



FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2025 | 8:30AM & 11:00AM
✠please stand as you are able

PRELUDE

(8:30) *To God Be the Glory*
(11:00) *Sweet Hour of Prayer*

WILLIAM DOANE
WILLIAM BRADBURY

WELCOME & MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 19

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes.

Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you,

O Lord, our rock and our redeemer.

✠ HYMN

Come Thou Fount

UMH 400

✠ APOSTLES' CREED

UMH 881

✠ GLORIA PATRI

OFFERTORY

(8:30) *Amazing Grace*
(11) *Adagio in C Major*

ARR. GORDON YOUNG
C.A. KERN

✠ DOXOLOGY

CHILDREN'S LESSON (11)

Children 5 years old 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.

HYMN

Take My Life and Let It Be

UMH 399

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy Spirit, pour out upon us wisdom and understanding, that being taught by you in Holy Scripture, our hearts and minds may be opened to receive all that leads to life and holiness. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

✠ SCRIPTURE *Deuteronomy 30:11-20*

SERMON *Living is Growing*

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not always chosen life. We have settled for what is easy instead of what is faithful. We have followed our own desires instead of your commands. Forgive us, renew us, and set us again on the path of obedience and blessing.

God's Word is not far away; it is near, in your mouth and in your heart. In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven, freed, and made new. So now, choose life—live in God's grace and walk in God's love.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

✠ PASSING OF THE PEACE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

UMH 13

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ~ THE LORD'S PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

HYMN

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

UMH 664

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS (8:30): MIKE & DAWN HERRIN

✠ BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*(8:30) A Mighty Fortress Is Our
God*

ARR. GORDON YOUNG
GORDON YOUNG

(11:00) Trumpet Voluntary

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

COMMUNION SERVERS:

8:30
Emily Garner,
Mary & John Hodgkins,
Betty Stejskal
11:00
Kimberly McKeough

STEPHEN MINISTERS:

8:30
Brian Norris
11:00
Ann Claunch

PREACHER:

Dr. Kristen Curtis Wright

LITURGIST

Katie Turner

Children's Lesson:

Michelle Graham

GREETER:

8:30
Mary Finger

USHER:

Mark Woodrow

MUSIC

Chancel Choir
Director, Tom Hood
Accompanist,
Vicki Wright (8:30)
Sandy Tyler (11:00)

MEDIA:

Hackett Robertson
Toby Monckton

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

8:30am Traditional Worship
9:45am Sunday School for all ages
11:00am Traditional Worship
11:00am The Gathering Worship

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

9:15am Walk and Talk with Jesus
10:00am Knit & Crochet
3:00pm Grief Support Group
6:30pm Survivors of Suicide Support Group

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

6:45am Youth Breakfast Club
9:30am Twelve Disciples Study
12:30pm Tough Dogs Cancer Support Group
6:00pm Experiencing God Bible Study
6:00pm Board of Trustees Meeting

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

9-11:00am TJ's Food Ministry
10:00am Intercessory Prayer Life
1:30pm Weekly Bible Study
4:15pm Lighthouse Kids Choir
5:00pm Wednesday Night Supper
6:00pm Chancel Choir Practice
6:00pm SALT Student Ministry at Halmstead Amphitheater
6:00pm Pier Kids and Swift Ministry
6:00pm Companions in Christ Bible Study
6:00pm Deep Dive Drop-in Study

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

9-11:00am TJ's Food Ministry

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

9:30am Reservation Nursery
11:00am-1pm Community Café

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28-

Commitment Sunday

8:30am Traditional Worship
9:45am Commitment Sunday Fellowship Brunch
11:00am Traditional Worship
11:00am The Gathering Worship
5:00pm Fourth Sunday Youth Fellowship

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

WEDNESDAY SUPPER MENU ~ SEPTEMBER 24TH

Curry Chicken & Wild Rice Casserole

Seasoned Green Beans

Autumn Salad

Rolls, Dessert

Kids: Pizza Stuffed Pretzels, Fruit, Sugar Cookie

Go online or call the church office to make your reservation 251-928-1148.

Commitment Sunday & Fellowship Brunch | September

28, 9:45am Please join us for a time of fellowship and brunch to celebrate Commitment Sunday! Use the QR code on the back of the bulletin to sign up to bring a breakfast item if you can! Join us in the CLC Fellowship Hall after 8:30 service or come early before 11:00! We hope to see everyone there!

Epic of Eden: Ruth | October 14

Epic of Eden: Ruth is a 6-week journey through the Book of Ruth and traces God's faithful love in the midst of loss, loyalty, and new beginnings—and discover how Ruth's story speaks hope into our own. This class is closed for new registrations but additional offerings are available. Email kristen.wright@fairhopeumc.org for additional information.

Charge Conference | October 14

Our annual Charge Conference will be held on Tuesday, October 14, at 6:00 p.m. in the CLC Fellowship Hall. This important meeting, led this year by Rev. Gillian Walters of Dauphin Way UMC, provides oversight, guidance, and accountability for the Board of Stewards and our congregation. All are welcome to attend, and Church Council/Administrative Board members are especially encouraged to be present.

Study on the Book of 1 Samuel | September 24

Join us as we journey through 1 Samuel together, starting this Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in Wesley Hall. This is a drop-in study—come any week you're able. Bring your Bible and a friend as we explore God's faithfulness in the lives of Samuel, Saul, and David. All are welcome! For additional information contact Dr. Ann Pearson, ann.pearson@fairhopeumc.org

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

MEDICAL PERSONNEL | FIRST RESPONDERS | MILITARY PERSONNEL

HOSPITALIZED:

Daisy Gilbert, Susan Mitchell, Ken Morrison

Monthly Finance Report: Giving in July was 14.5% higher than anticipated, while expenses were 4% higher than anticipated. We finished the month with a \$12,000 deficit (which is actually \$16,000 better than a typical July). As of the August 1, our total income is \$2800 ahead of our total expenses, and we are on track to meet 100% of our budget for the year.

If you would like more information about church membership, contact one of our pastors or attend **Coffee with the Pastors on October 12th @ 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!**



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



FAIRHOPE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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

155 SOUTH SECTION STREET
FAIRHOPE, AL 36532

FAIRHOPEUMC.ORG
251-928-1148



THE GATHERING

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST*

SEPTEMBER 21ST, 2025 11:00AM AT FAIRHOPE UMC

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Preaching: Rev. Michael Precht

Liturgist: Alicia Searcy

Communion Servers: Joseph Funderburg, Noah Funderburg, Jen Galloway, Jill Scott

Music: Shea White and Praise Band

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

Stephen Minister: Jane Dolan

Greeters: 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 after Pentecost is the longest season of the Christian year, lasting until All Saints' Day on November 1. It is known as "ordinary" time, not because it is dull or plain, but because this is the season for remembering how the resurrection and reign of Jesus bring a new "order" to our lives and the world.*

OPENING SONG

Run to the Father

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

PSALM 19

SINGING OUR PRAISE

I Will Follow You

Lord, I Need You

I Have Decided

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Thanks be to God! Amen.

THANKSGIVING

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