 32,841
Giving Needed each week: \$ 16,156

YEAR TO DATE, as of January

Giving Received \$ 60,025
Giving Needed \$ 58,403

FAITHFULLY TOGETHER FOR 2021 CARDS

Operating Pledge Cards 114 totaling \$ 585,630
Building Pledge Cards 26 totaling \$ 73,200
Active Building Pledge Cards (pre-2021) \$ 172,240

NURSERY is available for 4 families per service. Make reservations through the Sign Up Genius link.

CHILDREN'S CHOIR will begin again on Sunday, February 28 from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Children will meet with Amy True outside.

DRIVE-IN COMMUNION TODAY, Feb. 28th
@ 4:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall Parking Lot.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER, March 5th

A global ecumenical movement led by Christian women inviting all to join in prayer for peace and justice. UM Women have focused on world peace and world mission since about 1892 through a call to prayer and self-denial.

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES:

Sunday, February 28, 2021 —

Ascension Modern Service — 9:00 a.m.

Wesley Class Sunday School — 9:00 a.m.

on Zoom (coachsp@bellsouth.net)

Children's Sunday School on Zoom — 10:15 a.m.

Traditional Sanctuary Service — 11:00 a.m.

Drive-In Communion — 4:00

Young Women's Bible Study — 4:30 p.m.

Daily — Lenten Reflections by email

Tuesday —

Prayer Shawl Ministry — 10:00 a.m. (New Parlor)

New Lenten Pastor's Bible Study — 6:00 p.m. (Fellowship Hall and on Zoom)

Wednesday —

Mid-Week Lenten Virtual Services, website, YouTube, email

Thursday —

Men's Bible Study — 7:00 a.m. (New Parlor)

Friday — World Day of Prayer

MAKING PLANS FOR A HOLY LENT

☞ **Daily devotions** Contact the Church Office if you would like to receive daily reflections written by members of our congregation throughout Lent. Email Lee Ann at LAboykin@apumc.com to be added to the e-mail list.

☞ **Special Mid-Week Virtual Services, Wednesdays at Noon** Speakers will include former pastors, our District Superintendent and Bishop, and friends of our congregation and will include a musical offering. This week's speaker will be Dr. Jason Borders with a musical offering from Huntingdon students.

☞ **Tuesday Evening Bible Study** A hybrid (in-person and Zoom) study of Biblical Characters and Second Chances will begin on 2/23 at 6:00 p.m. Contact Lee Ann Boykin for Zoom link (251-478-6356 church, 251-272-0721 cell).