

# UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF AUBURN

May 2nd, 2021, Eastertide, 8:30 (zoom) & 10 am (88.3 FM, live-stream)

All members of this parish form the ministry team in witness of Christ.

## WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

**GATHERING PRAISE:** Judith Kuhn, Organist

**WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Rev. Steve Bascom, Pastor

*The United Methodist Church of Auburn is an intergenerational Christian Community whose mission is to embody Christ's love through a commitment to serve God by fulfilling the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of our congregation and of our local and global communities.*

**PRELUDE:** "Come, Let Us Eat" Handbell Choir

William Buzza, Directing

**GATHERING PRAYER:**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

**Leader:** Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God,

**People:** let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**L:** Nothing, nothing--absolutely nothing can separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**P:** Let the walls which divide us and hide us come down!

**All:** Let the love which unites us be raised as our banner!

**HYMN:** "Love, Divine, All Loves Excelling" UMH #384

*Caroline Coffin, Soloist*

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;  
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown!  
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art,  
visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!

Let us all in thee inherit; let us find that second rest.  
Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return and never, nevermore thy temples leave.

Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be.

Let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;  
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

*(Words: Charles Wesley, 1747; Music: John Zundel, 1870, UMH, Public Domain)*

## WE ENCOUNTER GOD'S WORD

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT:**

**SCRIPTURE:** John 15:1-8 Carol Christopoulos, Liturgist  
Caroline Coffin,

Liturgist

**MESSAGE:** "Let the Walls Come Down"

Text: Acts 8:26-40

## WE RESPOND IN FAITH

**HYMN:** "All Who Hunger" TFWS #2126

All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread.

Come from wilderness and wandering. Here, in truth, we will be fed.

You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food.

Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, never strangers; seeker, be a welcome guest.

Come from restlessness and roaming. Here, in joy, we keep the feast.

We that once were lost and scattered in communion's love have stood.

Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread.

Come from loneliness and longing. Here, in peace, we have been led.

Blest are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude.

Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.

*(Words: Sylvia G. Dunstan; Music: William Moore, c1991 GIA Publication, Inc., UMH, CCLI #2986523)*

**HOLY COMMUNION:**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We cannot come before God unless we are first honest with ourselves about who we are, about the mistakes we make, and about how well or how poorly we care for others. In this spirit, let us offer our prayers to God....

*(c1999 R. Mk. Liebenow, W&S)*

Renewing God, trusting in your infinite grace, we confess that we need your healing and forgiveness. For all that is broken in our minds and bodies, we ask your healing. For all that is amiss in our choices and relationships, we ask your forgiveness. For all that works against life and blessing in our hearts, and in the world, we open ourselves to your transforming grace. Heal us, forgive us, and make us new. Amen.

*C2011 Steve Garnass-Holmes, W&S)*

**The Great Thanksgiving**  
**Sharing the Celebration Bread and Cup**

UMH Page 17ff

**OFFERING & OFFERTORY: “The Lord Is My Light”**

Judith Kuhn, Organist (10 a.m. only)

*We invite you to invest in God’s mission and ministry as it flows  
through the United Methodist Church of Auburn into human lives!*

**DOXOLOGY: UMH #94**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Praise God, the Source of all our gifts!*

*Praise Jesus Christ, whose power up-lifts!*

*Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*(Words: Thomas Ken, 1674; Music: Geistliche Kirchengesange, 1623, UMH, Public Domain)*

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING:**

All things come from you, O God, and with gratitude we return to you what is yours. You created all that is, and with your love formed us in your image. When our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior. All that we are, and all that we have, is a trust from you. And so, in gratitude for all your gifts, we offer you ourselves, and all that we have, in union with Christ’s offering for us. By your Holy Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

*(Hoyt L. Hickman, USA, 20<sup>th</sup> c., Alt., BOW)*

**CELEBRATIONS AND PRAYER:**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**WE DEPART TO SERVE**

**HYMN: “Christ Is Alive” UMH #318**

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. His cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
His love in death shall never die.

Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,  
He comes to claim the here and now  
and dwell in every place and time.

In every insult, rift, and war, where color, scorn, or wealth divide,  
he suffers still, yet loves the more, and lives, though ever crucified.

Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,  
till earth and all creation ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

*(W: Brian Wren, 1968; M: Psalmody Evangelica, 1789, c1975 Hope Pub. Co., UMH, CCLI #2986523)*

**BENEDICTION:**

**POSTLUDE: “Come, Ye Faithful” Judith Kuhn, Organist**

**Online Technician: Len Lednum**

**UMC of Auburn**

Website: [www.auburnmethodist.org](http://www.auburnmethodist.org)

Email: [office@auburnmethodist.org](mailto:office@auburnmethodist.org)

Telephone: (207) 782-3972

Office Hours: M-F, 9 am to 12 n

Administrative Assistant: Carla Daigle

Pastor: Rev. Steve Bascom, Sr.

Telephone: c(339) 440-3746; h(207) 753-1275

Email: [sebisk@outlook.com](mailto:sebisk@outlook.com)

# THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF AUBURN

439 Park Avenue, Auburn, ME 04210, 207-782-3972

*\*A Reconciling Congregation*



**Rev. Stephen Bascom, Sr., Pastor**

**Worship Schedule: Sunday - 8:30 am (Zoom)**

**10 am Drive-in (88.3 FM) & Online**

**May 2, 2021**