



(1123), *Hand of God*



ASHLAND PLACE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

August 31, 2025 12th Sunday After Pentecost

— *We Gather* —

PRELUDE

Hark! Hark! My Soul
Alicia Luttrell

Dykes

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

George Hardesty

God calls us to service,

Rather than honor.

God calls us to love the unknown,

Rather than the familiar.

We come to this time of worship,

Trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ,

Who is the same yesterday, today, and forever.

♪❖HYMN OF PRAISE

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing (v. 1-5)

UMH 57

❖PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, forgive us for we exalt ourselves and mock the humble. We choose to believe we are self-sufficient rather than trust in your strength. Open us to your spirit, that we might serve all people without regard to the outcome, devoting ourselves to your honor alone. We pray in Jesus' name. 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

God of Wisdom, open us to the work of your Spirit, that we may hear and faithfully respond to your holy Word. Amen.

❖ *Please Stand in body or spirit* **Bold Print** — *Congregation Reads Aloud*

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

♫❖HYMN OF PREPARATION *For the Beauty of the Earth* (v. 1-3)

UMH 92

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.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Hebrews 13:5-8, 15-16

⁵ Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have, for he himself has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶ So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" ⁷ Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸ Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

¹⁵ Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

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

In the Beauty of Your Holiness
Chancel Choir

Berry

❖SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 2:4-13

⁴ Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. ⁵ Thus says the LORD: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me and went after worthless things and became worthless themselves? ⁶ They did not say, "Where is the LORD, who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" ⁷ I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land and made my heritage an abomination. ⁸ The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal and went after things that do not profit. ⁹ Therefore once more I accuse you, says the LORD, and I accuse your children's children. ¹⁰ Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look; send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. ¹¹ Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. ¹² Be appalled, O heavens, at this; be shocked; be utterly desolate, says the LORD, ¹³ for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

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

SERMON

"It's Not You, It's Me"

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 *You Are God Alone* arr. Alex-Zsolt

♪❖ 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 *Here I Am, Lord* (v. 1, 2) UMH 593

❖ BENEDICTION

❖ POSTLUDE *O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing* arr. Luttrell



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
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Music Director	Alicia Luttrell musicdirector@apumc.com
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FINANCIAL UPDATE

Offering Received 8/24/25 \$10,628



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

ONLINE GIVING

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

August 31, 2025

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

Monday Office Closed for Labor Day
Tuesday Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10:00am (FP)

Wednesday The Joseph Project, 9:30am (DW)
Handbell Practice, 5:00pm
Choir Practice, 6:00pm
Pastor's Class, 6:00pm (FP)

Thursday Men's Bible Study, 7:00am (WP)
The Joseph Project, 9:30am (DW)
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

PASTOR DARREN'S STUDY—WEDNESDAYS at 6:00PM

Join Pastor Darren in a study of *The Beatitudes of Peace: Meditations on the Beatitudes, Peacemaking and the Spiritual Life* by John Dear. See the newsletter for more information.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY—SAVE THE DATE

The Women's Bible Study will resume on Monday, September 8, at 10:00am in the Fellowship Hall. This fall, we will begin a study of Jeremiah, "Return to Refuge". All women are welcome to join us for this time of study, fellowship, and encouragement.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPERS RESUME—SEPT. 8TH

Now that school is back in session, it's time to resume our Wednesday night gatherings and activities. Please note, the new time for dinner is 5:30pm to 6:00pm. We look forward to seeing you there!

ACOLYTE TRAINING—SEPT. 14TH—10:00AM

We invite all 3rd-8th graders to prayerfully consider serving as acolytes. No prior experience is necessary—just a willing heart!

CIRCLE OF CONCERN

Please hold these persons in your prayers: Eloise Adams (Fay Adams' sister in law), John Allen, John and Angela Bell, Jean Brown & son James Williams, Barbara Bohnhoff (Becky Mayhall's mother), Victor Brown (Dee Dee Cook's brother), Braxton & Linda Lee Counts, Julie & Steve Dugan, *Jake Elder, Mihyon Ellis, Peggy Emond (David Mayhall's sister), Phillip Fields, Bruce Finley, Missy Foose, 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, Nancy Scott, 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)

15 Wisteria Avenue • Mobile, Alabama 36607 • apumc.com • 251.478.6356

Hymns and Responses for August 31, 2025

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

UMH 206

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise, the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!
2. My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all of the earth abroad the honors of thy name.
3. Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease; 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.
4. He breaks the power of canceled sin, he sets the prisoner free; his blood can make the foulest clean; his blood availed for me.
5. He speaks, and listening to his voice, new life the dead receive; the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe.

For the Beauty of the Earth

UMH 92

1. For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies; Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.
2. For the beauty of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light; Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.
3. For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight; Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

Here I Am, Lord

UMH 593

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry. All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save. I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

Psalm 81:1-10

RESPONSE (General)

Repeat ad lib.

Ps. 81:1
Randolph Currie



Sing with joy to God! Sing to God our help!

R

- 1 Sing aloud to God our strength;
shout for joy to the God of Jacob!
- 2 Raise a song, sound the tambourine,
the sweet lyre with the harp.
- 3 Blow the trumpet at the new moon,
at the full moon, on our feast day.
- 4 For it is a statute for Israel,
an ordinance of the God of Jacob,
- 5 who made it a decree in Joseph,
when God went out over the land of Egypt. **R**

- I hear a voice I do not know:
- 6 "I relieved your shoulder of the burden;
your hands were freed from the basket.
 - 7 In distress you called, and I delivered you;
I answered you in the secret place of thunder;
I tested you at the waters of Meribah.
 - 8 Hear, O my people, while I admonish you!
O Israel, if you would but listen to me!
 - 9 There shall be no strange god among you;
you shall not bow down to a foreign god.
 - 10 I am the Lord your God,
who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.
Open wide your mouth, and I will fill it." **R**