

ASHLAND PLACE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 8, 2026 24th Sunday after Pentecost

Reni, Guido, *Saint Joseph and the Christ Child*

PRELUDE ***He Leadeth Me*** Bradbury
Alicia Luttrell

WELCOME AND PARISH NOTICES Dr. Darren McClellan
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
The psalmist sings:
O send out your light and your truth; let them lead me;
let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling.
Then I will go to the altar of God, to God my exceeding joy;
and I will praise you with the harp,
O God, my God. Amen.

♫❖HYMN OF PRAISE ***Stand Up and Bless the Lord*** UMH 662

❖PRAYER OF CONFESSION
We acknowledge before you, O God, that we are drawn to false teachings. We succumb to the adoration of this world when we seek to be noticed, crave being honored, and look for the best seats. We have ignored the true teacher who calls us to lives of humility, kindness, and service toward others. Forgive us. Help us to practice the teachings of Jesus. As we long to place our burdens on you, confident that you will lighten our journeys, so we long to ease the burdens of our friends, families, neighbors, and creatures of earth. Set us on your path, O God; in Jesus' name. Amen.

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

❖ *Please Stand in body or spirit* **Bold** *Print – Congregation Reads Aloud*
Hearing amplifier devices are available. Please see an usher for assistance.

BLESSING OF THE BABIES

Bennett Cox	Thomas Benjamin "Chip" Lilly, Jr.
Charlotte Jean Kelly	Elise James Petersen
Adeline Paige Kiszla	Nathaniel Rath

O Lord God, in whose hands are the issues of life,
we thank you for the life given and the life preserved.
And as you have knit together life and love in one fellowship,
so we pray you to grant that with this fresh gift of life to us, there may be given an increase of love one to another.
Grant that the presence of weakness may awaken our tenderness;
enable us to minister to this child who has been given to us in all loving kindness, wisdom, and fidelity.
Grant that he/she may live as your child,
and may serve this generation according to your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Original blessing by William Boyd Carpenter

RESPONSIVE PSALTER Psalm 107:1-9 UMH 830-831
Please join the choir in the sung response when indicated by the red R.

♫❖**HYMN OF PREPARATION** ***Blessed Assurance*** (v. 1, 3) UMH 369

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.

BLESSING OF THE PRAYER SHAWLS
All who would like to extend a blessing are invited to come up and kneel at the altar.

We celebrate this special ministry of Ashland Place and give thanks for those who participate in our Prayer Shawl Ministry. Out of love and concern for our Christian brothers and sisters, these ladies work to share this tangible gift to those in need. O God, help us all to know who is in need of your healing power and presence and help us reach out to them.

O God of creation, redemption and sustaining grace, we praise you for this opportunity to see the world beyond ours. We thank you for putting those in need on our hearts and in our minds so that we might fully live out your call to love and serve. We ask that you bless these shawls and those who will receive them. May they feel the love, comfort and peace of your presence. And may your light shine in them and be a beacon of hope that is promised to all of us.

May the power of the Holy Spirit live and breathe within each one of us, through these shawls and through the lives that they will touch. **Amen.**

♫❖**ACT OF PRAISE** ***Thou Art Worthy*** arr. Powell
Chancel Choir

❖**SCRIPTURE LESSON** 1 Thessalonians 2:9-13
9 You remember our labor and toil, brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might not
burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. 10 You are witnesses, and God also, how
pure, upright, and blameless our conduct was toward you believers. 11 As you know, we dealt with each
one of you like a father with his children, 12 urging and encouraging you and pleading that you lead a life
worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. 13 We also constantly give thanks to God
for this, that when you received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human
word but as what it really is, God's word, which is also at work in you believers.

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

SERMON **"The Gospel of God"** Rev. Jennifer Porto

❖**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *The Apostles' 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 ***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.

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

♫❖**HYMN OF INVITATION** ***Rejoice, the Lord Is King*** UMH 715

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS Jim and Tracy Sherota

❖**BENEDICTION**

❖**POSTLUDE** ***St. Michael*** arr. Crotch

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR are given to the Glory of God and in honor of Veterans Day by Ellie and Veteran Paul Fox.



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

Senior Pastor	Dr. Darren McClellan dmcclellan@apumc.com
Associate Pastor	Rev. Jennifer Porto jporto@apumc.com
Minister of Community Care	Rev. Julie Hare jhare@apumc.com
Music Director	Alicia Luttrell musicdirector@apumc.com
Administrator	Kim Brown admin@apumc.com
Youth and Technology	Joseph Griggs youth@apumc.com
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Ascension	Jon Miller millermediaonline@gmail.com
Children	Linda Noble Linda.q.noble@gmail.com
Preschool	Jenny Powell preschool@apumc.com
Building Steward	Danny White building@apumc.com

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Offering Received Last Sunday $17,167

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

ONLINE GIVING

THIS WEEK AT APUMC

9:00am	Ascension Worship Service (FH)
10:00am	Sunday School
10:00am	Ministry Fair (FH)
11:00am	Traditional Worship Service (S)
4:00pm	Children's Nativity Practice
Monday	Men's Study Group, 7:00am (WP) Women's Bible Study, 10:00am (FH)
Tuesday	Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10:00am (FP) Administrative Board, 12:00pm (FH) Virtual Book Club, 4:00pm (Zoom)
Wednesday	Handbell Practice, 5:00pm Choir Practice, 6:00pm
Thursday	Men's Bible Study, 7:00am (WP) Trivia Night, 7:00pm (206 State St.)
Friday	Office Closed

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

CIRCLE OF CONCERN Please hold these persons in your prayers: Fay Adams, John Allen, John and Angela Bell, Jean Brown & son James Williams, Ann Cottrell, Braxton & Linda Lee Counts, Michelle Daigle (John Daigle's niece), Julie & Steve Dugan, Mihyon Ellis, Phillip Fields, Bruce Finley, Marcia Golson, Holly Hastings (Dee Dee Cook's sister), Diane Holub (Angela Prine's mother), Barbara Hunt, Libba Lyon, Julie McLeod, Jean McCutchen, John McMurphy, Sara Robinson, Tom Root, Mary Davis Rutledge, Nancy Scott, Lonn Spencer, Lance Tanner, Merrill Whitener, Kathryn Willingham, and all caregivers (**new concern this week*)

APUMC CHILDREN'S HAPPENINGS

Today from 4-5:15 p.m., our K-5 children are invited to gather for a Christmas Nativity Kick-off Practice. The Storytime Class (ages 3-5) will practice with the older children on Sunday mornings during Children's Church and Sunday School.

ADMINISTRATIVE BOARD MEETING - Tuesday, November 10, 12:00pm, Fellowship Hall

THE JOSEPH PROJECT UPDATES

Volunteers - We're expecting a surge of clients for our upcoming holiday distributions. We could use some extra hands on Thursdays, Nov. 19 and Dec. 17, from 9:30am to 12:00pm.

Thanksgiving Food - There is a sign-up on the Fellowship bulletin board, and sign-up link in your newsletter.

Christmas Cards - The annual fundraiser will begin soon. This year's card features our beautiful Sanctuary Chrismon tree. The deadline for preaddressed envelopes is December 6. See your newsletter for more information.

COFFEE WITH THE PASTOR

Our next Coffee with the Pastor will take place on Sunday, November 22 at 10am in the Fellowship Parlor. Stop by and speak with a Pastor about the life of Ashland Place.