



ASHLAND PLACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 28, 2021 ▪ 1st Sunday of Advent
EXPECTATION OF HOPE

— WE GATHER —

WELCOME AND PARISH NOTICES

Please take a moment to sign the attendance register on the pew.

Rev. Kristen Curtis Wright

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

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on "In dulci jubilo"
Jennifer Bemis, organ

arr. Ryan

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

Blessed Be the God of Israel

Perry and Hopson

❖ COLLECT

We come from a world of darkness into Christ's world of light.

We come from a world of weariness into God's strength and hope.

We come from a slumbering world strengthened by the Spirit,

We come to awaken our souls and to watch for the coming of Christ. Amen.

Caroline Hinds

❖ HYMN OF PRAISE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH 196

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE OF HOPE *A reading from Jeremiah 33:14-16*

"The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will fulfill the good promise I made to the people of Israel and Judah. In those days and at that time I will make a righteous Branch sprout from David's line; he will do what is just and right in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. This is the name by which it will be called: The LORD Our Righteous Savior."

Today, we light the candle of HOPE. May it remind each and everyone one of us of God's great promise to us. He is our Hope, He is our Redeemer, and He is our Savior.

Together let us pray: **O Lord, during the Advent season may we be reminded of your promises to us and your fulfillment of them. Help us to prepare our lives for His Advent within us. In the precious name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

(Light the first purple candle on the Advent wreath)

♪ Rejoice, Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

❖ 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."

❖ *Please Stand, Bold Print— Congregation Reads Aloud*
† *Children 4 yrs to 4th grade leave for Children's Chapel*

— WE LISTEN —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Gracious God, your vision of peace and wholeness comes to us in sweeping revelations and in tiny signs of hope. Kindle our hearts, that we might be a hopeful people. Keep us from growing weary of waiting so that we do not miss the glory of your appearing. Even so, come quickly, Emmanuel. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALTER *from Psalm 25:1-10*

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame;

Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

Good and upright is the Lord He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

ACT OF PRAISE

Make My Life a Bethlehem
Chancel Choir

Martin and Courtney

EPISTLE LESSON I Thessalonians 3:9-13

⁹ How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? ¹⁰ Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. ¹² And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. ¹³ And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

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

❖ **HYMN OF PREPARATION**

Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming

UMH 216

† *During the hymn, children (4yrs thru 4th grade) are invited to come to the front to go to Children's Chapel. Children will be dismissed to you from The Landing following the service.*

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 21:25-36

²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³⁴ "Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵ like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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

SERMON

Expectation of Hope

Dr. Sterling Boykin

— 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

And the Stars Sang
Don Bowden

Martin

♪ 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

In the Bleak Midwinter (vs. 1, 2)

UMH 221

❖ BENEDICTION with CHORAL BENEDICTION

God Be with You Till We Meet Again

Rankin and Tomer

POSTLUDE

People, Look East

arr. Aber

☞ ROSE ON THE ALTAR celebrates the birth of James McClendon Wolf born on Tuesday, November 23. He is welcomed by proud parents, Laura Jane and Zack Wolf; big brother George; and big sister Eloise. Grandparents in our church are Jane and Bruce Finley, Jr.

Advent is a time of preparation for Christmas, the celebration of the birth of Jesus. This is the first Sunday of Advent. The word comes from the Latin word "advenire" which means "coming" or "arrival". It refers to the idea that God comes to the world through the birth of Jesus. What makes Advent different from secular preparations is that there is encouragement to study and pray in anticipation of Christ's birth. Thank you for joining us in this grand **adventure!**



WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank you for choosing to worship with us at Ashland Place United Methodist Church. Please contact one of our pastors, or a staff member (251-478-6356) if we can assist you.

Senior Pastor Dr Sterling Boykin sboykin@apumc.com
Associate Pastor Rev Kristen Wright kwright@apumc.com

Staff: Church Administrator, Pam Bostick; Traditional Music Director, Jennifer Bemis; Children's Ministry & Preschool Director, Mary Hunter Fuller, Youth Ministry & Communication, Lee Ann Boykin; Media Director, Jon Miller; Contemporary Music Director, Amy True; Building Steward, Quinton McConnell; Nursery Director, Sarah Willingham

ADVENT LESSONS & CAROLS, December 5th

Join us next Sunday at 11:00 when the Chancel Choir will lead us in a Service of Advent Lessons & Carols as we continue this grand **adventure** to Christmas.

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, November 28, 2021 —

Donuts & Coffee are in Fellowship Parlor

Ascension Modern Service - 9:00 a.m. * (Fellowship Hall)
Children's Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. (The Landing)
Wesley Class Adult Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. (Rm. 201)
Confirmation & Youth Sunday School (Rm. 202)
Connection (Adult) Sunday School - 10:10 a.m. (Fellowship Parlor)

Traditional Service - 11:00 a.m. * (Sanctuary)

* Nursery for Infant-3K is available

* Children's Chapel 4k-4th Grade (The Landing)

Children's Musical Practice - 3 to 4:00 p.m.

Mom's Bible Study - 3 to 4:00 p.m.

Youth Group - 5 to 6:30 p.m.

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

Wednesdays— Choir Practice - 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. (Choir Room)

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

UNITED APPEAL RIB SALE, December 16th

The Missions Committee is ready to fire up the grill so that you can have a slab (or more) of Bob's Famous Ribs during the holidays! The best part is that it's a fundraiser for our Ashland Place United Appeal Fund (that lets us be a tax-exempt) and all funds are distributed in the local area. Order your ribs and pay online, by following the link in the E-newsletter, or bring your check to the office. We will cook 100 slabs, so order quickly and don't miss out! Cost is \$35/rack, \$60 for 2.

THE JOSEPH PROJECT CHRISTMAS CARDS

Proceeds from The Joseph Project Christmas Card fundraiser provide food for the neediest families in our community. The cards include art from a local artist and the mission of TJP. TJP will address, stamp and mail a card in honor of your designated family, friends and business associates. We ask for a donation of \$15 per card but would gladly accept a larger donation! For tax purposes, you will receive a letter acknowledging your donation total. Bring/mail your list of recipients and addresses along with your check (payable to TJP) to the Church Office. There will be a table outside Fellowship Hall on Nov.28, Dec. 5 and 12 (9:30-10:15 and 12:00) where someone will assist you. You may pick up an order form, turn yours in or purchase cards to address yourself. For us to mail them in time for Christmas, we request your order form by Dec. 18th. Thank you so much. Fay Adams will gladly answer your questions at 251-402-9342 or by email at guyadams1@aol.com.

OUR FINANCIAL UPDATE

SUNDAY, November 21st

Giving Received: \$ 34,127

Giving Needed Weekly: \$ 15,806

BUILDING NOTE

Giving Received: \$ 3,400

Giving Needed: \$ 3,500

To give safely online, please visit www.apumc.com then click on the "GIVE" tab. You can also fill out a Pledge Card online at the GIVE tab.

CIRCLE OF CONCERN

Please hold these members in your prayers: John Allen, Jean Brown, Sharon Coggin, Linda Lee Counts, Jane Ford, Ruffin Graham, Erveta Haas, Steve Johnson, Freddie Jones, Haley Maxime, Lexi Mayhall, Michael Pierce, Sr, Tom Root, Burton Roton, Nancy Scott, Nyla Smith, Law Stuart, Peggy Tanner, Kathryn Willingham. (*New this week)

Hymns for 11/28/2021—Virtual Worship

Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UMH 196

1. Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art;
dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

2. Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a King,
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

By thine own eternal spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Lo, How a Rose E're Blooming

UMH 216

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung!
Of Jesse's lineage coming, as those of old have sung.
It came, a flow'ret bright, amid the cold of winter,
when half spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it the Rose I have in mind;
with Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind.
To show God's love aright, she bore to us a Savior,
when half spent was the night.

O Flower, whose fragrance tender with sweetness fills the air,
dispel in glorious splendor the darkness everywhere.
True man, yet very God, from sin and death now save us,
and share our every load.

In the Bleak Midwinter (vs. 1, 2)

UMH 221

1. In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

2. Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

**UNITED APPEAL FUND
MISSIONS
FUNDRAISER**



**PREORDER BABY BACK RIBS
FOR CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS**

**Pick Up at APUMC
Thursday, Dec. 16th after 2 pm**

Name _____

Phone # () _____ - _____

How Many Slabs? _____

\$35 for 1 slab, \$60 for 2 slabs

Payment attached _____ Payment online _____

Funds raised will be distributed to local charities.



**IT'S THE
MOST BEAUTIFUL
TIME OF THE YEAR**



(You may use this QR Code to Order & Pay Online)