

## THE GATHERING

### GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**VOLUNTARY** *Create in Me a Clean Heart* Cherwien

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Our help is in the name of the Lord.

**Who made heaven and earth.**

Praise the Lord.

**The Lord's name be praised.**

\*HYMN PH #236 *Now Israel May Say* OLD 124TH

**PRAYER (UNISON)** God of mercy, we strive to present our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and acceptable to you, but we are guilty of thinking more highly of ourselves than we ought. Our judgments are not always sober. Our wills are anything but good, acceptable or perfect. We stand in need of forgiveness. Holy God, transform us according to your will. Tell us what we need to hear, and show us what we ought to do, to obey Jesus Christ our Saviour, to whom we give all glory, honor and praise.

**KYRIE** arr. Healey Willan, 1930



### DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**Thanks be to God!**

**GLORIA** Thomas Keesecker



## THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**FIRST READING** Exodus 1:8-2:10 (OT p. 48)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**SECOND READING** Romans 12:1-8 (NT p. 161)

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**ANTHEM** *When I'm afflicted, poor, and low (Nelson)* William Bradley Roberts

When I'm afflicted, poor, and low, and light and peace depart,  
my God beholds my heavy woe; You bear me on Your heart.

I waited patient for the Lord, and bowed to hear my cry;  
God saw me resting on the Word, and brought salvation nigh.

God raised me from a horrid pit, where mourning long I lay,  
and from my bonds released my feet, deep bonds of miry clay.

Firm on a rock You made me stand, and taught my cheerful tongue  
to praise the wonders of your hand, in a new thankful song.

How many are thy thoughts of love! Thy mercies, Lord, how great!

We have not words nor hours enough, their numbers to repeat.

When I'm afflicted, poor, and low, and light and peace depart,  
my God beholds my heavy woe; You bear me on Your heart.

**SERMON** *According to the Grace Given to Us* Ron Gilmer

\*HYMN SNC #214 *Have We Any Gift Worth Giving* COSTLY GIFTS

### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

based on Matthew 16:13-20

Jesus asks his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" Some say John the Baptist. Others say Elijah. Still others say Jeremiah or one of the prophets. Then Jesus asks, "Who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answers, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the Living God;" and Jesus responds, "Blessed are you, Simon, son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but God in heaven. Peter, you are the rock on which the church will be built, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. The keys of the kingdom will be given to you. Whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly orders the disciples not to tell anyone that he is the Messiah. Peter's legacy has been entrusted to us. We are the church in the world that God created. We give thanks for all that God has given to us and pray that we will be responsible stewards of this good creation. Alleluia! Amen.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, in your mercy...

**Hear our prayer.**

### THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

## THE EUCHARIST

**OFFERING** *Lord I Want to be a Christian* Bish

**DOXOLOGY** OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise Christ, all people here below;*

*Praise Holy Spirit ever more;*

*Praise Triune God, whom we adore, Amen.*

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

### GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise....**

## SANCTUS



### MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION



### LORD'S PRAYER

*The prayer, as it will be prayed this morning, begins, "Our Mother God and Father God, who art in heaven..."*



### BREAKING OF THE BREAD

### COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

*The congregation is invited to gather at the Lord's Table.*

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

## SENDING

\*HYMN PH #414 *As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought* FOREST GREEN

### \*CHARGE AND BLESSING

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Alleluia! Amen.**

**VOLUNTARY** *Little Fugue in F* Telemann

## News and Information

**Welcome!** Thanks be to God for gathering us to worship. Welcome to University Presbyterian Church. If you are worshipping here for the first time, please sign the register on the stand inside of the front door of the sanctuary. For more information on the life and work of this congregation, please contact Ron Gilmer at the church (758-5422), by way of e-mail ([rongilmer@aol.com](mailto:rongilmer@aol.com)) or visit the church's web site: [www.uaupc.org](http://www.uaupc.org).

**Congregational Meeting** The session has called a congregational meeting this Sunday, August 24, immediately after worship for the purpose of electing a Nominating Committee.

**Deacon's Food Pantry**- In the month of July, the food pantry provided 366 families with 542 bags of food. There was a total of 823 served (302 children, 376 adults and 145 elderly)

**The Politics of Martyrdom** The Christian Education and Library Committee is pleased to announce that Justin Watson, author of *The Christian Coalition: Dreams of Restoration, Demands for Recognition* and *The Martyrs of Columbine: Faith and the Politics of Tragedy*, will be with us on Sunday, August 31, 9:30-10:45 a.m. to offer a presentation on "The Politics of Martyrdom."

**General Assembly Report** Presbytery of Sheppards and Lapsley Executive Tom Evans Brown Memorial Presbyterian Church Pastor Greg Bentley are scheduled to be at UPC Sunday, September 7, at 5:30 p.m. Both served as delegates to the 218th General Assembly in San Jose, CA, and will provide us with information and insight based on their experiences.

**Academic Sunday** The session has designated Sunday, September 14, as Academic Sunday at UPC. On this Sunday, we will welcome Faythe Freese, who serves as Associate Professor of Music at the Alabama School of Music, as our guest organist. The liturgy for this service will reflect the Reformed-Presbyterian tradition's commitment to "the life of the mind in service to God." The congregation will gather for dinner in the fellowship hall after the service.

**Adult Sunday School** - Adult Sunday School will resume at 9:30am on Sun., Sept. 14 in the UPC library. Please join us for an overview of Christian Education for the semester.

**Children's Sunday School** - Thanks be to God that we have at least 2 children in our midst. Therefore, Children's Sunday School will be an evolving activity this year at UPC. Paige Miller will be coordinating Children's Sunday School, but she needs help! If you are interested in assisting in any way (teaching, helping another teacher, etc.), please contact Paige as soon as possible. Her email address is [PURPLEPC@AOL.COM](mailto:PURPLEPC@AOL.COM) and phone number is 657-0799. Thank you!

**Alabama Arise** Alabama Arise, a citizens' policy project, is a coalition of religious, community and civic groups that promote state policies to improve the lives of low-income people. UPC's Peace and Justice Committee has a long-standing commitment to this organization, whose annual meeting will take place Saturday, September 13, 9:30 a.m.-3 p.m. in Montgomery. For more information, contact Gillie Presley or Ruthie Sherrill.

**Free Karate**—Beginning on August 27th, there will be karate classes held at UPC. Classes will be taught by third degree black belt and PC(USA) youth elder at Immanuel Presbyterian in Montgomery, Justin McClarran, with 12+ years experience in martial arts. The classes will be held on Wednesday and Thursday nights from 7-9pm and all ages are welcome. No previous martial arts experience is needed. Some of the physical benefits include: improved coordination, flexibility, strength, stamina, and cardiovascular workout. Mental benefits include improved concentration, patience, courage, confidence and self-discipline. In addition to classes, there is much, much more available. Don't have two hours on those nights to come? Feel free to call 334-224-3859 or email [mccla005@bama.ua.edu](mailto:mccla005@bama.ua.edu) for private lessons.

**On Communion** All who confess their faith in Jesus Christ are welcomed at the Lord's table. It, like us, belongs to God and not to any particular tradition within the body of Christ. Baptized children of all ages are encouraged to participate fully in our celebration of the Sacrament. The church gathers around the table when the bread and wine (which is actually non-alcoholic grape juice) are served. The tradition at UPC is to serve each other. When serving the bread, it is appropriate to say, "The body of Christ, given for you," or "The body of Christ, bread of heaven." When serving the cup, one may say, "The blood of Christ, shed for you" or "The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation." An appropriate response to being served is, "Thanks be to God," "Amen" or "Alleluia! Amen." The congregation is invited to sing while gathered at the table. The choruses sung are: "Holy is the Lord;" "Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry;" "Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst;" and "Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord."

**Attendance** - August 17—37 + 2 nursery, August 10—38 + 2 nursery

## Sunday Assignments

### August 24

Communion Paige Miller  
Reader Beth Riggs  
Ushers Cathy Andreen and Rob Spencer  
Welcomer Adam Miller  
Greeters Nancy DuPree and Gillie Presley

### August 31

Communion Mary Helen Martin  
Reader Adam Miller  
Ushers Robert and Nancy DuPree  
Welcomer Steve Borrelli  
Greeter Cathy Andreen

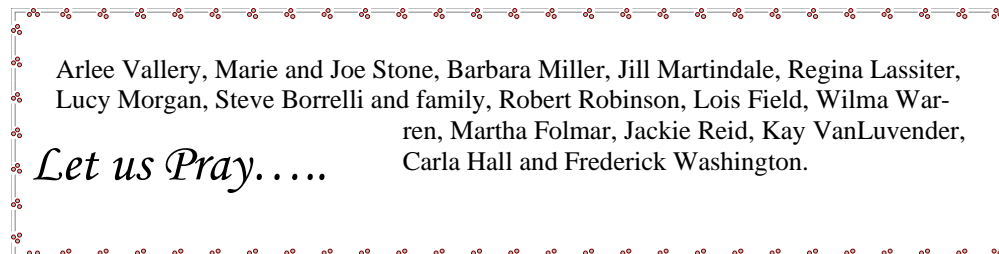
## Lectionary Readings

### August 24

Exod. 1:8-2:10  
Ps. 124  
Rom. 12:1-8  
Matt. 16:13-20

### August 31

Exod. 3:1-15  
Ps. 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c  
Rom. 12:9-21  
Matt. 16:21-28



Happy Birthday...  
James Roberson ( August 13th), Arlee Vallery (August 21st)  
and Paige Miller (August 31st)



### This Week at UPC

#### Sunday

11:00 Worship  
12:00 Congregational Meeting  
12:30 Choir Rehearsal  
12:30 Peace & Justice Comm.

#### Tuesday

11:30 Lectionary Bible Study  
1:30-3:30 Food Pantry  
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

#### Wednesday

Food Pantry Shop Day  
7-9 Karate Class

#### Thursday

7-9 Karate Class

#### Friday

8:00 Narcotics Anonymous

Monday 11:00 Staff Meeting

### Elders

Nancy DuPree  
Linda Grote  
Julia Hartman  
William Henderson  
Adam Miller  
Gillie Presley

Lena Prewitt  
Annabel Stephens  
Garry Warren  
Ann Webb  
John Whitehead

### Deacons

Robert DuPree  
Carla Hall  
Paige Miller

### Mission Statement

*We come together as the body of Christ, an expression of God's grace in this community. We are bound together in God's steadfast love and in our mutual love and support for one another. We honor a special commitment to provide nurture, support and encouragement to students. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we seek to live with compassion, to work for justice, to integrate faith and learning and to celebrate the gift of our life together. Since God's love excludes no one, our mission is to be inclusive. We trust that in God's time and by God's grace, God will destroy all barriers. We resolve to erect no barriers while working to overcome existing ones. Recognizing that we do not possess all the truth all the time, we affirm a variety of expressions of life and faith. This is an open church. You are welcome here.*

#### Ron Gilmer, Pastor

Stated Hours: Monday 1:30-2:30 and Friday 11:00-12:00

Carolyn MacVicar, Secretary  
Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8-2



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Ron Gilmer, Pastor  
William Henderson, Director of Music  
Patrick Rish, Organist

*"University Presbyterian Church is a More Light Congregation,  
an Inclusive Church Committed to Social Justice"*

**August 24, 2008 – 11:00 a.m.**  
21st Sunday in Ordinary Time