



FAIRHOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Third Sunday of Lent
The Gathering: March 7, 2021

OPENING SONG *The Old Rugged Cross* Shea White, Praise Team

CALL TO WORSHIP

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
the earth proclaims God's handiwork.

Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts
be acceptable in the sight of God. (*Psalm 19*)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**O God, whose Son cleansed the Temple,
Let our actions in this place of worship today be a pleasing offering to you;
Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,
one God forever and ever. Amen.**

SINGING OUR PRAISES

*The Table
Lead Me to the Cross*

THE APOSTLES' CREED

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY

CREATING A LASTING LEGACY *2 Corinthians 9:6-7* Kevin Fralicks, Endowment Team

OFFERING *Reckless Love*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy One, creator of the stars and seas,
your steadfast love is shown to every living thing:
your word creates; your law revives and refreshes.
May we be transformed by your wisdom
so that we may manifest for others
the mercy of our crucified and risen Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

GOSPEL LESSON John 2:13-22

SERMON

“When Our Tables Get Turned”

Dr. Darren McClellan

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

SENDING FORTH

CLOSING SONG

Assisting in Worship Today: Dr. Darren McClellan

Music: Shea White and Praise Band

Media and Sound: Robert Hammon, Jamie Waldhour, Amelia Koser

***In-Person Worship Reservations (Sanctuary Only)
for Sunday, March 14, are open today at 4pm!***

We are asking those wishing to join us to use the reservation system we have in place to ensure that we keep the attendance to a size that enables a 6 foot physical distance between families. For anyone not able to attend the worship service we will continue to share online through Facebook, YouTube & our website.

WORSHIP TIMES:

8:30am & 11:00am Traditional (Sanctuary)

Make your reservations at <https://www.fairhopeumc.org/worshipreservations/>

**11:00am *The Gathering Worship* (CLC GYM)
Reservations No Longer Required for this Service**

Prayers for the People

Medical personnel and first responders

Celebrations...

Harvey and Cathy McCulloch celebrate the birth of grandson, Andrew David McCulloch born on December 31. Parents are Erin and Luke McCulloch and live in Colorado.

Mike and Elizabeth Anne Whiddon celebrate the birth of a daughter, **Jane Elizabeth Whiddon**, born February 3rd.



Sunday Vespers Service ~ Mark Your Calendar!

Join us next Sunday, March 14 at 6pm in the sanctuary for a Vespers Service offering prayer, song, and scripture. Plans are to have this take place regularly on the second Sunday of each month.



FAIRHOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Third Sunday of Lent
March 7, 2021

PRELUDE

Fugue in A Minor BWV 559

J.S. Bach

WELCOME AND MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

CREATING A LASTING LEGACY

2 Corinthians 9:6-7

Kevin Fralicks, Endowment Team

CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 19

Weary and overwhelmed, we gather.

God's holy word revives us.

Simple and confused, we yield.

God's word gives us wisdom.

Blind and uncomprehending, we await.

God's word enlightens our eyes.

More precious than gold is God's word.

Sweeter than honey are God's commands.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**O God, your weakness is mightier than human strength,
your foolishness is wiser than human wisdom.**

We rejoice that you are with us today.

Open our hearts and discipline our will.

Teach us to follow your perfect ways.

Test us with your righteous decrees.

And drive us from unholy living,

Turn us toward your holy light.

Through your Son, Jesus Christ,

comfort and redeem us with your holy gospel.

HYMN

Christ is Made the Sure Foundation

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone;
chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one;
holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone.

To this temple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of Hosts, today!
With thy faithful loving-kindness hear thy people as they pray,
and thy fullest benediction shed within its walls I.

Here vouchsafe to all thy servants what they ask of thee to gain;
what they gain from thee forever with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in thy glory evermore with thee to reign.

Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son,
laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one;
one in might and one in glory, while unending ages run.

THE APOSTLES' CREED

GLORIA PATRI

OFFERING *What Wondrous, Marvelous Love* (arr. by Cooper)
Chancel Choir

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy One, creator of the stars and seas,
your steadfast love is shown to every living thing:
your word creates; your law revives and refreshes.
May we be transformed by your wisdom
so that we may manifest for others
the mercy of our crucified and risen Lord. Amen.

FIRST LESSON *1 Corinthians 1:18-25*

GOSPEL LESSON *John 2:13-22*

SERMON "When Our Tables Get Turned" Rev. Antonio Christie

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

GREAT THANKSGIVING

THE LORD'S PRAYER

COMMUNION RESPONSE

Choir

Come to the table of grace. Come to the table of grace.
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of grace.

Choir & Congregation

Come to the table of peace. Come to the table of peace.
This is God's table; it's not yours or mine. Come to the table of peace.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD / GIVING OF THE BREAD AND CUP

CLOSING HYMN

The Old Rugged Cross

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross, the emblem of suffering and shame;
and I love that old cross where the dearest and best for a world of lost sinners was slain.

Refrain:

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross, till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross, and exchange it some day for a crown.

O that old rugged cross, so despised by the world, has a wondrous attraction for me;
for the dear Lamb of God left his glory above to bear it to dark Calvary. [Refrain]

In that old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine, a wondrous beauty I see,
for 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died, to pardon and sanctify me. [Refrain]

To that old rugged cross I will ever be true, its shame and reproach gladly bear;
then he'll call me some day to my home far away, where his glory forever I'll share. [Refrain]

SENDING FORTH

POSTLUDE

Prelude in A Minor BWV 559

J.S. Bach

SPECIAL ALTAR SETTING FOR LENT:

We hope you enjoy the special altar setting for Lent. Here is an explanation of some of the symbolism you will find there. The purple paraments will be used all during Lent, even on communion Sunday, as a symbolism of our individual and corporate penitence. The bare branches symbolize Abraham's and Sarah's barrenness and the rocks symbolize their solid faith in God's promises. The broken jar symbolizes our brokenness in Lent and the water is how God fills us up and revives us...and reminds us of our solidarity with Christ in our baptism. The crown of thorns reminds us of the foretelling of Jesus' death that is present in this season. The scattered gold coins focus us on today's scripture from the second chapter of John and reminds us of what is scattered and overturned in our own lives. As you enter this sacred space, we encourage you to meditate on these symbols and let them lead you into a meaningful time of worship.

Assisting in Worship Today:

Rev. Ontonio Christie, Dr. Darren McClellan, Rev. Laura Parker

Music: John Richardson, Tom Hood

Acolytes: Sims Peters (11:00)

Sound: Ann Lyles Tapscott, Peyton Phillips Media: Kaitlyn Hunter

Lilies...

Lilies will be placed in both the sanctuary and CLC on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021.

Acknowledgements will be listed that day in the bulletin. If you would like to place a lily in honor or in memory of a loved one, please fill out the form and return it to the office with your check payable to the church no later than **Monday, March 29**. The cost of each lily is \$15.00 (pre-paid). Lilies are available for pick up after the 11:00 services. Forms are available in the sanctuary narthex and at the welcome desk at the CLC.

Here is a brief summary of our current stewardship:

Offering Received February 28, 2021 - \$31,553
(Online - \$14,169 ~ Mail/Personal delivery - \$17,384)

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

**The following memorials and honorariums
have been received by the church in the month of February.**

In memory of

Joe Holliday by

Sandy and Lee Frailie (Caring Ministries)

Neal Christensen by

Richard and Lisa Kraus

Ms. Shirley Allen by

Betsy Reynolds (Caring Ministries)

Blanche McKinney by

Johnny Northcutt

Robert and Mary Beth Gibson (Community Café)

George Kirchoff by

Johnny Northcutt (Caring Ministries)

Robert and Mary Beth Gibson (Community Café)

Bethany Reid by

Robert and Mary Beth Gibson (Community Café)

Billy Kennedy by

Robert and Mary Beth Gibson (Community Café)

Vann Smith by

Elizabeth Arnold

Bill and Ann Calhoun

Barker and Susan Stein (Caring Ministries)

Robert and Mary Beth Gibson (Community Café)

In honor of

Jennifer Myrick by

Lany and Kim Simmons (Missions)

Robert and Mary Beth Gibson (Texas Winter Storm)



Return to the LORD, your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and relents from punishing.

--Joel 2:13

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me. Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me. **Restore** to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit. Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will **return** to you.

--Psalm 51:10-13

At a time when it is tempting to isolate our hearts as well as our bodies, how important it is to hear the Holy Spirit calling us back into relationship. During a season in which we have wrestled with our reality and grappled with our grief, where do we turn for hope? What are we to do with ourselves and with our situation?

The Word is *return*.

Return to God, who is gracious and merciful. Though our sins may distance us, God has a plan for our reunion. It is time for a new heart, a willing spirit, and thus, a new life altogether.

With its customary emphasis on truth-telling and self-examination, this season of Lent invites us to once again *return* to God in worship, in study, in service and sacrifice, in confession and in pardon. The message is clear and simple: when we *return* to God, we are *restored* by God.

Do not cast me away from your presence we pray.

I will not, says the Lord. I will not, I have not, and I shall not. I cannot return to you, however, because I never left you. Thus, for this relationship to be restored, you will need to return to me. That is the call. Return...and be restored...with joy!

We are glad that you have returned to worship with us today. Welcome home.

Let us repent, rejoice, and be glad...

Darren



LENTEN STUDIES FOR ADULTS

Five Means of Grace: Experience God's Love the Wesleyan Way by Elaine Heath

This six-week study continues on Monday afternoons, 12:05-1:15. Facilitated by Dr. Darren M. McClellan, this is the "Grace and Grub Group." Drop in and bring your own brown bag lunch. **No registration required—come as you will!**

Weekly studies focus on: Prayer, Searching the Scriptures, the Lord's Supper, Fasting, and Christian Conferencing. John Wesley called these means of grace "instituted," meaning the spiritual practices Jesus himself participated in and encouraged his followers to do. For Wesley, these spiritual practices are seamlessly integrated with the practice of loving our neighbors well. A life of genuine prayer inevitably leads to a life of hospitality, mercy, and justice. Participants in this study will consider how the five means of grace are the ordinary channels that God uses to draw us into a fruitful relationship. Book available for \$10.

Music Culture and Theology Class

Join Rev. Antonio Christie for a six-week Music Culture and Theology Class. The five sessions of this study will highlight Lenten themes and explore them in connection with today's culture and music. No books necessary, Bring your Bibles! **No registration required.**

Wednesdays, through March 24th, 6:30-7:30 PM, in room B215 in the Education Building.



Sunday, March 7th: ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES
In person classes meet from 9:45-10:40am.

These classes are meeting in person this Sunday:

Basics B217

Young couples parenting young children or newly married. Current study is The Armor of God, by Priscilla Shirer, facilitated by John and Meredith Roach.

Foundations B215

Parents of children and youth. Foundations continues the study, Faith and Works, diving into the books of Galatians and James, considering what Paul and James said about our salvation. Are we saved by grace through faith alone as Paul wrote to the Galatians or are we required to live a life of good works like James outlines? Are the two books contradictory or complimentary? Facilitated by Kristin Capstraw.

Homecoming Class Wesley Hall

Adults 50+. In-Person continues this week with option to connect by Zoom. Current study is 2nd Thessalonians. Contact Brenda Robinson for more information: bgodbold@hiwaay.net
Join Zoom Meeting Time: 9:45 AM
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88280028742?pwd=ZTE1MVBKMnFrZW1MZ2tseXlxUUUY2UT09>

Pathfinders B210

Multi-generational class with in-depth Bible study. Facilitated by Linda Smith. Beginning a new study this week: "ASK: Faith Questions in a Skeptical Age"

New Beginnings B209

Adults in their 40s, 50s, 60s. Some retired, some with children in school or college, some with grandchildren. Current study facilitated by Phil Webb (Max Lucado book, looking at issues of "Acceptance)."
Join Zoom Meeting Time: 9:45
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86534722052?pwd=Skdha0xpWEw0akQ2RTIVa3QwWTdHQT09>
Meeting ID: 865 3472 2052 Passcode: 742529

These classes are meeting by Zoom only at this time:

Peace and Grace

Adults of varying ages and stages will find open, honest, thoughtful conversation in a place of radical hospitality.
Join Zoom Meeting Time: 9:30 AM
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9092162907>

Koinonia

Adults of varying ages, facilitated by Tony Caminiti; in depth Bible study and other topical studies.
Lesson: We are HOLY? Read: Leviticus 19:1-18 & 19-37
Join Zoom Meeting Time: 9:30 AM
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87876742739?pwd=a2xvUHdiL1VWEJmaUxOUUZycWJUQT09>
Meeting ID: 878 7674 2739 Passcode: 324640

Friends in Faith

Retired adults, individuals and couples.
Join Zoom Meeting Time: 10:00 AM
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86771534402?pwd=d2VJVXVpb3cwZzc0Ti9YRjNaK2IzUT09>
Meeting ID: 867 7153 4402 Passcode: 585355

Living Word

Ages span several decades and singles and couples faithfully participate.
In-depth Bible study facilitated by Doug Garner.
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88171481169?pwd=WkE3QlIFeVdxbFQ2akpXSkZFK1hWUT09>
Meeting ID: 881 7148 1169 Passcode: 575645

BOOK STUDY:

Love Her Well by Kari Kampakis

In this 5 week book study for moms of 6th, 7th and 8th grade GIRLS, bestselling Alabama author Kari Kampakis, shares ten ways that moms can better connect with a teenage daughter during a challenging season. Kari gives mothers hope and reminds them that all things are possible through God. By leaning on Him, moms will gain the wisdom, guidance, protection and clarity they need to grow strong relationships with their daughters at every age, especially during the critical teen years.



Meetings will be held on campus on Sundays, March 21, April 11 & 25, May 2 & 16 from 6:00-7:45 in the courtyard. Books are \$15.

Contact Amy Dowden to register or for more information: acdowden@att.net



A note from Rev. Laura:

Please join me for devotionals every Monday morning at 9:30 until we return to more normal gathering routines in the life of our church. This time together will only last about 15-20 minutes and will provide an opportunity to see familiar faces and pray together as we begin our week!

Join us by Zoom at this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/98533273696>



Caring Ministries...

Praying keeps us centered in hearing God's message to each of us.

Spring is Coming.....

In Person Surprise Deliveries to our member's homes will be starting back in April. Watch for more details!

Support Group Zoom Meetings Happening this week...

Survivors of Suicide (SOS) Monday, March 8 at 6:30 pm

Tough Dogs Cancer Support Group Tuesday, March 9 12:30 pm

Contact Ann Pearson ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org to receive your invite.

Children's Ministries...

CHILDREN'S CHOIRS ARE STARTING BACK!

Calling all kids from Kindergarten through 6th grades! Children's choirs **will start meeting this Wednesday, March 10th, from 4:15-5:00pm in the Sanctuary**. First performance planned for Palm Sunday, March 28th, at the 11:00am services! Hope to see you there and don't forget your masks! For more information, contact Tom Hood, tom.hood@fairhopeumc.org



SAVE THE DATE ... Rocky Railway VBS will not be derailed this summer! Mark your calendar for June 7-11! Details on volunteer opportunities and registration coming around the bend soon!

SUNDAYS FOR CHILDREN

All children 3 years old-6th grade are invited to **Sunday School** from 9:45-10:40am (3 year old birthday must be before 9/1/20). Masks will be worn by teachers and students in our K-6th grade classes. Need to find a classroom location? Go to www.fairhopeumc.org under children's ministries or see a greeter on Sunday mornings.

Children ages 3 months-PreK4 can stay in the **Nursery** during our 3 worship services and Sunday School.

Children's Church is not available at this time. Children are seated with their families for the whole service. Take-home **Worship Bags** are available for preschool-2nd grade. Activity bulletins are available for children 3rd-6th grade.

PIER34

The start date for our 3rd & 4th grade *Learning to Use My Bible* study has been pushed back a week to Sunday, March 14 (4:00 in Wesley Hall). All 3rd & 4th graders are invited to participate. Call Michelle if you plan to attend (251/377-2325).

SWIFT

Our ministry for 5th & 6th graders will meet this Wednesday (March 10) at 6:30 in Wesley Hall.

FACEBOOK GROUP

If you haven't done so, please join our Fairhope UMC Children's Ministries Facebook group!

Student Ministries...

SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH

7-12th graders// CLC @ 6:00-7:45pm

Join us for Sunday Night youth this weekend. Gym opens for free time at 5:30 pm for all students in 7th-12th grade. Games, worship, and a message. Hope to see you then!

JR & SR GIRLS BIBLE STUDY

Thursday @ 7:30 pm // FUMC Campus

Our junior and senior girls are invited to join us for Thursday night study. We are doing a new book study in Philippians. If you would like more information, please [email rachael.waldhour@fairhopeumc.org](mailto:rachael.waldhour@fairhopeumc.org) for details.

COMMUNITY GROUPS

Wednesday @ 6:30-7:45 pm//10th-12th (Host Homes) & 7th-9th (CLC)

Come join in a C-Group and connect with kids your own age, learn more about your call as followers of Christ and support one another in prayer! Our 10-12 grades are now meeting in host homes and our 7-9 grade meet at the CLC. For more information, contact Rachael Waldhour.

CONFIRMATION 2021

Weekly Meetings Sundays @ 12:30-2:00 pm

The Confirmation Class of 2021 meets on Sunday from 12:30-2:00 pm with Pastor Darren in the CLC Fellowship Hall. You may register your student on the youth page of our church website. Confirmation is open to any student in 7-12th grade seeking to learn more about the faith formation.

ARE YOU NEW TO STUDENT MINISTRY?

Interested in learning more about Student Ministry? Connect with us on social media, sign up for our text message reminders, get plugged into our GROUPME for every grade and subscribe to our parent email reminders!

Want to get plugged in???

Follow SALTSTUDENTS:

Instagram: @fairhopeumc.youth

Facebook: @fhsaltstudents

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

Send a quick note to michael.spicer@fairhopeumc.org to be added to our email list or to Groupme for C-Group reminders!

H O W A R E W E S E R V I N G ?

SERVING OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY & BEYOND 2020

- Over 10,500 meals prepared & served through our COVID food outreach
- Over 450 sets of uniforms distributed during Back to School Bash w/Fairhope PD
- Costa Rica Medical Team served over 500+ patients
- Thanksgiving Outreach- 275+ meals (Community, Law Enforcement, Meals of Wheels)
- Christmas Angel Tree Program- Serving 125+ Children & 40+ Elderly
- Local Family Outreach- Temporary Shelter for 8+ Families
- DHR, Foster Care & Child Advocacy Center Outreach- 150+ Backpack & Supplies
- Disaster Response- 250+ Cleaning Buckets for Hurricane Victims
- Hurricane Sally- Debris Cleanup, Food Distribution, Supplies (1500+ cases of water)
- Youth & Children's Ministry Serve Days (Prodissee Pantry, Hurricane Sally Response)
- Thanksgiving Meal Outreach- Groceries for 10 families in need
- Hygiene Kits- 1000+ prepared & distributed to homeless population
- Dance & Cheer Lessons- 4 girls through our Foster Care Outreach
- Missionary Support & Love Offering to our Missionaries in Costa Rica & Bus Drivers
- Baldwin County EMA- Providing Lunch during COVID & Hurricane Sally Response



THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY & BEYOND!

LOCAL NEED : PEREZ FAMILY

We are currently working with the Perez Family from Guatemala. They are expecting their third child, a baby girl in the coming weeks. The doctors discovered a heart condition and the baby is expected to have surgery 3 days after birth at UAB. Both the mother & father are currently working construction. The family is in great need of support due to the nature of the heart condition of the baby girl who they are planning to name Leslie. We are planning to collect diapers, baby items & gas cards to help the Perez family. Leslie will have to return to UAB at 4 months for additional surgery. For more information about serving this family, please contact Jennifer