



# FAIRHOPE

## UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost  
September 13, 2020

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### CALL TO WORSHIP

The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

**God will not always accuse, nor keep his anger forever.**

God does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

**For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is the steadfast love of the Lord toward those who fear him;**

As far as the east is from the west, so far God removes our transgressions from us.

**As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.**

### OPENING PRAYER

**God of Love, you have loved us first and continue to love us. We come before you a people longing to love you in return. We hunger for your healing love in our lives, for we long to love ourselves and our neighbors. Come to us this day and fill our longing. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

SONGS FOR WORSHIP                      *Majesty, Worship His Majesty*                      (UMH #176)

### OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC                              10,000 Reasons                              Alivia Dowden

### DOXOLOGY

HYMN    *It Is Well with My Soul*    (UMH #377)

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### LIVE WORSHIP:

OPENING HYMN                              *Go Down Moses*                              (UMH #448)

Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land,  
tell old Pharaoh: Let my people go.

A WORD OF GRACE

Dr. Darren M. McClellan

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

GLORIA PATRI

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON ~ Exodus 14:15-21

HYMN

*Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee*

(UMH #89)

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away.  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

3. Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ our brother, all who live in love are thine;  
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

4. Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;  
love divine is reigning o'er us, binding all within its span.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;  
joyful music leads us sunward, in the triumph song of life.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, by the gift of your Spirit show us the truth that you desire and teach us wisdom in our hearts. Let us hear with joy and gladness the Word that you speak today; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

EPISTLE LESSON ~ Romans 14:1-12

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON ~ *Matthew 18:21-22*

SERMON

"If They Still Won't Listen"

Dr. Darren M. McClellan

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN

*Freely, Freely*

(UMH #389)

1. God forgave my sin in Jesus 'name,  
I've been born again in Jesus 'name;  
And in Jesus 'name I come to you  
To share His love as He told me to.

Chorus: He said: 'Freely, freely, you have received,  
Freely, freely give;  
Go in My name, and because you believe  
Others will know that I live.'

2. All power is given in Jesus 'name,  
In earth and heaven in Jesus 'name;  
And in Jesus 'name I come to you  
To share His power as He told me to.

SENDING FORTH

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**Assisting in Worship Today:**

Dr. Darren McClellan, Rev. Ontonio Christie

**Music:** Tom Hood, Jenna Hood, John Richardson, Shea White  
Susan Grace, Kristi Hagood

**Media and Sound:** Jamie & Rachael Waldhour, Robert Hammon  
Ushers: 8:30 & 11:00 (Sanctuary) George Roberds, Mark Woodrow  
9:45 (CLC) Wanda and Tommy Harris, Rick Fitzhugh

The flowers on the altar in the sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor and celebration of Lauren Burrell, for her 21<sup>st</sup> birthday on September 15<sup>th</sup>, from her family.

## Prayers for the People

### Medical personnel and first responders

#### **Celebration:**

Congratulations to **Katie and John Ellenburg** on the birth of a daughter, **Georgie Frances**, born on September 9. Her big sister is **Mary Austin**.

#### **Sympathies:**

**Ann Pearson** in the death of her uncle, Bill Hughes.

**Phil Wilson** in the death of his son, Michael Wilson.

Bennie Camp in the death of his wife and **Stephanie Morrison** in the death of her mother, Hilda Camp.

### Here is a brief summary of our current stewardship:

Offering Received September 6 - \$40,398

(Online - \$16,051 ~ Mail/Personal delivery - \$24,347)

*For those of you who would like to bring your offering to the church, we have a mail slot located in the door across from the glass doors in the breezeway entrance of the education building.*

Thank you so much for your continued support to Fairhope United Methodist Church.

Jeff White, Business Administrator

**Be sure to scroll all the way down. There are lots of Announcements!**

Dear Friends,

As proclaimed last week, the way out of Egypt is *hard*. This is also true for the realities of pandemic, prejudice, brutality, bias, addiction, aggravation, greed, gluttony and whole list of other forms of oppression. None of us are at our best right now. These stories of Moses cover it all, however, and set the stage for the cross of Jesus Christ. Our suffering is not always a problem to be fixed, but rather an experience to be endured in faith. This is the witness of scripture. Therefore, as we approach the richness of the biblical tradition, our confession is pretty simple. When our plans fall short and our patience worn thin, we need help. We need understanding. We need each other. We need God.

The church has never been closed, mind you, but we know that this season of “online only” on Sunday mornings has been a real disruption to the sacred rhythm of our lives. So for those who will enter our doors today, we say, *welcome back!* And to those who will be joining us remotely, rest assured that you are still every bit part of the body of Christ here at Fairhope UMC.

From now to the end of October, our worship services will be digging in to the call of Moses and the challenges of navigating what was known literally and figuratively as the wilderness of Sin (Ex. 17:1). With all of the obstacles that we see presently before us—for our families, our church, our community, our nation, and in the world—I can think of no better image to inform and inspire us than the memory of that story which began with a burning bush.

**Do you suppose that flame is still going? How does God keep it, or us, from burning on without burning out?**

In this series, we will be remembering the God who hears the cries of His children and works with them to deliver them up and out from the oppressive conditions of Egypt. We will glean certain insight from the scriptures on how to make decisions in the midst of an otherwise divisive culture, and how to handle the perpetual grumbles and groans that so often come with community. We will also reimagine our calling as Christ’s followers here at Fairhope UMC and dare to renew the pursuit of our own mission for the transformation of the world.

I am excited about what God may reveal to us during this time. God knows we could all use a fresh Word of hope. There is nothing about our experience of 2020 that would suggest to us that this 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter of the year will be easy. Even so, I believe that the Lord has collectively equipped us for this season (whether we know it or not) and will continue to prepare us for whatever it is that the Spirit would have us to do and to be. As he promised Moses...*Here I am!* So I believe that “I AM” is with us...on purpose...ready to deliver!

I am glad that you have chosen to worship with us. Let us hear the good news together.

*Come What May—Here I Am!*

Darren



A note from Rev. Laura:

Monday morning devotionals are taking a pause this Monday, September 14th. We hope to resume next week. Please watch for more information!



### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL AND SMALL GROUP STUDY:**

*We have several Sunday school classes currently meeting through Zoom. Following is information you may find of interest as you seek to remain connected with brothers and sisters in Christ:*

#### **Foundations Class**

Currently not meeting.

#### **Grace and Peace**

Meets on Sundays at 9:30 (we try to hold it to an hour)

It is a very discussion oriented class led by different people in the class. Everyone is welcome!

**Zoom meeting ID: 9092162907**

#### **New Beginnings**

Currently not meeting.

#### **Koinonia**

Facilitated by: Tony Caminiti – Everyone is welcome!

Meets: Sundays at 9:30am.

This week's lesson: "What's Heaven Like" Matthew 13:44

#### **Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88933710718?pwd=VVAwT3Q1SExvYTBNWEFBTlIK2VWdz09>

**Meeting ID: 889 3371 0718**

**Passcode: 237671**

#### **Homecoming Class**

Will not meet this Sunday.

If you would like information about when this class will resume, please contact Brenda Robinson: (205-294-1705) or [bgodbold@hiwaay.net](mailto:bgodbold@hiwaay.net).



## Caring Ministries...

Caring for our Church Family:

Our Stephen Ministers continue to touch base with our church family to identify any needs you may have. Don't hesitate to call us at the church office 251-928-1148 and we would be honored to help in any way we can.

Survivors of Suicide are meeting Monday, Sept. 14 at 6:00pm (New Time) due to meeting on the Church Campus outside the building. There is a Zoom option also if you contact [ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org](mailto:ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org) and she will send you the invite.

### **NEW SERVICE OPPORTUNITY coming in OCTOBER:**

We are working on implementing opportunities for our congregation to safely be in ministry for our community. Our aim is to provide items for Children with Cancer and area facilities who serve memory challenged persons. Look for more information next week.

## Children's Ministries...

### **HAPPY NURSERY NEWS!!**

Next Sunday (September 20<sup>th</sup>), the Nursery will reopen for all three worship services. **Numbers are limited and reservations are required.** Reservations will open today at 4:00pm. Each service will allow 5 children ages 3-17 months and 8 children 18 months-4 years. To ensure your spot, register early!

In an effort to reduce germs, there will be a 10 minute sanitation period between services. Temperatures will be checked upon arrival (staff and children). Masks will be worn by staff.

Please help us by not bringing anything in with your child, except a bottle or pacifier, as needed. We will provide diapers and wipes.

The nursery staff is looking forward to being back together with your children!

Tina Wettermark, Nursery Director

### **THANK YOU!**

Thanks to all who completed our Children's Ministries survey! We are diligently working on a plan to begin reopening our children's programs in phases. As we move along, we will need volunteers to support our efforts. Please begin praying about ways you can serve.

If you've received the survey from Pastor Laura regarding adult Sunday School classes, I ask that you please respond promptly. Children's Sunday School will rely heavily on what your adult classes choose to do!

### **IN-PERSON SWIFT COMING SOON!!**

Parents of 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> graders be on the lookout for an email about SWIFT meeting at the church!!

## **Student Ministry...**

Our Community Groups are underway and below is the schedule of times and location for every small group. We look forward to seeing our students each week and reconnecting in our small groups.

This semester our students will be required to register on a weekly basis. For your safety and the safety of our leaders, every student and adult leader will be required to wear a face covering, practice social-distancing and hand sanitizing stations will be easily accessible. For the time being, no food or drink is allowed during C-groups. Parents, please plan to pick-up your students at the time listed below as we will not have the facility open for recreational play prior to or following our meetings. We will need drivers to remain in your vehicle and students will come to you once they are finished with their group meeting. Thank you in advance for keeping our student ministry family safe and healthy by paying close attention to the first sign of illness and not participating in C-Groups if you have any symptoms of sickness!

We will begin a "**Virtual Small Group**" tonight at 8:00pm for high school students and families that wish to take extra precautions or who have conflicts during the week but would still like to participate in student ministry activities!

### **SUNDAY NIGHTS**

- 1) Juniors (Gym) 6:30-7:45 pm
- 2) Seniors (Fellowship Hall) 6:30-7:45 pm
- 3) Beginning SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13<sup>th</sup> @ 8PM VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY (9-12 graders)

### **WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**

- 1) 7th Grade 5:30-6:30 pm (Gym)
- 2) 8th Grade 5:30-6:30 pm (Fellowship Hall)
- 3) 9th Grade 6:45-7:45 pm (Gym)

## **NEW TO STUDENT MINISTRY?**

All rising 7th grade (student & parent) and new church families with 7th-12th graders are encouraged to connect with us through social media, text messaging reminders, GROUPME for every grade and through our email reminders!

Want to get plugged in??? Follow SALTSTUDENTS:

Instagram: @fairhopeumc.youth

Facebook: @fhsaltstudents

[Email: Michael.spicer@fairhopeumc.org](mailto:Michael.spicer@fairhopeumc.org) to get on our email announcements or to be added to the Groupme for C-Group reminders!

Text Message Reminders: Text the word "Saltstudents" to the number "43506"

## HOW ARE WE SERVING?

**COMMUNITY CAFE** - ALTHOUGH WE ARE NOT HOSTING OUR NORMAL FRIDAY LUNCH, WE CONTINUE TO SERVE OUR HOMEBOUND & COMMUNITY FRIENDS. WE ARE NOW PROVIDING OVER 140 HOME BOUND MEALS EACH WEEK BETWEEN FAIRHOPE, DAPHNE & SILVERHILL. WE ARE ALSO PROVIDING MEALS TO SHEPHERD'S PLACE AND FAIRHOPE ROTARY YOUTH CLUB. WE ARE SERVING AROUND 200 TOTAL EACH FRIDAY.



**SOLES 4 SOULS**  
WE ARE SUPPORTING OUR FRIENDS AT DAPHNE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH BY BEING A COLLECTION POINT FOR NEW OR GENTLY USED SHOES! ALL SIZES ACCEPTED!



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH IS THE LAST DAY!

## DISASTER RESPONSE HURRICANE LAURA RESPONSE

WE ARE PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY HURRICANE LAURA. WE ARE IN CONTACT WITH OUR CONFERENCE DISASTER COORDINATOR AND LOCAL VOAD.

HERE IS HOW YOU CAN SERVE NOW:

### P R A Y

PLEASE BE IN PRAYER FOR THOSE IMPACTED BY THE STORM.

### G I V E

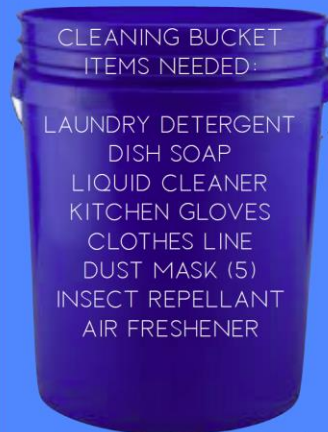
DONATIONS CAN BE GIVEN TO FAIRHOPE UMC MARKED "DISASTER RESPONSE" OR YOU MAY GIVE DIRECTLY TO UMCOR.

### S E R V E

WE WILL BE COLLECTING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO SEND TO LOUISIANA AND TEXAS:

WORK GLOVES  
12 PENNY NAILS  
EXTENSION CORDS (ALL WEIGHTS)  
RAKES & FLAT HEAD SHOVELS  
INSECT REPELLANT  
HAND WIPES  
TOILETRY ITEMS (SHAMPOO, SOAP, DEODERANT, TOOTHPASTE, TOOTHBRUSH)

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR CLEANING BUCKET OUTREACH WITH FAIRHOPE POLICE DEPARTMENT, TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN & THE SUNSET ROTARY. TOGETHER WE HAVE FILLED OVER 160 BUCKETS. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO FILL A BUCKET, YOU MAY PICK UP AN EMPTY BUCKET OUTSIDE OF THE CLC. PLEASE RETURN BUCKETS BY FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18TH.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT  
JENNIFER MYRICK  
MISSISIONS@FAIRHOPEUMC.ORG