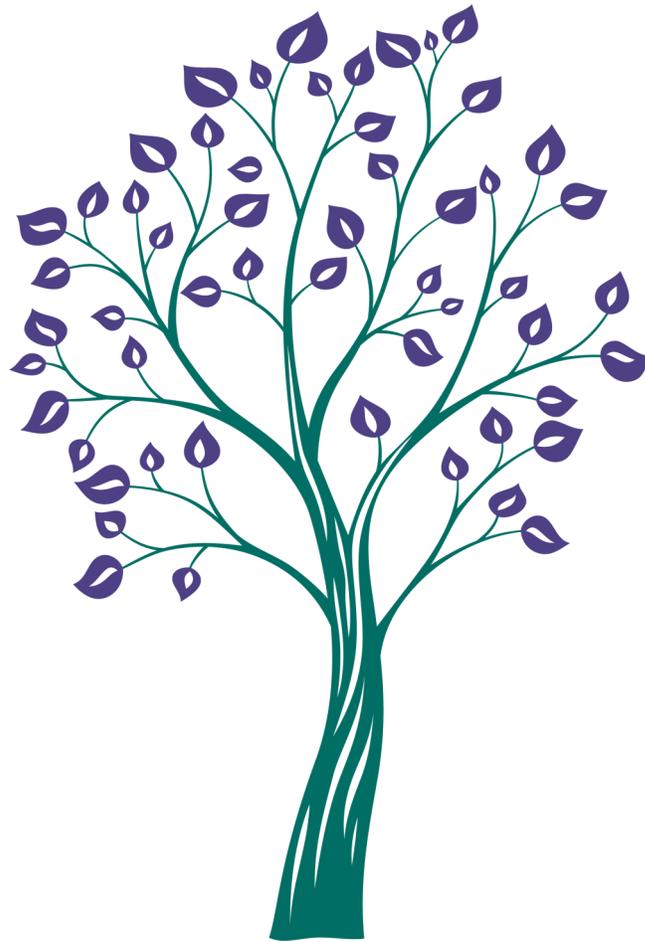


**LAUREL HEIGHTS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

October 25, 2020

**Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost
Consecration Sunday**



Giving Hope

Welcome to Sunday Worship

As we gather, we celebrate the unique gifts God has given to all, believing that our many backgrounds and identities are essential to the shared offering we bring to God through worship, study, friendship, and serving.



**LAUREL HEIGHTS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS.

Bold print invites those who are participating in worship to read or hum.

Gather to Worship

WELCOME

PRELUDE

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus

D. Hustadl

CALL TO WORSHIP

after Psalm 118:24

This the day the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

This is the hour to which God has called us.

Let us give ourselves to the joyful work of praise.

This is the place where the Spirit is stirring.

Let us open our lives to the gift of life-giving grace.

OPENING HYMN

Immortal, Invisible

(Sung from the Chancel – Congregation may hum)

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

(Men speak)

Unresting, unceasing,

(Women speak)

and silent as light,

(Men speak)

nor wanting, nor wasting,

(Women speak)

thou rulest in might;

(All speak)

**thy justice like mountains high soaring above
thy clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.**

(Sung from the Chancel – Congregation may hum)

*Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light;
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee.*

OPENING PRAYER

Gracious and eternal God, you have created us that we might live together within your creation in hopeful, just, and merciful ways. Let this consecrated hour be a time of opening ourselves once more to your grace, and to committing ourselves--all that we have and all that we are--to your never-failing love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

Proclamation of the Word

CHILDREN'S TIME

Laura Healy

Cantor sings: *God, you are my refuge and my strength, a present help in trouble.*

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn us back to the dust, and say, "Turn back, O mortals ones!"

For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.

You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass which is renewed in the morning;

in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

Cantor sings refrain.

Return, O LORD! How long? Have pity on your servants!

Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.

Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us, and as many years as we have seen evil.

Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands; **yes, establish the work of our hands.**

Cantor sings refrain.

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 29, selected verses

SERMON

Giving Hope: Given Hope

Rev. Paul Escamilla

Response to the Word

RESPONSE

(Congregation speaks the bold type)

As with those who watch for morning, waiting for the light of dawn,

so we long to raise our voices in the resurrection song:

"We are lost, but God has found us; we had died but live anew.

There is hope for new creation, shared in all we say and do."

(Cantor sings)

As a green bud in the springtime is a sign of life renewed,

so may we be signs of oneness 'mid earth's peoples, many hued.

As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone,

may our lives reflect the radiance of God's new and glorious dawn.

(Congregation hums a stanza of the hymn)

WORD OF WITNESS

Byrd Bonner

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

889

There is one God and there is one mediator, Christ Jesus, who came as a ransom for all, to whom we testify.

This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance: That Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners, and was manifested in the flesh, vindicated in the Spirit, seen by angels, proclaimed among the nations, believed in throughout the world, taken up in glory. Great indeed is the mystery of the gospel. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF COMMITMENT CARDS

MUSICAL OFFERING

Lord of All Good

*Lord of all good, we bring our gifts to you;
use them your holy purpose to fulfil;
tokens of love and pledges they shall be
that our whole life is offered to your will.*

*We give our minds to understand your ways;
Hands, voices, eyes to serve your great design;
hearts with the flame of your own love ablaze,
thus for your glory all our powers combine.*

*Father, whose bounty all creation shows,
Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live,
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows,
to you with grateful hearts ourselves we give.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, as we gather in your presence to worship, we confess that too often we have been so occupied with worry that we reserve no room for wonder; we have allowed discouragement to diminish our sense of hopefulness. Forgive us for turning wide horizons into narrow spaces, and your holy invitation into one more obligation. Free us to notice your grandeur and to accept your goodness in every moment, and in this one. Through Christ we pray. Amen

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news!
Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone;
a new life has begun. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.
In the name of Jesus Christ, *you* are forgiven. Thanks be to God. 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.**

Sending Forth

INVITATION

CLOSING HYMN *Take My Life, and Let It Be*

(Sung from the Chancel – congregation may hum)
*Take my life, and let it be consecrated, Lord, to thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands, and let them move at the impulse of thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for thee.*

(Cantor sings)
Take my voice and let me sing...
(All speak)
always, only, for my King.
(Cantor sings)
Take my lips, and let them be...
(All speak)
filled with messages from thee.
Take my silver and my gold, not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use every power as thou shalt choose.

(Sung from the Chancel – congregation may hum)
*Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.
Take my love, my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Built on a Rock

B. Culli

LITURGIST

Byrd Bonner



ALTAR FLOWERS

Given in memory
of my husband, Roy R. Campbell III
Love, Debbie

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Healing: Deanna Adams (*Shirley Carter*), Nathan Gaddis (*Bert Clayton*)
Concha Garces (*Teresa Garces*), Larry Howard, Annalynn Jackson,
Lucien Manchester, May O'Neal, Doug Semmes,
Bill Shepard (*Janice Clayton*), Nora Winkler.

God's Presence: firefighters in the western states and the people affected by fires, hurricanes and flooding, all workers helping with recovery efforts, Parents, Teachers and Students - Elementary, Middle School, High School, College - face to face and remote, those affected by the COVID-19 virus and their families, as well as for the caregivers and researchers working to treat those affected and combat the spread of the disease; homebound members, the incarcerated, and women and men in our military.

All November 1st
Saints
Sunday

I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though they die, yet shall they live; and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die, but have everlasting life.

John 11:25

Sunday, November 1st is All Saints' Day, an occasion for us to remember those in the Laurel Heights family who have died in the previous year.

We will also be invited to remember others who have passed away in the last year. Please join us for this special service.* You can make reservations online at

<https://reopen.church/r/zB6FJ5Ki> If you cannot use the online reservation form email ejackson@mylhumc.org or call 210-733-7156.

** Due to recent increases in Covid-19 cases in our community, we are closely monitoring these statistics as we make determinations about gathering for in-person worship in the coming weeks.*

**CROP
HUNGER WALK**
ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME



Contact Judy Davis
or Katie Myers for
more information.

2020 CROP WALK

We will have a virtual gathering via Zoom at 2:00 p.m. on November 1. Each individual, family or group is encouraged to walk on their own in the neighborhood, yard or park of their choice. You may walk anytime before November 1 or within a few weeks after.

The link for the Laurel Heights UMC Team page for the CROP WALK is:

<https://www.crophungerwalk.org/sanantoniotx/Team/View/140914/Laurel-Heights-UMC>

Donations can be made to the general team on the link. They can also join the team and collect their own donations that go toward the team total. You can be a physical walker or a virtual walker (i.e. someone who is raising funds only). You can also make a check out to the church and in the memo line write CWS/CROP.

COMMUNION SUNDAY
via Zoom
Sunday, November 1
at 5 pm



Each household will be encouraged to bring elements to this gathering—bread, and juice or wine—and to partake of these during the time of table sharing, each in our own location.

Three ways to join the service of Holy Communion:

Option 1: Click on this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/98525289724>

Option 2: Use the Zoom app, click Join Meeting and enter the Meeting ID: 985 2528 9724

Option 3: Call (346)248-7799, and when prompted enter the Meeting ID: 985 2528 9724

Giving to Laurel Heights

Online Gifts: Please visit our website,

www.laurelheights.org/donate

Text to Give:

Please text “LHUMC” to 73256

For illustrated step-by-step online and text giving instructions, click [here](#).



Checks: Please mail to
LHUMC, Attn: Bookkeeper
227 W. Woodlawn
San Antonio, Texas 78212

Questions can be directed to our
bookkeeper, Amy Caldwell,
by email: acaldwell@mylhmc.org

Mission of the Month—Magdalena House

Magdalena House is a transitional neighborhood of homes in San Antonio that serves mothers and children who have fled dangerous and abusive lives by providing transformation through education, nurturing community, and programming. We rescue the least and the lost, sharing hope for a new beginning.

Magdalena House’s Wish List: The best and easiest in-kind donations are gift cards in low denominations (\$10) for Walmart and HEB. These gift cards allow us to meet specific resident needs and obtain objects as we have need and space. These can be mailed directly to Magdalena House at P.O. Box 692041, San Antonio, TX 78269.





Wednesday Evening Prayer Gathering

October 28
6:30-7 p.m.

A time to gather by
Zoom to pray for
one another and the
world.

There are three ways to join the prayer meeting:

Option 1: Follow this link: <https://zoom.us/j/130214408>

Option 2: Use the Zoom app, click Join Meeting and enter the Meeting ID: 130 214 408

Option 3: Call (346) 248-7799, and when prompted enter the Meeting ID: 130 214 408

Thursday, October 29, 11 a.m. Good News!! A Super Adult OctoberFest.



Gather on the Woodlawn Parking Lot – wear your mask – after all it is nearly Halloween – practice Social Distancing – bring a chair or we will provide one and enjoy: German Songs, Accordion Renditions, the Chicken Dance and Lunch. Wear your Alpine hat, dirndl, etc.

On the menu is: Potato Salad
Hot Dog OR Sausage on a Tortilla (Taco Polako)
Sauerkraut OR Coleslaw
Apple Strudel
Cost: \$5.00
You can bring your own lunch if you prefer.



Reservations are a must. Space is limited. Call 210-872-8031

PRAY WITH LAUREL HEIGHTS

Share a prayer requests by emailing
prayers@mylhmc.org,
or calling the church office
(210) 733-7156.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT LAUREL HEIGHTS



San Antonio College
Office of Student Life
&
The Wesley Foundation of San Antonio
NEW SOCKS & UNDERWEAR drive
Benefitting
The Innerscity Development Center
Drop off Site:
The Wesley Foundation of San Antonio
(Methodist Student Center)
102 Belknap Pl.
San Antonio, TX 78212
Open: Mon, Wed & Thur 10am – 5pm
Deadline October 31, 2020



FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT
JOSEPH LIEDECKE AT JLIEDECKE@ALAMO.EDU