



ASHLAND PLACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 19, 2023 ▪ 25th Sunday after Pentecost

— WE GATHER —

WELCOME AND PARISH NOTICES

Please take a moment to register your attendance in the pew pads.

Dr. Sterling Boykin

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

PRELUDE

Savior, Source of Every Blessing
Alicia Luttrell

Mozart

❖ OPENING PRAYER

God, our refuge and strength, let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the people with equity and guide all the nations upon the earth.
Let the people praise you, O God; let us praise you.

Bring near the day when wars shall cease and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven.

Let the people praise you, O God; let us praise you.

The earth has brought forth its increase; may God, our own God, bless us.

Let the people praise you, O God; let us praise you.

Sherri Arledge

❖ HYMN OF PRAISE

We Gather Together

UMH 131

❖ PASSING OF THE PEACE

Before taking your seat, please pass the Peace of Christ to those near you with the words, "Peace be with you" responding with "And also with you."

— WE LISTEN —

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord God, you have declared your kingdom is among us. Open our eyes to see it, our ears to hear it, our hearts to hold it, and our hands to serve it. This we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALTER *from Psalm 100*

Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth!

Worship the Lord with gladness,

Come before him, singing with joy.

Acknowledge that the Lord is God!

Give thanks to the Lord, and bless God's name!

For the Lord is good.

God's unfailing love continues forever,

God's faithfulness continues to all generations.

† *During the hymn, all children are encouraged to come forward for a Children's Moment with our pastor. Following the message, children may return to their seats to open their worship bags, or those 4yrs to 2nd grade may go to the Nursery with our staff. Following the service, parents can meet their children in The Landing.*

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

EPISTLE LESSON I Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, 'There is peace and security', then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then, let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep— sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

❖ACT OF PRAISE

I Will Sing and Give Thanks
Chancel Choir

A. Pote

MORNING PRAYER

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.

GOSPEL LESSON Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, "Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents." ²¹His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, "Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents." ²³His master said to him, "Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master." ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, "Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours." ²⁶But his master replied, "You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

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

— WE RESPOND —

❖ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH — The Apostles Creed

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. Amen. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

OFFERTORY

We Gather Together

arr. Sanborn

♪ ❖ 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

❖ HYMN OF INVITATION *When We All Get to Heaven* (verses 1, 2, 3)

UMH 701

❖ BENEDICTION

❖ POSTLUDE

Marche

Grieg

🌸 FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God and in thankful appreciation to you, our Ashland Place UMC church family, by Sterling & Lee Ann Boykin and Kristen & Micah Wright. It is our pleasure to serve alongside you. We want you to know how treasured you are, not just this week, but the whole year through.

WELCOME

We want to 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 fill out a CONNECT card (in pew rack or using this QR code), email or call one of our pastors, or to contact a staff member if we can assist you in any way.



CONNECT



OUR CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor	Dr Sterling Boykin sboykin@apumc.com
Associate Pastor	Rev Kristen Curtis Wright kwright@apumc.com
Music Director	Alicia Luttrell musicdirector@apumc.com
Administrator	Kim Brown admin@apumc.com
Youth & Communication	Lee Ann Boykin LAboykin@apumc.com
Ascension Technology	Jon Miller Joseph Griggs
Preschool	Mary Hunter Fuller
Steward	Rob Kelly

CIRCLE OF CONCERN

Please hold these members in your prayers: John Allen, Jean Brown and son James Williams, Victor Brown (Dee Dee Cook's brother), Braxton and Linda Lee Counts, Julie & Steve Dugan, Phillip Fields, Bruce Finley, Jane Ford, Josh Gochey, Ruffin Graham, Bill Higgs, Tee Hope, Andrew Irby, Melanie Jackson (Katie McCarrison's mother), Freddie Jones, Don Jordan, Peggy Mann, Haley Maxime, Sara Robinson, Tom Root, Burton Roton, Mary Davis Rutledge, Billie Scobey, Alan Smith (Maria Coleman's brother), Joann Smith, Peggy Tanner (Cindy Roton's mother), *Bob Thomson, Joan Waldron, Kathryn Willingham. (*New this week)

The Joseph Project Christmas Cards will be available soon for a suggested donation of \$15 (or more). We will add the postage and send the cards for you, unless you want to send them with your own message. Get your Christmas card list up to date and watch for Fay Adams and her crew outside Fellowship Parlor starting on Sunday, November 26th. Order Sheets for names and addresses are available in the narthex, Fellowship Hall and in the Church Office. Donors will be sent a letter for tax purposes. Contact Fay at 251-402-9342 with questions.

An **Embrace Alabama Kids** representative will be here on December 3rd in both services and during the Sunday School hour.

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, November 19, 2023 –

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

10:00 a.m. Sunday School

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

Monday Ladies Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. (WP)

Tuesday Prayer Shawl Ministry at 10:00 a.m. (FP)
Pastor's Bible Study at 5:30 p.m. (202)

Wednesday thru Friday Office Closed

*Happy Thanksgiving
to you and all those you love!*

Children's Nativity, Dec. 13th All children 4yrs old through 5th grade are still welcome to join us for the Children's Nativity. Come to The Landing at 10:00 on Sunday mornings for rehearsal & then stay for Sunday School. You can get a recording of the music to practice at home!

United Appeal Fundraiser Our United Appeal Fund allows the church to be a nonprofit organization. All donations are distributed to ministries in the area. This year we will be selling lovely Christmas ornaments with a print of the church created by a local artist. The cost of \$30 covers the actual cost plus a donation to United Appeal. Ornaments can be purchased in the Church Office. We will be able to take your check, cash, or card payment on Tuesdays through Thursdays from 9 to 4:00 p.m.; on Sunday, Dec. 3rd outside Fellowship Parlor; or by special arrangement. A picture can be seen in the E-Newsletter dated 11/16.

Pledge Cards are still available at the welcome table. If you were unable to return your card earlier we hope you will still prayerfully consider your response to the Grace of God at work in your life and make a pledge as a sign of your trust in God and the church. You may put it cards in the collection plate or mail them.

Hymns for November 19, 2023

We Gather Together

UMH 131

1. We gather together
to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens
his will to make known.
The wicked oppressing
now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name;
he forgets not his own.

2. Beside us to guide us,
our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining
his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning
the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side,
all glory be thine!

3. We all do extol thee,
thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still
our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation
escape tribulation;
thy name be ever praised!
O Lord, make us free!

Now Thank We All Our God

UMH 102

1. Now thank we all our God,
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mothers' arms
has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

3. All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given;
the Son, and him who reigns
with them in highest heaven;
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
for thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.

When We All Get to Heaven

UMH 701

1. Sing the wondrous love of Jesus;
sing his mercy and his grace.
In the mansions bright and blessed
he'll prepare for us a place.

Refrain:

When we all get to heaven,
what a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
we'll sing and shout the victory!

2. While we walk the pilgrim pathway,
clouds will overspread the sky;
but when traveling days are over,
not a shadow, not a sigh. (*Refrain*)

3. Let us then be true and faithful,
trusting, serving every day;
just one glimpse of him in glory
will the toils of life repay. (*Refrain*)