



# FACES OF OUR FAITH

BOLD & UNTOLD STORIES

LESSER-KNOWN STORIES THAT  
HAVE SHAPED OUR FAITH



**AVONDALE**  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# Ninth Sunday after Pentecost | July 21, 2024

*We welcome children of all ages in worship; however, a nursery is available for infants and toddlers under four years old who may need it. Please see an usher for assistance.*

*We have hearing assistive technology that connects via bluetooth available for those who need it. Please check with an usher for an instruction card to help you connect.*

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## Prelude

*Blessed Assurance*

Phoebe P. Knapp | arr. Jan Sanborn

## Chiming of the Hour

## Choral Call to Worship

*Make Me a Servant*

Kelly Willard

## Opening Prayer

Jeanne Baker

## \* Hymn of Praise No. 103

*Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

## \* Affirmation of Faith | 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<sup>†</sup> church,**

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## \* Gloria Patri

GREATOREX

**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, Amen.**

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\* Please stand as you are able in body and in spirit.

<sup>†</sup> universal

## \* Ritual of Friendship

### Children's Moment

Michael Wilson

*Following the Children's Moment, children (kindergarten through second grade) will be escorted to Children's Church. Parents must pick up their child(ren) from the first floor classroom after the worship service.*

### Act of Centering No. 534

*Be Still, My Soul* (v. 1)

**Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
leave to your God to order and provide; in every change God faithful will remain.  
Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend  
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

### Prayer for Illumination

#### Scripture

Esther 4:9-17

#### Choral Anthem

*God of the Ages*

Daniel C. Roberts | George W. Warren

#### Sermon

For Such a Time

Rev. Malinda Weaver

### Pastoral Prayer with 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.**

### Offering

*Amazing Grace*

Virginia Harmony (1831) | arr.Carolyn M. Taylor



*Giving our time, talents, and money is our natural response to an understanding of the generosity of God. Click the QR code to go online to let us know you're here, enter a prayer request, and/or make a contribution.*

*Or go to [avonumc.net/hereiam](http://avonumc.net/hereiam).*

**\* Doxology**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**\* Hymn of Praise No. 529**

*How Firm a Foundation* (v. 1, 2, 5)

**\* Benediction**

**\* Choral Benediction**

*Final Amen*

arr. Daniel deShazo

**\* Postlude**

*A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

Martin Luther | arr. Carolyne M Taylor

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**Men's Gathering**

All men are invited to stay for lunch after worship TODAY.

**Methodism 101 – THIS Wednesday**

Got questions about Methodism? Our history? Our doctrine? Our theology? Join us Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm in July for Methodism 101 with Pastor Malinda and Disney Weaver. Bonus ... we have yummy desserts each week.

**Blessing of the Book Bags**

All teachers, students, administrators, and school staff are invited to bring their backpacks, briefcases, tote bags, etc. to worship on Sunday, August 4, so we can offer a special blessing for each person and begin the new school year covered in prayer. We'll also be doing a special sending forth for Ethan Jowers as he prepares to head to college ... and we'll be presenting Bibles to our children entering 3<sup>rd</sup> grade.

**BAO Bingo**

Join us Monday, August 5, at 6pm as we support our friends from Birmingham AIDS Outreach (BAO) in their monthly Bingo fundraiser. We've reserved a couple of tables that night to play Bingo, and we'll be providing some door prizes. The cost for a seat is \$25 at the door. Email Henry Levens (levenshenry@gmail.com) to reserve a seat at one of our tables.