



THE GATHERING

THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT *

MARCH 8TH, 2026 11:00AM AT FAIRHOPE UMC

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Preaching: Rev. Michael Precht

Liturgists: Sidney Carol Barnhardt

Communion Servers:

Music: Shea White and Praise Band

Media and Sound: Cole Jones, Karl Langley, Jamie Waldhour

Stephen Minister: Dr. Ann Pearson

Ushers: Rick Fitzhugh, Charles Scarce, Phil Webb

**Our worship seasons allow us to re-experience the full life and ministry of Jesus every year. The season of Lent is a period of 40 days, inspired by Jesus' 40 days of temptation in the wilderness. In this season of prayer, fasting, and charity, we turn our attention to Jesus' sacrifice for us.*

OPENING SONG

My Jesus

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

ISAIAH 12:4-6

SINGING OUR PRAISE

Praise

Holy Spirit

What a Beautiful Name

Lead Me to the Cross

Children who are K4 through 6th grade can meet at the side door for Children's Church. They are to be picked up immediately following the service in the Pier Room upstairs in the Education Building.

Nursery is available for children 4 years and younger in the Education Building.

SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:41-51

SERMON

A Place to be Surprised

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Living God, we confess that we often come into familiar places expecting nothing new from you. We settle for routine, overlook wonder, and forget that your Spirit still teaches, questions, and amazes among your people. Forgive us, and open our hearts again to the holy surprises you are always ready to reveal.

Hear the good news: the God who once astonished the Temple still meets us with wisdom and grace. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ~ THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

BENEDICTION

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, MARCH 8

8:30am Traditional Worship
9:45am Sunday Schools
9:45am Coffee with the Pastors
11:00am Traditional Worship
11:00am Gathering Worship
4:00pm Baby Shower for Dr. Kristen Curtis Wright & Family
Daylight Savings Time Begins!

MONDAY, MARCH 9

9:15am Walk & Talk with Jesus
10:00am Knit & Crochet for a Purpose

3:00pm Grief Support Group
6:30pm Survivors of Suicide

TUESDAY, MARCH 10

7:00am Youth Breakfast Club
9:30am Fruit of the Spirit Study
12:30pm Tough Dogs Cancer Support Group

1:30pm Chemo Care Bag Assembly
5:30pm Handbell Choir

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

9-11:00am TJ's Food Ministry
1:30pm Dr. Ann's Drop-in Bible Study
2:45pm Caring Ministry's Listening Session

4:15pm Lighthouse Children's Choir

5:00pm Wednesday Night Supper

6:00pm Dr. Kristen's Drop-In Lenten Study

6:00pm Chancel Choir Practice

6:00pm SALT Student Ministry
6:00pm Pier Kids & Swift Ministry

THURSDAY, MARCH 12

9-11:00am TJ's Food Ministry

FRIDAY, MARCH 13

11:00am-1pm Community Café

SUNDAY, MARCH 15

8:30am Traditional Worship
9:45am Sunday Schools
11:00am Traditional Worship
11:00am Gathering Worship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY SUPPER MENU ~ MARCH 11TH

MEXICAN CORNBREAD TACO BAKE, BLACK BEAN & CORN SALAD, RICE, MIXED BERRY TRIFLE

Kids: Chicken Sandwich, Mac-N-Cheese, Fruit, Cookie

Go online or call the church office to make your reservation!

EASTER WORSHIP SCHEDULE, APRIL 5TH

8:00am, 9:30am, & 11:00am Traditional

11:00 Gathering

Caring Ministries Listening Session

Join us to share ideas, reflect on current ministries, and dream about what's next. Meet in B-114 on **Wednesday, March 11 at 2:45 PM** or **Monday, March 16 at 1:00 PM**. For more information, contact Dr. Ann Pearson at ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org or 251-928-1148.

Baby Shower Honoring Dr. Kristen Curtis Wright | March 8th 4:00pm CLC Fellowship Hall

We're delighted to share that our Associate Pastor, Dr. Kristen Curtis Wright, and her family are expecting a new baby! All are invited! Scan the bulletin QR code for the registry and call the church office to RSVP.

Easter Family Celebration | March 25th 5:00-7:00pm

Join for an evening of egg-citement, games, and hidden surprises. Dinner served at 5pm, activities and egg-hunt start at 6:00pm. All are welcome!

Easter Snapdragon Sale | March 2nd-31st

Help us fill our worship spaces with beautiful Easter snapdragons! Plants are \$12 each and may be given in honor or in memory of someone you love. The flowers will decorate our worship spaces on Easter Sunday and may be picked up after the services. Use QR code to order!

Youth Egg Drop | April 4th

Support Youth Missions this Easter with our Easter Egg Drop! Our Youth will deliver and hide candy-filled eggs in your yard the night before Easter. Sign up using the QR code and let us make Easter morning easy and fun!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

CREATION CARE | NATIONAL LEADERS | CHURCH UNIVERSAL

HOSPITALIZED

Lisa Adams, Al Johnson, Grace Nelson, Kin Reynolds

Monthly Finance Report: Giving for 2025 came in just shy of our anticipated budget. but about \$15,000 ahead of our expenses, creating for a net surplus for the year. In addition, we received our Employee Retention Credit from the IRS, creating a \$400,000+ total surplus for the year. This allows us to plan for some overdue facility maintenance, including phase two of sealing our brick and masonry. We are still reconciling our expenses from January; giving for the month was about \$6,000 short of January expectation.

If you would like more information about church membership, contact one of our pastors or attend **Coffee with the Pastors on March 8th @ 9:45AM in the Christian Life Center Parlor.** Look for directional signs on Sunday morning.

ONE LINK. ALL THE INFO. Want to sign up? Volunteer? Register your kids? RSVP for an event? Scan the QR code to access all of Fairhope UMC's resources in one place! Stay in the loop...**SCAN NOW!**



FAIRHOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

"LOVE BOLDLY, CASTING THE LIGHT OF JESUS INTO THE WORLD"

REV. MICHAEL PRECHT, SENIOR PASTOR
DR. KRISTEN CURTIS WRIGHT, ASSOCIATE PASTOR

REV. SHEILA BATES, SOUTHWEST DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT
BISHOP L. JONATHAN HOLSTON, ALABAMA-WEST FLORIDA CONFERENCE

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