



ASHLAND PLACE  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

March 8, 2026 3rd Sunday of Lent

Carmelle Beaugelin, *Wet Stones*

**PRELUDE**

*Thy Love Enfold Us*  
Alicia Luttrell

Chase

**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**

Sherri Arledge

We gather together –

**the seekers, the dreamers, the shooting-star wishers, in hopes of seeing God.**

We gather together –

**the curious, the hungry, the loving, the lonely, in hopes of finding peace.**

We gather together –

**those who are thirsty and those with water to spare, in hopes of finding justice.**

So come to the well, come to the table.

**Come, let us worship God. Amen.**

**♪❖HYMN OF PRAISE**

*Jesus Is All the World to Me* (v. 1-3)

UMH 469

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Holy God, we have been on every side of this story. We have been the one who is thirsty and in need of compassion, and we have been the one with a bucket and a deep well. So today we wonder: how often have we missed the opportunity to share water with our neighbors? How often have we forgotten that we have a bucket and the power to bring change? How often have we simply decided that justice and compassion were not worth the work? Forgive our fragile hearts and remind us that it was you who sat at that well in Samaria in the heat of the day. It was you. It is still you. With hope we pray. Amen.**

Today's Acolyte: George Wolf

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

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

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**God of conversation, We come to you today thirsty – thirsty for hope, thirsty for good news, thirsty for a glimpse of you. So today we pray, move in these words like a current. Give us the courage to wade into your story with open eyes and open hearts. Give us the courage to drink this moment in. We are listening. We are grateful. Amen.**

### **RESPONSIVE PSALTER**

Psalm 95

UMH 814-815

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

♪ **HYMN OF PREPARATION** *The King of Love My Shepherd Is* (v. 1-3)

UMH 138

### **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.*

### **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON**

Exodus 17:1-7

From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

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**

*Only Love Can Answer Why*  
Chancel Choir

Beall and Carter

### ❖ **GOSPEL LESSON**

John 4:5-24

<sup>5</sup>So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. <sup>6</sup>Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. <sup>7</sup>A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." <sup>8</sup>(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) <sup>9</sup>The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) <sup>10</sup>Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." <sup>11</sup>The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? <sup>12</sup>Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" <sup>13</sup>Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, <sup>14</sup>but those who drink of the water that I will give

them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.” <sup>15</sup>The woman said to him, “Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.” <sup>16</sup>Jesus said to her, “Go, call your husband, and come back.” <sup>17</sup>The woman answered him, “I have no husband.” Jesus said to her, “You are right in saying, ‘I have no husband’; <sup>18</sup>for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!” <sup>19</sup>The woman said to him, “Sir, I see that you are a prophet. <sup>20</sup>Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.” <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to her, “Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. <sup>22</sup>You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. <sup>23</sup>But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. <sup>24</sup>God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.”

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

**SERMON**

**“Seeking: Will You Give Me a Drink?”**

Dr. Darren McClellan

❖ **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**

*Amazing Grace*  
Joe Stuart

Newton

♪❖ **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**

*Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me*

UMH 361

❖ **BENEDICTION**

❖ **POSTLUDE**

*Rock of Ages*

Hastings

✠ **FLOWERS IN THE SANCTUARY** are given to the glory of God in celebration of the marriage of Elizabeth Douglas Winters and Thomas Parker Langan on March 7, and in loving honor of the bride's grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Douglas Winters.



**UPCOMING WEEK AT APUMC**

- 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)  
Women's Bible Study, 10:00am (FH)

**Tuesday** Prayer Shawl Ministry, 10:00am (FP)

**Wednesday** Administrative Board Meeting, 12:00pm (FH)  
Handbell Practice, 5:00pm  
Choir Practice, 6:00pm  
Pastor's Class, 6:00pm (FP)

**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, Bob Cook, Ann Cottrell, Braxton & Linda Lee Counts, Julie & Steve Dugan, Mihyon Ellis, Phillip Fields, Bruce Finley, Missy Foose, Marcia Golson, Holly Hastings (Dee Dee Cook's sister), Diane Holub (Angela Prine's mother), Barbara Hunt, Andrew Irby, Tyler Mazey, Jean McCutchen, John McMurphy, David Richards, Sara Robinson, Tom Root, Mary Davis Rutledge, Nancy Scott, Lon Spencer, Sherry Thomson, Robert Wheeler (Emily McGough's brother), Merrill Whitener, Kathryn Willingham, and all caregivers (*\*new concern this week*)

**EASTER CANDY** is now being collected for our Palm Sunday Easter Egg Hunt. Please place donations on the Fellowship Hall counter. **NO CHOCOLATE PLEASE.**

**PALM SUNDAY** is March 29, and we have a lot of things planned. At both services, our children will process in waving palms and will sing for us. At 12:00pm, we will have a church-wide lunch, with meat, hot sides, and dessert provided. Please bring a cold side dish to share. After lunch, there will be an egg hunt for the children.

**GOOD FRIDAY FIELD TRIP**

You are invited to join Pastors Darren and Jennifer, District Superintendent Rev. Sheila Bates, Deaconess Clara Ester, and members of APUMC on Good Friday, April 3, 2026, for a congregational pilgrimage to the Legacy Museum and memorial sites in Montgomery, Alabama.

Schedule for the day includes:

- Early morning departure from APUMC by charter bus (7:00 am)
- Guided visit to the Legacy Museum in the morning
- Lunch at a local Montgomery restaurant
- Visit to the National Memorial for Peace and Justice
- 20-minute boat ride to the Freedom Monument Sculpture Park
- Light Dinner (perhaps "to go" depending on timing)
- Return home between 8-8:30.

Cost: \$75 per person (includes transportation, meals, and admission)  
Click on the link in your newsletter to reserve your spot.

**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
- Membership** membership@apumc.com
- Preschool** Camille Hieronymus  
preschool@apumc.com
- Building Steward** Danny White  
building@apumc.com

**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Offering Received Last Sunday \$18,914



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

ONLINE GIVING

## Hymns and Responses for March 8, 2026

### Jesus Is All the World to Me

UMH 469

1. Jesus is all the world to me, my life, my joy, my all; he is my strength from day to day, without him I would fall. When I am sad, to him I go, no other one can cheer me so; when I am sad, he makes me glad, he's my friend.

2. Jesus is all the world to me, my friend in trials sore; I go to him for blessings, and he gives them o'er and o'er. He sends the sunshine and the rain, he sends the harvest's golden grain; sunshine and rain, harvest of grain, he's my friend.

3. Jesus is all the world to me, and true to him I'll be; O how could I this friend deny, when he's so true to me? Following him I know I'm right, he watches o'er me day and night; following him by day and night, he's my friend.

### The King of Love My Shepherd Is

UMH 138

1. The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never. I nothing lack if I am his, and he is mine forever.

2. Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth; and where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.

3. Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed, but yet in love he sought me; and on his shoulder gently laid, and home, rejoicing, brought me.

### Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

UMH 361

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee; let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which flowed, be of sin the double cure; save from wrath and make me pure.

2. Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands; could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow, all for sin could not atone; thou must save, and thou alone.

3. Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling; naked, come to thee for dress; helpless, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the fountain fly; wash me, Savior, or I die.

4. While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyes shall close in death, when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne, Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

