

ASHLAND PLACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

July 18, 2021 ▪ 8th Sunday after Pentecost

— WE GATHER —

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

On Christmas Day in the Morn
Jennifer Bemis, organ

arr. Harris

❖ COLLECT

The people walking in darkness have seen a great light;
on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned.
Jesus Christ is our life and light. In his name and in his power, let us worship God!

❖ HYMN OF PRAISE

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (vs. 1, 2, 4)

UMH 110

❖ PASSING OF THE PEACE

You are invited to greet those near you with the words, "Peace be with you" and respond with "And also with you."

— WE LISTEN —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Mighty God, the shepherds of old were full of your praises, saying that all they had heard and seen was mirrored by what they had been told. Move among us now with your Holy Spirit, that we too might hear and experience the wonder and joy of the living Word as we seek to welcome the written Word into our lives. In Jesus' name, Amen.

PSALTER *Responsive Reading from Psalm 103*

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

do not forget all his benefits—

The Lord is who forgives, heals, redeems life.

Bless the Lord, O my soul

The Lord crowns with steadfast love and mercy.

Bless the Lord, O my soul.

❖ *Please Stand, Bold Print— Congregation Reads Aloud*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 49:1-6

49 Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The LORD called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

² He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me;

he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away.

³ And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;

yet surely my cause is with the LORD, and my reward with my God."

⁵ And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him,

and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honored in the sight of the LORD,

and my God has become my strength —

⁶ he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob

and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

May God bless the reading of the Word through his servant Isaiah. **Thanks be to God.**

❖ **HYMN OF PREPARATION**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

UMH 230

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Amy True

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

6 As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.

² For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the

acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³ We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be

found with our ministry, ⁴ but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in

afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵ beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶ by purity, knowledge,

patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷ truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of

righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸ in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as

impostors, and yet are true; ⁹ as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not

killed; ¹⁰ as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

May God bless the reading of the Word. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON Mark 9:33-37

³³ Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the

way?" ³⁴ But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵ He sat down, called

the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶ Then he took a little child

and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷ "Whoever welcomes one such child in my name

welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

— WE RESPOND —

❖ 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*

♪ GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. A-men. A-men.

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.

OFFERTORY PRAYER and OFFERTORY

Amazing Grace
Blake Waters

arr. Courtney

♪ DOXOLOGY

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

— WE GO FORTH —

❖ INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

During the Hymn of Invitation, those who wish to join this congregation of the United Methodist Church are invited to come to the chancel rail to meet with the pastors.

❖ HYMN OF INVITATION

O Come, All Ye Faithful (verse 3)

UMH 234

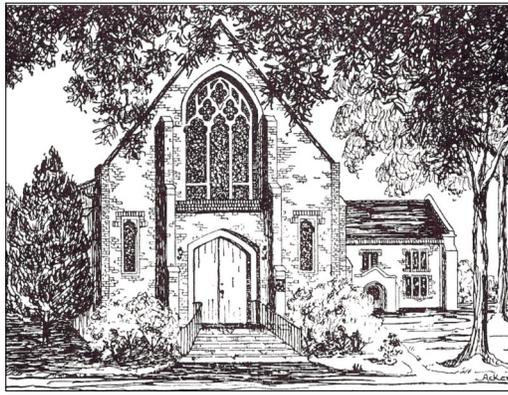
❖ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Celebration

Lasky

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given by Angie Holmes in honor of Leigh Faircloth's many years of outstanding leadership of The Joseph Project and also for all the dedicated volunteers who have worked alongside her to make this such a special outreach ministry for our church.



THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, July 18, 2021

Ascension Modern Service — 9:00 a.m. *

Wesley Class Adult Sunday School — 10:00 a.m.

Traditional Sanctuary Service — 11:00 a.m. *

* Nursery (infant—2nd grade) is available in The Landing

Youth — 5:15 p.m. Meet at Cold Snap (bring \$) in Pinebrook

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

Wednesday - Refection—5:15 to 6:30 (Fellowship Hall)

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

OUR CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor	Dr Sterling Boykin sboykin@apumc.com
Associate Pastor	Rev Kristen Wright kwright@apumc.com
Traditional Music Director	Jennifer Bemis
Contemporary Music Director	Amy True
Youth Director, Communication	Lee Ann Boykin
Church Administrator	Pam Bostick
Media Director	Jon Miller
Preschool Director	Mary Hunter Fuller
Building Steward	Quinton McConnell
Nursery Director	Sarah Willingham
Church Office	251-478-6356

CIRCLE OF CONCERN

Please hold these members in your prayers: Jean Brown, Pierce Coggin, Sharon Coggin, Linda Lee Counts, Jane Ford, Ruffin Graham, Erveta Haas, Cathy Irby, Steve Johnson, Freddie Jones, Thalia Laird, David Mann, Peggy Mann, Haley Maxime, Lexi Mayhall, Michael Pierce, Sr, Burton Roton, Nancy Scott, Nyla Smith, Lonn Spencer, Law Stuart, Kathryn Willingham. (*New this week)

Contact Pam Bostick in the Church Office to add someone to this prayer list for our Intercessory prayer group, &/or for the printed bulletin.

WELCOME

Thank you for choosing to worship with us at Ashland Place United Methodist Church. If you have questions about church activities, church membership, or the Christian faith, we would love to speak with you. Feel free to contact one of our pastors, or a staff member if we can assist you in any way.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

2021 UPDATE FOR SUNDAY, July 11th

Giving Received: \$ 10,401

Giving Needed Weekly: \$ 15,806

YEAR TO DATE INFORMATION as of the end of June

Giving Received: \$369,268

Giving Needed: \$409,500

To give safely online, visit www.apumc.com and click on the "GIVE" tab.

REFECTION STUDY: July 21 and 28th

Join us Wednesday evenings, July 21 and 28, Refection Bible Study. There is a program for children, youth and adults with prayers from the Bible and different prayer practices. Gathering is at 5:15, Study concludes at 6:30 p.m. On July 28th we will have a Cookout with the study. See E-Newsletter for meal reservation link.

EMBRACE ALABAMA KIDS OFFERING:

July 25th Our Christmas in July sermon series will conclude with a special offering for Embrace Alabama Kids (UM Children's Home White Christmas Offering) on July 25th. Dr. Blake Horne will be with us to give a ministry update.

WANT TO SERVE???

- Are you interested in service opportunities through Ashland Place UMC? Would you like to serve Communion? Be an Usher or Greeter? Assist with yard work? Teach a class? Help with children or youth? Arrange flowers? Bring food for a reception?
- Would you like to serve on the Mission Committee — or to be on the mailing list when mission projects are advertised? We'd love to help you get connected! Email Lee Ann at LAboykin@apumc.com, or call 478-6356.

Hymns for 7/18/2021—Virtual Worship

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God UMH 110

1. A mighty fortress is our God,
a bulwark never failing;
our helper he amid the flood
of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe
doth seek to work us woe;
his craft and power are great,
and armed with cruel hate,
on earth is not his equal.

2. Did we in our own strength confide,
our striving would be losing,
were not the right man on our side,
the man of God's own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be?
Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth, his name,
from age to age the same,
and he must win the battle.

4. That word above all earthly powers,
no thanks to them, abideth;
the Spirit and the gifts are ours,
thru him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go,
this mortal life also;
the body they may kill;
God's truth abideth still;
his kingdom is forever.

O Little Town of Bethlehem UMH 230

1. O little town of Bethlehem,
how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years
are met in thee tonight.

2. For Christ is born of Mary,
and gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together,
proclaim the holy birth,
and praises sing to God the King,
and peace to all on earth!

3. How silently, how silently,
the wondrous gift is given;
so God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive him, still
the dear Christ enters in.

4. O holy Child of Bethlehem,
descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin, and enter in,
be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us,
our Lord Emmanuel!

O Come All Ye Faithful UMH 234

3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation;
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest;
(Refrain)

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

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