



FAIRHOPE

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost
October 11, 2020

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Antonio Christie

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is good!
God's steadfast love endures forever.

OPENING PRAYER

**Ever-present God,
you never leave us.
Help us to stay with you when we are tempted to flee,
and keep us seeking after that which is true,
that all may know that you are the Lord, our God,
a tenacious presence in whatever our reality.
Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his Grace!

My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

Jesus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinners ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.

He breaks the power of cancelled sin, he sets the prisoner free;
his blood can make the foulest clean; his blood availed for me.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

GLORIA PATRI

OFFERING

Mary Don't You Weep (Traditional)

John Richardson, Piano

DOXOLOGY

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rev. Laura Parker

Holy Spirit of God,
shine your light upon this Word
and into our hearts
that we may be enlightened with fresh understanding. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON ~ Exodus 32:1-14

GOSPEL LESSON ~ Philippians 4:1-9

SERMON

"How Soon We Forget"

Dr. Darren M. McClellan

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Laura Parker

THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN

I Am Thine, O Lord

I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice, and it told thy love to me;
but I long to rise in the arms of faith and be closer drawn to thee.

Refrain:

Draw me nearer, nearer blessed Lord, to the cross where thou hast died.
Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer blessed Lord, to thy precious, bleeding side.

Consecrate me now to thy service, Lord, by the power of grace divine;
let my soul look up with a steadfast hope, and my will be lost in thine.

(Refrain)

O the pure delight of a single hour that before thy throne I spend,
when I kneel in prayer, and with thee, my God, I commune as friend with friend!

(Refrain)

There are depths of love that I cannot know till I cross the narrow sea;
there are heights of joy that I may not reach till I rest in peace with thee.

(Refrain)

SENDING FORTH

Assisting in Worship Today:

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

Music: Tom Hood, John Richardson

Media and Sound: Robert Hammon, Kaitlyn Hunter

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Mary A. Gibson by Robert and Mary Beth Gibson.*



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 3rd 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

Be sure to scroll all the way down, there are LOTS of announcements!



Sunday Vespers Service Tonight

Join us tonight 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.

Prayers for the People

Medical personnel and first responders

New Babies:

Jay and Alex Robinson on the birth of a daughter, **Alexandra Bradley Robinson**, born October 1, 2020. Her big brothers are **Nick, Parks** and big sister is **Greer**.

Chris and Melissa Knight on the birth of a son, Fuller Williams Knight, born October 3, 2020. Proud Grandparents are **Van and Beth Knight** and Proud Great Grandparents: **Bill and Betty Knight** and **Jess and Betty Williams**.

Here is a brief summary of our current stewardship:

Offering Received October 4 - \$37,125

(Online - \$12,528 ~ Mail/Personal delivery - \$24,597)

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

A note from Rev. Laura:

Monday morning devotionals 9:30am THIS Monday

Join Zoom Meeting

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

For information on how to get started on

Zoom, [click here](#).



Caring Ministries...

Survivors of Suicide will be meeting on Monday, October 12, at 6:30 pm in Wesley Hall. Please enter the building through the double doors facing Section Street. Social distancing and wearing masks are expected for this meeting. Contact Ann Pearson, ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org for further information. Zoom option is also available, contact Ann Pearson, ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org for further information.

Life South Blood Drive is coming on Sunday, October 25, from 9-1:00 in the driveway in front of the church lawn. Last time we had record numbers to make donations and look forward to the same success.

Stephen Ministers along with our Pastoral staff are standing ready to serve our congregation and community through spiritual support. During these stressful times a caring listener can be invaluable to navigate the uncertainty of our days. Call the church office 251-928-1148 and we look forward to meeting with you.

Children's Ministries...

NURSERY OPEN DURING WORSHIP!

Remember, our nursery is now open on Sundays during all three worship services. **Numbers are limited and reservations are required.** Each service will allow 5 children ages 3-17 months and 8 children 18 months-4 years. To ensure your spot, register early! Registration for next Sunday, October 18th will open at 4:00pm today on church website.

SWIFT!

Our next meeting for 5th & 6th graders will be:

Wednesday, October 14th

6:30-7:45pm

Wesley Hall (Education Bldg)

Parents will be sent email tomorrow. If you currently do not receive SWIFT emails and would like to be put on the list, contact Michelle at michelle.graham@fairhopeumc.org.

Student Ministry Updates...

STUDENT MINISTRY PROGRAM & C-GROUPS

Wednesday, October 14 @ 6:30-7:45 pm

Sunday, October 18 @ 8:00 pm

(*All 7th-12th Graders)

DODGEBALL TOURNAMENT

Sunday, October 18 @ 6:00-8:00 pm

Student Ministry is hosting a Dodgeball Tournament in the CLC next Sunday for all 7th-12th graders! All youth may sign your team up online or just come and watch the games!

SENIOR HIGH GIRLS BIBLE STUDY

Tuesday, October 13 @ 7:00 pm

Sunday, October 18 @ 8:00 pm

(Text or [email Rachael.waldhour@fairhopeumc.org](mailto:email.Rachael.waldhour@fairhopeumc.org) for more details!)

ARE YOU 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, GROUPEME 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"

CHRISTIAN LIFE CENTER HOURS

*Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, our CLC will have limited hours and availability.

Monday - Friday, 7am - 5pm

OPEN AREAS:

- **Upstairs Track** for walkers.
- **Gym** for FIT exercise program, Pickleball & morning basketball group.
- **Fellowship Hall** for group meetings.

REMAINS CLOSED:

- Parlor
- Fitness Room
- All upstairs Classrooms
- All upstairs Lofts
- The Attic
- The Nursery (with the exception of Tina's programming)

Please note:

Face mask are expected when entering the building.

Face masks and social distancing will be expected and encouraged for all meetings within the Fellowship Hall as well as times "between exercise" in the Gym and on the Walking Track.

DISASTER RESPONSE HURRICANE SALLY RESPONSE

WE ARE PRAYING FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN IMPACTED BY HURRICANE SALLY. THANK YOU TO ALL WHO HAVE PROVIDED SUPPORT TO OUR COMMUNITY. WE ARE SO GRATEFUL!

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

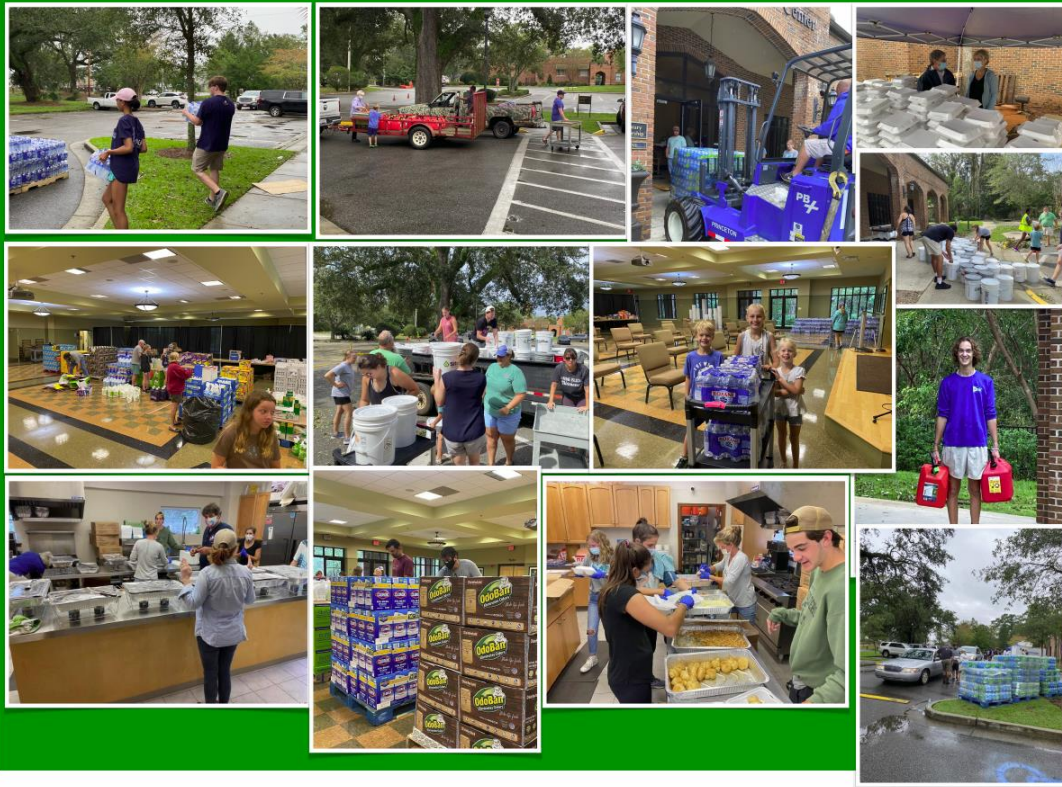
DONATIONS CAN BE GIVEN TO FAIRHOPE UMC MARKED "DISASTER RESPONSE" OR YOU MAY GIVE DIRECTLY TO UMCOR.

S E R V E

WE ARE CONTINUING TO ASSESS & SEND VOLUNTEERS OUT TO SERVE. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN SERVING VISIT WWW.FAIRHOPEUMC.ORG

THANK YOU

FOR SERVING OUR COMMUNITY& BEYOND



TOGETHER WE HAVE MADE AN IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITY. FOR OVER TWO WEEKS NOW, WE HAVE BEEN A RECEIVING & DISTRIBUTING SITE FOR THE CITY OF FAIRHOPE. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO WORK ALONGSIDE VARIOUS PARTNERS PROVIDING & MEETING MANY EMERGENCY NEEDS POST STORM. WE WERE GRATEFUL TO WORK ALONGSIDE MANY BUSINESSES WHO DONATED ICE, WATER, CLEANING SUPPLIES, FOOD, GAS, TARP & MANY OTHER ESSENTIAL ITEMS. WE ARE GRATEFUL TO PARTNER WITH OTHER METHODIST DISTRICT & CONFERENCE CHURCHES, THE BALDWIN COUNTY ROAD, RED CROSS & MANY OTHER ORGANIZATIONS TO HELP MEET THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY.

PLEASE CONTINUE TO BE IN PRAYER FOR THOSE IMPACTED BY HURRICANE SALLY.