

ASHLAND PLACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 9, 2022 ■ Baptism of the Lord Sunday

— 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

Meditation on Deep River
Jennifer Bemis

arr. Raney

❖ CALL TO WORSHIP

We have been claimed by the God who calls us children.

We, the redeemed, have been called by name.

As with the Israelites, God promises to pass with us through the water.

We will not fear, for God is with us!

Great is the Fount of Every Blessing, ever flowing, ever redeeming, ever claiming us as God's children.

Come, let us worship the God who washes us in grace.

Phebe Lee

❖ HYMN OF PRAISE

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

UMH 605

❖ 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

Gracious God, may your Word awaken us to your presence among us. Wash us in your wisdom, cleanse us with your goodness, refresh us with your grace, by the power of your Holy Spirit. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALTER from Psalm 29

Ascribe to the Lord, all you ones of great might;

Ascribe to the Lord glory, strength in your sight

Ascribe to Him glory, and His name adore;

In spendor of holiness, worship the Lord.

The Lord sits enthroned o'er the flood - He is King

The Lord on His throne sits forever as King

The Lord gives His people His strength without cease

The Lord is the One who will bless them with peace.

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

GOSPEL LESSON Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

15 As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, **16** John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. **17** His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, **22** and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

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

❖ **HYMN OF PREPARATION**

Children of the Heavenly Father

UMH 141

† *During the hymn, children (4yrs thru 4th grade) are invited to gather in the front to go to Children's Chapel. Following the service, parents can meet their children in The Landing.*

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Isaiah 43:1-7

1 But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

2 When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

3 For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

4 Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

5 Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you;

6 I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—

7 everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

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

SERMON

Marked as Christ's Own

Rev. Kristen Curtis Wright

— 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

Response after petitions:

Lord in your mercy... **hear our 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

As the Deer

arr. Wagner

♪ **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 pastor.

❖ **HYMN OF INVITATION**

This Is the Spirit's Entry Now

UMH 608

❖ **BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

A Remembrance

Dixon

☞ **CHRISTIAN LOVE and SYMPATHY** to family and friends of Jo Nusbaum, who died peacefully at home on Monday, January 3. Jo is the mother of Karen Gochey and Kathie Stabler, and sister of Pat Pope in our church. She was a beloved long-time member of Ashland Place.

☞ **CHRISTIAN LOVE and SYMPATHY** to former member Jackie Newcomb due to the death of her daughter, Margaret May Newcomb Carr who died on Sunday, December 26 in Bay Springs, Mississippi.



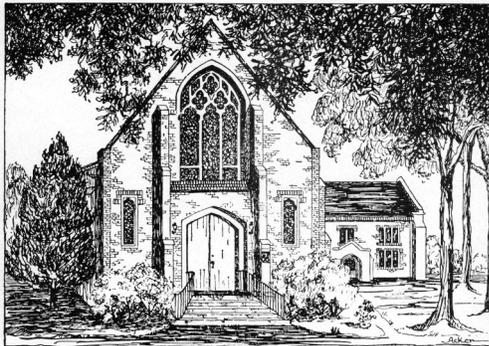
One of our stained glass windows pictures a descending dove — which represents the opening of heaven—like clouds parting after a storm and the light shining through. The Season of Epiphany is about the revealing of the light to the world. We can hear the words of blessing that Jesus heard and know that we are also pleasing to God. Let there be blessings given and received as we remember our baptism together, even as we commemorate Jesus’s baptism in the Jordan River. Today, we hear the words that remind us that as individuals we matter to God. We are marked by Christ! What better blessing can we receive than that?

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

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



OUR FINANCIAL UPDATE

Year end giving reports will be available in the weeks to come. 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.

INSTALLATION OF CHURCH LEADERSHIP

As part of both services, we will have Leadership Installation on Sunday, January 23rd. Those who are leaders and those who are supportive members are encouraged to attend to participate in this special blessing.

CIRCLE OF CONCERN

Please hold these members in your prayers: John Allen, Sterling Boykin, Jean Brown, Sharon Coggin, Bob Colclough, Linda Lee Counts, Jane Ford, Ruffin Graham, Erveta Haas, 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)

Please let us know if someone you know needs to be added/ removed on the Circle of Concern by completing a prayer card in the pew back, or contacting the Church Office.

THIS WEEK’S OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, January 9, 2022 —

Donuts & Coffee are in Fellowship Parlor

Ascension Modern Service - 9:00 a.m. * (Fellowship Hall)
 Wesley Class Sunday School - 10:00 a.m. (Rm. 201)
 Connection Sunday School - 10:10 a.m. (Fellowship Parlor)
 Confirmation Class—10:10 a.m. (Rm. 202)
Traditional Service - 11:00 a.m. * (Sanctuary)
 * Nursery for Infant-3k is available (Nursery)
 * Children’s Chapel (The Landing)
 Youth Group—5:00 p.m. (The Basement)

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

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

HYMNS FOR JANUARY 9, 2022

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

UMH 605

Wash, O God, our sons and daughters,
where your cleansing waters flow.
Number them among your people;
bless as Christ blessed long ago.
Weave them garments bright and sparkling;
compass them with love and light.
Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit,
Holy Dove and heart's delight.

We who bring them long for nurture;
by your milk may we be fed.
Let us join your feast, partaking
cup of blessing, living bread.
God, renew us, guide our footsteps;
free from sin and all its snares,
one with Christ in living, dying,
By your Spirit, children, heirs.

O how deep your holy wisdom!
Unimagined, all your ways!
To your name be glory, honor!
With our lives we worship, praise!
We your people stand before you,
water-washed and Spirit-born.
By your grace, our lives we offer.
Re-create us; God, transform!

Children of the Heavenly Father

UMH 141

Children of the heavenly Father
safely in his bosom gather;
nestling bird nor star in heaven
such a refuge e'er was given.

God his own doth tend and nourish;
in his holy courts they flourish;
from all evil things he spares them;
in his mighty arms he bears them.

Neither life nor death shall ever
from the Lord his children sever;
unto them his grace he showeth,
and their sorrows all he knoweth.

Though he giveth or he taketh,
God his children ne'er forsaketh;
his the loving purpose solely
to preserve them pure and holy.

This is the Spirit's Entry Now

UMH 608

This is the Spirit's entry now;
the water and the word,
the cross of Jesus on your brow,
the seal both felt and heard.

Let water be the sacred sign
that we must die each day,
to rise again by his design
as followers of his way.

Renewing Spirit,
hear our praise for your baptismal power
that washes us through all our days.
Lord, cleanse again this hour.