



ASHLAND PLACE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

November 23, 2025 Christ the King Sunday

– We Gather –

PRELUDE

Trust in Him Op. 142, No. 2
Alicia Luttrell

Schubert

WELCOME AND PARISH NOTICES

Rev. Jennifer Porto

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

Morgan Taylor

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

For God has looked favorably on God's people and redeemed them.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

For God has called us God's own beloved and called each of us by name.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

For God has blessed God's creation and called us to worship. Blessed be the Lord God of Israel!

♪❖HYMN OF PRAISE

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

UMH 103

❖PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we have neglected to declare Jesus the king and model for our lives. We have been quick to call on others to follow the ways of Christ, yet slow to do the same. We have been bold in demanding generosity, mercy, and forgiveness yet quiet when it comes to offering inclusion, love, and compassion. Forgive us, O God. Restore in us, yet again, the commitment to be more Christlike in word, in deed, and in spirit. Amen.

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, through the generations you have spoken to us. You have sent voices crying out in the wilderness. You have sent the words of an overjoyed new father and an expectant mother. You have sent the assurance of a condemned man on a cross. Quiet in us any voice but your own that, by the power of your Spirit, we might hear the words you speak to us today. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALTER

Psalm 46

UMH 780-781

Please join the choir in sung response #1 when indicated by the red R.

♪❖HYMN OF PREPARATION *Holy God, We Praise Thy Name* (v. 1, 2, 5)

UMH 79

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

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

EPISTLE LESSON

Colossians 1:11-20

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers — all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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

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

My Tribute

Crouch

Chancel Choir with Valencia Montgomery

❖GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 23:33-43

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." ³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are

getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.”⁴² Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom.”⁴³ He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.”

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

SERMON

“Reimagining the Kingdom”

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

Thank You, Lord
Joe Stuart

Stuart

♪❖ **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**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

UMH 327

❖ **BENEDICTION**

❖ **POSTLUDE**

Diademata

Elvey

☞ **FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR** are given in honor of International Survivors of Suicide Day and in memory of Pat and Jeanie Adams, Greg Evans, and William Sandifer.



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	Jennifer Porto jporto@apumc.com
Music Director	Alicia Luttrell musicdirector@apumc.com
Administrator	Kim Brown admin@apumc.com
Youth and Technology	Joseph Griggs youth@apumc.com
Communication	Leslie Johnston communication@apumc.com
Ascension	Jon Miller millermediaonline@gmail.com
Children	Linda Noble Linda.q.noble@gmail.com
Nursery	Caitlyn Lambeth children@apumc.com
Membership	membership@apumc.com
Preschool	Mary Hunter Fuller Camille Hieronymus preschool@apumc.com
Building Steward	Danny White building@apumc.com

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Offering Received 11/16/25 \$42,526



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

ONLINE GIVING

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

November 23, 2025

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

Monday	Men's Study Group, 7:00am (WP)
Tuesday	Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10:00am (FP)
Wednesday	Office Closed for Thanksgiving
Thursday	Office Closed for Thanksgiving
Friday	Office Closed

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

THE JOSEPH PROJECT CHRISTMAS CARDS

Christmas Cards—A table is set up in the Fellowship Hall hallway for Christmas card orders, or you may use the link in your upcoming newsletter to order online. The deadline for preaddressed envelopes is Dec. 7.

"THE ABUNDANT TABLE" is a conference-wide initiative toward food insecurity. We will be collecting a special offering today.

THE REUNION SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS is starting an Advent Study on Nov. 30 using the book, *The Advent of the Lamb of God*, by Russ Ramsey. See your newsletter for more information.

HANGING OF THE GREENS

If you would like to contribute toward the special Christmas floral and greenery arrangements that will adorn the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall on Christmas Eve, please complete a form and turn it in to the office, or use the link in your newsletter to contribute online. The deadline is Thursday, December 18.

LOVE THE LOCALS FOOD DRIVE AND MUSIC FESTIVAL

APUMC will be hosting a community food drive and benefit concert at Dumas Wesley. The event will take place on Saturday, December 6, from 11:00am to 12:00pm and will feature performances by Doc Rogers and The Rock Dodgers Band, The Excelsior Band, and Jazz Studio. All are welcome!

CIRCLE OF CONCERN

Please hold these persons in your prayers: Fay Adams, John Allen, John and Angela Bell, Jean Brown & son James Williams, Victor Brown (Dee Dee Cook's brother), Bob Cook, Braxton & Linda Lee Counts, Julie & Steve Dugan, Jake Elder, Mihyon Ellis, Phillip Fields, Bruce Finley, Missy Foose, Marcia Golson, Curt Graf (Curtis Graf's father), Diane Holub (Angela Prine's mother), Barbara Hunt, Andrew Irby, Tyler Mazey, David Richards, Sara Robinson, Tom Root, Mary Davis Rutledge, Nancy Scott, Lonn Spencer, Jody Thompson (Pam Bostick's brother-in-law), Louise Thomson, Sherry Thomson, *Suzannah Weeks, Robert Wheeler (Emily McGough's brother), Merrill Whitener, Kathryn Willingham, and all caregivers (*new concern this week)

Hymns and Responses for November 23, 2025

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

UMH 103

1. Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes, most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
2. Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light, nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might; thy justice like mountains high soaring above thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.
3. To all, life thou givest, to both great and small; in all life thou livest, the true life of all; we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree, and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.
4. Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light; thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight; all laud we would render: O help us to see 'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.

Holy God, We Praise Thy Name

UMH 79

1. Holy God, we praise thy name; Lord of all, we bow before thee; all on earth thy scepter claim; all in heaven above adore thee. Infinite thy vast domain; everlasting is thy reign.
2. Hark, the glad celestial hymn angel choirs above are raising; cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising, fill the heavens with sweet accord: Holy, holy, holy Lord.
5. Christ, thou art our glorious King, Son of God, enthroned in splendor; but deliverance to bring thou all honors didst surrender, and wast of a virgin born humbly on that blessed morn.

Crown Him with Many Crowns

UMH 327

1. Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go, my daily labor to pursue; thee, only thee, resolved to know in all I think or speak or do.
2. The task thy wisdom hath assigned, O let me cheerfully fulfill; in all my works thy presence find, and prove thy good and perfect will.
3. Thee may I set at my right hand, whose eyes mine inmost substance see, and labor on at thy command, and offer all my works to thee.
4. For thee delightfully employ whate'er thy bounteous grace hath given; and run my course with even joy, and closely walk with thee to heaven.

Psalter Reading from Psalm 46

Sung Response: A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing.

R

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city which shall not be moved; God will help it at the dawn of the day.

The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; God's voice resounds, the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our refuge.

R

Come, behold the works of the Lord, who has wrought desolations in the earth;

**who makes wars cease to the end of the earth, breaks the bow, shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire!**

"Be still, and know that I am God. I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth!"

The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

R