



15TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
THE 21ST DAY *of* SEPTEMBER 2025

10:30 COMBINED SERVICE

201 SOUTH MAIN STREET . GREENEVILLE, TN 37743

WWW.ASBURLIFE.ORG . (423) 978-1050

MORNING WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

THE GATHERING

Prelude & Bringing In The Light	"Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"	Martha Wiley
The Greeting	We welcome you, and we pray that this time together will be a blessing in your life. † At the sound of the bells, please prepare your hearts and minds for worship.	

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Lifting Our Voices in Praise*	"This is Amazing Grace"	Chancel Choir and Praise Team
The Apostles Creed*	See Insert	UMH #881
Gloria Patri*	<i>Glory be to the father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen</i>	
Passing Of The Peace*	† Afterward, the people may be seated.	
The Children’s Message		Rebekah Taylor
Prayer of Confession	See Insert	

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS OF THE CONGREGATION

Call to Prayer	"Must Jesus Bear the Cross Alone"	Chancel Choir
Pastoral Prayer		Rev. Dr. Debra Wallace-Pagett
The Lord’s Prayer	See Insert	Rev. Dr. Debra Wallace-Pagett

A Blessing From Pastor Sharon

Beloved in Christ,

Go now in the strength of the One who has given you all you need to live a godly life. May you have the strength and the courage to show up in faith, may God add to your faith goodness, to your goodness knowledge, to your knowledge self-control, to your self-control perseverance, to your perseverance godliness, to your godliness mutual affection, and above all, love!

Attendance for July 13, 2025			
Sunday School	9	Livestream Views	424
10:00am Traditional Service	49	Children’s Church	2
11:00 am Contemporary Service	22	Day Care Chapel	18
Morning Pointe Senior Center	13	Children’s Church/ Youth Night	33

SCAN WITH YOUR PHONES CAMERA FOR MORE INFORMATION			
View Our Prayer List		View Our Coming Events	
Give Online		Join our Livestream	

MORNING WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

The Scripture Lesson*	2nd Peter 1:3-5; 3:18	Marcia Parsons
The Message	"Grow in Grace by Showing Up!"	Rev. Dr. Debra Wallace-Pagett

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Giving Our Tithes & Offerings	† An offering is collected to support the mission of Asbury UMC to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. Please register your attendance in the red folder at the back of the pew before you. Let us know if you are visiting, would like to become a member, or are interested in more information.	
Offertory Prayer		
Anthem	"Come, Now is the Time for Worship"	Chancel Choir and Praise Team
Doxology	See Insert	UMH #95
Hymn of Invitation*	"Amazing Grace" vs. 1,2,3,6	UMH #378

SENDING FORTH

Benediction*	Bishop Rev. Dr. Debra Wallace-Pagett	
Peace*	Minister: The Peace of Christ be always with you. People: An also with you.	
Postlude*	"Wonderful Grace of Jesus"	Martha Wiley

Liturgy For Worship

The Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;*
the third day he rose from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Universal

Gloria Patri*

Glory be to the Father
and to the Son
and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and ever shall be,
world without end.
Amen.

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings
flow.
Praise him all creatures here below,
Praise him above the heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

Continued, Light Through Broken Glass (International Day of Peace, September 21



When working towards peace, we reveal who we truly are, children of God carrying God's light into the world. Just as stained glass only shines when the light passes through it, our lives shine with true beauty when the Spirit flows through our choices, our prayers, and our love for one another.

Our United Methodist Social Principles speak this same truth: "The church deplores war and all other forms of violent conflict and urges the peaceful settlement of all disputes. We yearn for the day when there will be no more war and people will live together in peace and justice" (*The Book of Discipline of The United Methodist Church*, 163.F). *This yearning is not only words on paper. It is meant to live in us. It is meant to guide how we pray, how we make choices, and how we show God's love in the world.*

On this International Day of Peace, we remember that peace begins close to home. It begins in how we treat our neighbors, in how we pray for those we have conflict with, in the ways we choose forgiveness instead of revenge. Every prayer for healing, every act of mercy, every step toward justice becomes part of God's great work. And like pieces of stained glass, when God's light shines through us, we become part of something larger. Together, by God's Spirit, we show the world that peace is not only possible but already breaking in.

Prayer

God of peace,
Shine through our lives as light shines through glass.
Turn our brokenness into beauty.
Make us people of justice, kindness, and humility.
Guide our communities and our leaders
to walk in your way of peace.
Let the light of Christ heal our divisions
so that all may live in safety, hope, and joy.
Amen.

Light Through Broken Glass
(International Day of Peace, September 21)
by Joshua Felton



At the United Nations in New York, there is a stained-glass window created by the artist Marc Chagall. It is called the Peace Window. Chagall designed it in 1964 to honor Dag Hammarskjold, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, remembered for his courage and his vision for a more just world. In 1961, while flying on a peace mission to end conflict in Africa, Hammarskjold's plane crashed, and he was killed. His death became a witness to his lifelong work of seeking peace among nations.

The window shines in deep shades of blue and is filled with angels, people, flowers, and images of both suffering and hope. Every piece of glass is broken and separate. Yet when the light shines through, the pieces become one whole image. The window reminds us that beauty can rise from what is broken.

This picture speaks to us today. Peace grows out of hope, healing, and justice. Like the glass in the window, our world is broken in many places. We are witnessing war in Gaza, Sudan, Myanmar (Burma), and Ukraine. We also observe deep divisions within countries, where neighbors turn against neighbors, where politics and fear pull communities apart, and where trust is broken. Our world carries wounds that feel too deep to heal. Yet when God's light shines through, even the deepest wounds can glow with beauty. What feels divided can be made whole.

Into this wounded world, Jesus speaks a blessing: "Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God (Matthew 5:9)." These words tell us that peace is a way of life we are called to live. To be a peacemaker is to let God's Spirit move through us in acts of mercy, words of kindness, and steps toward justice. Continued on next page...

Prayer of Confession

Liturgist: God has given us everything we need to live a godly life, and yet we continue to live according to the world's standards. We ignore God's divine power and use our finite power to try and make things happen.

Liturgist: We can escape corruption and greed by aligning ourselves with God. God has offered us virtue, knowledge, temperance, patience, godliness, kindness, and charity as part of our faith journey.

Liturgist: The Lord commands us to grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

People: We have failed to follow God's way faithfully. We believe that our way is better than God's way.

People: Yet, we would rather hold on to ways that make us blind to the needs of other people. We have become discontented, confused, or afraid instead of content, certain, and confident.

People: Yet we confess that we have been slow to grow and quick to wander away from Christ.

All: Let us turn again to the One who forgives, restores, and makes all things beautiful. Help us to grow in grace, so that our lives may reflect Your glory through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.



The Rev. Dr. Debra Wallace-Padgett was elected bishop of the United Methodist Church in 2012. She served as episcopal leader of the North Alabama Conference from 2012-2024 and the Holston Conference beginning in 2021. On September 1, 2024, she began her current assignment leading the Holston Conference of the Southeastern Jurisdiction and the West Virginia Conference of the Northeastern Jurisdiction.

Before her election, Bishop Wallace-Padgett pastored congregations in Kentucky, including St. Luke UMC in Lexington, where she guided the building of a \$4.5 million Ministry Life Center and the launch of a multi-cultural worship service. She also served as a district superintendent and in leadership roles at the conference, jurisdictional, and general church levels. In August 2024, she was elected President of the World Methodist Council.

A graduate of Berea College, Scarritt College, Lexington Theological Seminary, and Asbury Theological Seminary, Bishop Wallace-Padgett is married to the Rev. Lee Padgett. They have two adult children and two granddaughters.

** For the full version of the Bishops Biography please refer to our September newsletter!

Sermon Questions to consider

How am I growing in excellence right here/right now by showing up for God?

How am I growing in excellence right here/right now by showing up for others?

How is the Asbury UMC growing in excellence by showing up for God and others?

TODAY’S WORSHIP TEAM	
Preaching:	Bishop Rev. Dr. Debra Wallace-Pagett
Liturgist:	Marcia Parsons
Children’s Message:	Rebekah Taylor
Organist/Pianist:	Martha Wiley
Music:	The Chancel Choir; Cindy Sams , Director The Praise Team; Abby Martin, Director
Sound/Livestream:	Christian Martin
ANNOUNCEMENTS	
Let us know you’re here: Please take a moment to let us know you’re here by checking in using the church center app, completing an online connection card at www.asburylife.org , or by signing the red registration pad in your pew.	
See what’s coming up at Asbury: Visit our online church calendar at https://asburylife.org/coming-up-at-asbury .	
AUMC 150 Anniversary: Welcome Bishop Rev. Debra Wallace-Padgett, Guest speaker	
We are thankful for the altar flowers. These have been donated to the glory of God and with gratitude for the immeasurable gift and blessings of life.	
PRAYER REQUESTS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pray for the family of Brian Manuel, who passed away. He is the son of our online regular listener, Jereline Manuel.• Pray for Brian, who has been experiencing persistent headaches, as well as pain in his neck and jaw for the past two months. Pray that his doctors are able to find the cause and provide effective treatment, and that he finds relief soon.• As you enter or exit the sanctuary, you’ll find a display of original photographs from the people of Ukraine. I invite you to pause and spend a moment with these images—holding in prayer the many lives that have been uprooted and the hearts carrying the weight of so much loss.• Prayers for Katherine Bicksord and Family, Katherine is a resident at Laughlin Life Care Center, Hospice has been called in.	