



– We Gather –

**PRELUDE**

*Come, Ye Thankful People*  
Alicia Luttrell

Windsor

**WELCOME AND PARISH NOTICES**

*Please take this time to sign the attendance pad located in your pew, or scan the CONNECT QR code located on the back of this bulletin.*

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

**❖CALL TO WORSHIP**

Emily McGough

God, who rules the universe, calls us;

**Christ, who took up his cross, calls us;**

Holy Spirit, who frees us body and soul, calls us.

**Let us faithfully answer by worshiping the triune God.**

**❖HYMN OF PRAISE**

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

UMH 117

**❖PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**O God, Holy Trinity, help us to confess our sins. You give us a place in your creation, and you intend that we live in love with all that you have made. We confess that we abuse what you give us. By our thoughts, actions, and the meditations of our hearts we show how enslaved we are to life made corrupt by sin. Far from walking in the Spirit, we stumble on paths that lead to death. O Fire of heaven, have mercy on us. Satisfy the longings of our souls by taking us up into your Spirit that we may love our neighbor. Rekindle our desire to follow our Savior, Jesus Christ, whose passion for obeying you leads us to our inheritance, which is your promised kingdom. To you and the Son and the Spirit, One God, be all worship and praise now and forever. Amen.**

**❖PASSING OF THE PEACE** *As forgiven and reconciled people, let us pass the Peace of Christ with one another.*

– *We Listen* –

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

O God, by your Spirit plant your word within us that we may follow your Son, our Lord, Jesus Christ, and never leave him. May we find our home to free us from the bondage to sin and death. We thank you for receiving him in resurrection and ascension, the firstborn of the new creation. Through him we have freedom to walk in the Spirit that is eternal life. We present our offerings and commit ourselves to follow Jesus Christ, love our neighbors, and share the fruits of the Spirit, giving you thanks and praise, O holy, triune God. Amen.

**RESPONSIVE PSALTER**

Psalm 16

UMH 748

*Please join the choir in sung response number two when indicated by the red R.*

❖ **HYMN OF PREPARATION**

*Abide with Me* (v. 1, 3, 4)

UMH 700

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

†After the children's moment, children four and under may leave with our staff to go to the nursery. Following the service, parents can meet their children in The Landing.

**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.

♪ **ACT OF PRAISE**

*Lord, You Are Near Me*

Patterson

Chancel Choir with Harper Ann Booker

❖ **SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Galatians 5:1, 13-25

<sup>1</sup> For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

<sup>13</sup> For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. <sup>14</sup> For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>15</sup> If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. <sup>16</sup> Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. <sup>17</sup> For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. <sup>18</sup> But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. <sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, <sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, <sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

<sup>22</sup> By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. <sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. <sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

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

**SERMON**

**"On Love and Freedom"**

Dr. Darren McClellan

— WE RESPOND —

❖AFFIRMATION OF FAITH— The Apostle's Creed

UMH 881

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                      *Be Thou My Vision with Open My Eyes*                      arr. Luttrell  
Henry Evans, Trumpet

♪❖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

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS              Jeff and Jo Ann Huggins

❖HYMN OF INVITATION              *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*                      UMH 703

❖BENEDICTION

❖POSTLUDE                      *Swing Low*                      arr. Luttrell

✠ FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ruffin J. Graham Jr. by BJ and Libba Lyon and his loving children, Becky, Ruffin III, and Peggy.



## 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.



Are you visiting today? If so, please scan this QR code to complete a CONNECT card, or contact a staff member to assist you.

CONNECT

## OUR CHURCH STAFF

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Senior Pastor</b>        | Dr. Darren McClellan<br>dmcclellan@apumc.com                    |
| <b>Associate Pastor</b>     | Jennifer Porto<br>jporto@apumc.com                              |
| <b>Music Director</b>       | Alicia Luttrell<br>musicdirector@apumc.com                      |
| <b>Administrator</b>        | Kim Brown<br>admin@apumc.com                                    |
| <b>Youth and Technology</b> | Joseph Griggs<br>youth@apumc.com                                |
| <b>Communication</b>        | Leslie Johnston<br>communication@apumc.com                      |
| <b>Ascension</b>            | Jon Miller<br>millermediaonline@gmail.com                       |
| <b>Children</b>             | Linda Noble<br>Linda.q.noble@gmail.com                          |
| <b>Nursery</b>              | Caitlyn Lambeth<br>children@apumc.com                           |
| <b>Preschool</b>            | Mary Hunter Fuller<br>Camille Hieronymus<br>preschool@apumc.com |
| <b>Building Steward</b>     | Danny White<br>Building@apumc.com                               |

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

Offering Received 6/22/25 \$8,445



To support the many ministries of APUMC, please scan this QR code and donate online.

ONLINE GIVING

## UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

**June 29, 2025**

|         |                                   |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 9:00am  | Ascension Modern Service (FH)     |
| 10:00am | Sunday School                     |
| 11:00am | Traditional Sanctuary Service (S) |
| 5:30pm  | Youth (B)                         |

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>Monday</b>    | Men's Study Group, 7:00am (WP)  |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10:00am (FP)   |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | Pastor Darren's Class, 5:30pm (FH)  |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | Office Closed for 4th of July<br>Men's Bible Study, 7:00am (WP)<br>Trivia Night, 7:00pm (206 State St.) |
| <b>Friday</b>    | Office Closed   |

FP-Fellowship Parlor, S-Sanctuary, WP-Wisteria Parlor  
B-Basement, DW-Dumas Wesley, 126 Mobile Street

## PASTOR DARREN'S BIBLE STUDY

It's not too late to join Pastor Darren's study on the Beatitudes of Jesus (Matthew 5:1-11). Meet on Wednesdays at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall through July 9. All are welcome!

## OFFICE HOURS

The office will be closed on Thursday, July 3 in observance of Independence Day, and will reopen on Monday, July 7.

## WELCOME RECEPTION FOR REV. JENNIFER PORTO

Sunday, July 6 will be the first Sunday for our new associate pastor, Rev. Jennifer Porto. We will have a reception at 10:00am in the Fellowship Parlor to welcome her and her husband Evan to Ashland Place. Please plan to join us!

## THANK YOU!

You all have responded so beautifully to Caitlyn's drive for the kids of Sybil Smith Family Village. We are so blessed to have such a generous congregation, and the children of Sybil Smith Village thank you!

## CIRCLE OF CONCERN

Please hold these persons in your prayers: John Allen, Jean Brown & son James Williams, Barbara Bohnhoff (Becky Mayhall's mother), Victor Brown (Dee Dee Cook's brother), Braxton & Linda Lee Counts, Ward Davis, Julie & Steve Dugan, Peggy Emond (David Mayhall's sister), Phillip Fields, Bruce Finley, Marcia Golson, Jim Harter, Nancy Hewett, Diane Holub (Angela Prine's mother), Barbara Hunt, Andrew Irby, Tyler Mazey, David Richards, Sara Robinson, Tom Root, Mary Davis Rutledge, Lonn Spencer, Peggy Tanner (Cindy Roton's mother), Jody Thompson (Pam Bostick's brother-in-law), Louise Thomson, Sherry Thomson, Robert Wheeler (Emily McGough's brother), Merrill Whitener, Kathryn Willingham, and all caregivers (*\*new concern this week*)

## Hymns and Responses for June 29, 2025

### O God, Our Help in Ages Past

UMH 117

1. O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast,  
and our eternal home!
2. Under the shadow of thy throne,  
still may we dwell secure;  
sufficient is thine arm alone,  
and our defense is sure.
3. Before the hills in order stood,  
or earth received her frame,  
from everlasting, thou art God,  
to endless years the same.
4. A thousand ages, in thy sight,  
are like an evening gone;  
short as the watch that ends the night,  
before the rising sun.
5. Time, like an ever rolling stream,  
bears all who breathe away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the opening day.
6. O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come;  
be thou our guide while life shall last,  
and our eternal home.

### Abide with Me

UMH 700

1. Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;  
the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.  
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,  
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.
3. I need thy presence every passing hour.  
What but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?  
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?  
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.
4. I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;  
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.  
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?  
I triumph still, if thou abide with me.

### Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

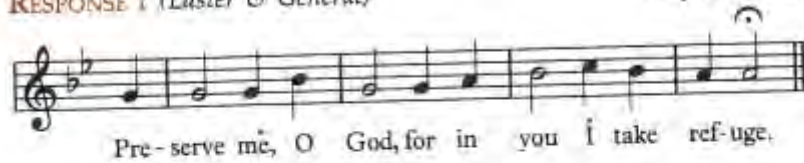
UMH 703

- Refrain:  
Swing low, sweet chariot,  
coming for to carry me home;  
swing low, sweet chariot,  
coming for to carry me home.
1. I looked over Jordan, and what did I see,  
coming for to carry me home?  
A band of angels coming after me,  
coming for to carry me home.
- (Refrain)
2. If you get there before I do,  
coming for to carry me home;  
tell all my friends I'm coming too,  
coming for to carry me home.
- (Refrain)
3. I'm sometimes up, I'm sometimes down,  
coming for to carry me home;  
but still my soul feels heavenly bound,  
coming for to carry me home.
- (Refrain)
4. The brightest day that I can say,  
coming for to carry me home;  
when Jesus washed my sins away,  
coming for to carry me home.
- (Refrain)

# Psalm 16:5-11

## RESPONSE 1 (Easter & General)

Ps. 16:1  
Gary Alan Smith



## RESPONSE 2 (General)

Ps. 16:8a,9a  
Richard Proulx



**R**

- 5 The Lord is my chosen portion and my cup;  
you hold my lot.
- 6 The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
I have a glorious heritage.
- 7 I bless the Lord who gives me counsel;  
even at night my heart instructs me.
- 8 I have set the Lord always before me;  
the Lord is at my right hand;  
I shall not be moved. **R**
- 9 Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;  
my body also dwells secure.
- 10 For you do not give me up to Sheol,  
or let your godly one see the pit.
- 11 You show me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy,  
in your right hand are pleasures for evermore. **R**