



AVONDALÉ

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

where all are welcome ... to *connect* with God and others.
... to *grow* together in faith and love.
... to *serve* the world for Jesus Christ.

Restrooms

If you need a restroom, exit the sanctuary through the door at the front to the right of the pulpit. The women's restroom is just off the foyer. The men's restroom is down the hallway from the foyer on the right.

Nursery

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.

Hearing Support

We have hearing assistive technology that connects via bluetooth available. Check with an usher for an instruction card to help you connect.

Visual Support – Large Print Hymnals & Bulletins

Large print hymnals and bulletins are available. The hymnals are located on the side table to the right of the pulpit at the front of the sanctuary. Ushers can help you locate both the hymnals and the bulletins as needed.

Connect + Grow + Serve



Use this QR code (or www.AvonUMC.net/HereIAm) to go online to let us know you're here, enter a prayer request, and/or make a contribution. You can also access volunteer opportunities, wish lists to support our local outreach, and/or sign up to provide flowers in honor/memory of someone one Sunday on the altar in worship.

Worship Series

Our Worship Series for Lent & Easter, which includes prayers and artwork, is inspired by A Sanctified Art LLC (sanctifiedart.org).



Easter Sunday | April 5, 2026

Prelude

Fanfare et Alleluia

Théodore Dubois

Chiming of the Hour

Choral Call to Worship

Antiphonal Acclamation for Easter

Michael Bedford

Welcome & Opening Prayer

Rev. Malinda Weaver

*** Hymn of Praise No. 302**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today (v. 1-4)

*** Easter Affirmation of Faith**

Ginger Branson

I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth;

Hosanna! Hosanna!

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord:

Hosanna! Hosanna!

He was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary.

Hosanna! Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

* Please rise as you are able in body and in spirit.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried.

The third day he rose from the dead.

He is risen! Glory to God in the highest!

He ascended into heaven,

and he now sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

He is risen! Glory to God in the highest!

From that place he shall come to judge the living and the dead.

Come, Lord Jesus, come. Hosanna!

I believe in the Holy Spirit.

I believe!

I believe in the church universal.

I believe!

I believe in the communion of saints.

I believe!

I believe in the forgiveness of sins.

I believe!

I believe in the resurrection of the body.

I believe!

I believe in the life everlasting.

I believe He is risen! Hosanna! 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.

*** Ritual of Friendship**

Children's Moment

Neal Flum

Following the Children's Moment, children are invited to return to their seat and remain in worship.

Act of Centering No. 177

He Is Lord

He is Lord, he is Lord! He is risen from the dead and he is Lord!

Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Matthew 28:1-10

This is the word of God, for us, the people of God ... **thanks be to God!**

Choral Anthem

King of Kings

Caleb Simper

Sermon

The good news is ... alive in the world

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

In Paradisum

Théodore Dubois

*** 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. 307**

Christ Is Risen

*** Benediction**

*** Choral Benediction**

Alleluia! Christ is Risen

Michael Bedford

*** Postlude**

Pièce Triomphale

Théodore Dubois



Théodore Dubois (1837-1924) was a major figure in the musical life of Paris during the late 19th century. Highly regarded as a teacher and church musician, he served as titular organist at the Church of the Madeleine where he presided over one of the world's finest pipe organs. His virtuosity as an organist was unsurpassed, and the large number of works he wrote for the instrument remain among his most respected compositions. *Fanfare et Alleluia* is particularly appropriate for Resurrection Sunday. After a majestic opening statement, Dubois quotes the ancient Easter hymn *O filii et filiae*, wherein a florid "alleluia" follows each verse. (O sons and daughters let us sing; death today hath lost its sting. Alleluia!). *Pièce Triomphale*, today's Postlude, is a characteristic example of the grandiose musical epilogues Dubois performed each week at the conclusion of services at La Madeleine. In contrast to these two majestic works is the ethereal Offertory, *In Paradisum*, inspired by Christ's words to the thief on the cross: "Today, thou shalt be with me in paradise."

Written in 2011, Michael Bedford's Antiphonal Acclamation for Easter is a straightforward declaration of the risen Christ that effectively utilizes a call and response technique. Our sanctuary, with its side galleries, is the perfect venue in which to sing this piece. The Anthem, *King of Kings*, by Caleb Simper (1856-1942) is a classic of the sacred choral repertoire. Simper was an English composer who gained fame for his prolific output of choral anthems and organ works which sold in the millions, making him a wealthy man. His uncomplicated style was written with amateur choirs in mind and, like any good English musician of the period, he was influenced by Handel, as can be readily heard in the energetic "Hallelujah" section that closes this rousing piece.

We are thrilled to welcome guest musicians Ryan Murrell and Luke Wolfe to Avondale this morning. Mr. Murrell is one of the band directors at Homewood High School and Luke is a talented member of the Homewood Patriot Band.



Easter

FLORAL TRIBUTES

The floral cross in the choir loft is given in honor of Jimmy Christopher and in memory of Joann Christopher by Diane Robinson.

The garlands on the Christ candle and altar candles are given in honor of the Schielke and Shipley families by Susan Harvill and Margaret Kneisley.

The palms are given in memory of Randy Thomas, Greg Levens, and Jennifer Miles by Henry Levens.

The palm badge on the outside cross is given to the glory of God on Palm Sunday by Pam Carter and Margaret Ann Mayfield.

The floral centerpiece in the foyer is given to the glory of God by Martha Dameron.

The floral badge on the outside cross is given on Easter Sunday in memory of Braxton & Sara Lee and Helen Loggins by Genie, Tim, and Katie Loggins.

The Easter lilies are given to the glory of God
in honor of...

- ~ Larry Contri by Dian, Paula, and Elizabeth Contri
- ~ Kay Eastin by Neal and Jeanne Flum
- ~ Stella "MeMom" Hannum by Neal and Jeanne Flum
- ~ Teresa Evans by Susan Harvill
- ~ Michael Vaughn by Margaret Kneisley
- ~ Susan Hunt Sims by Margaret Kneisley
- ~ the glory of God by Nancy Morrison



and in memory of...

- ~ Joe and Tiny Contri & Charles Watkins by Larry Contri
- ~ Young and Johnnie Mae Harvill by Susan Harvill
- ~ Hoyt and Mary Jane Carter by Pam Carter
- ~ Emory Dameron by Martha Dameron
- ~ David H. Rankin, Jr. by Donna Rankin
- ~ Joseph and Juanita Walker by Barb Walker
- ~ Daniel Hugh Hyche by Joan Geiry
- ~ Jack and Shirley Brantley by Hilda and Eddy Jowers
- ~ Talmadge L. Oldham by Hilda and Eddy Jowers
- ~ J.F. and Ethel Jowers by Hilda and Eddy Jowers
- ~ Herman and Margaret Whitfield by Hilda and Eddy Jowers
- ~ Kyle and Hazel Thomas & Craig Logan by Steve Thomas
- ~ Cal Darnell by Steve Thomas
- ~ Tom and Mary Clyde Mayfield by Margaret Ann Mayfield





all are welcome to...

connect with God and others.
grow together in faith and love.
serve the world for Jesus Christ.

BAO BINGO

Monday, April 6 | 7:00pm

Join us as we support our friends from Birmingham AIDS Outreach (BAO) in their monthly Bingo fundraiser. We've reserved a table to play, 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 our table. BAO is located at 205 32nd Street South.

MONTHLY BOOK CLUB

Tuesday, April 14 | 6:30pm

Join us each month on the second Tuesday at 6:30pm at the church to dive into thought-provoking reads that center around faith, spirituality, religion, and more. For April we're reading *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. Come with an open mind, a curious spirit, and a friend or two.

WOMEN'S COFFEE

Wednesday, April 15 | 9:30am

Ladies—come as you are, bring a friend, and let's enjoy some great company together! Our coffee gatherings happen each month on the third Wednesday at General (3813 Clairmont Avenue, Birmingham 35222).

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 19 @ 8:30am

All men are invited to the quarterly men's breakfast to enjoy fellowship and a devotional with spiritual conversation. Bring your friends. For more information, contact David Majors (demaj@bellsouth.net).

MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY

Sunday, April 26

Have you been thinking about becoming a member but have felt hesitant about coming forward on your own? Membership Sunday is for you. On this Sunday, we'll invite all who are ready to take that next step to come forward together. Whether you've been here for years or just a few months, this is a chance to say, "I'm in!" alongside others doing the same. Email Pastor Malinda (malinda@avonumc.net) to find out more and let her know if this is the Sunday for you.

HAND TO HEART

Wednesdays, April 8 & 22 | 10:00am-12:00pm

Through stitches and prayer, Hand to Heart shares comfort with those in need. This prayer shawl ministry meets on the second and fourth Wednesdays of each month in the archive room (first floor) and welcomes both experienced needleworkers and those who want to learn. If you know someone who would be blessed by a prayer shawl, contact Barb Walker (205.672.9687).

MINISTRY NEEDS FOR OUR UNHOUSED NEIGHBORS

Our Unhoused Neighbors often need items to take with them (*body wipes, toothbrushes/paste, underwear, etc.*). Drop off donations weekdays from 8–11am at Avondale Samaritan Place, bring them to worship on Sundays, or send them directly to us through our Amazon wishlist—just scan the QR code in your bulletin.



AVOND**DALE**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

500 40TH STREET, SOUTH • BIRMINGHAM, AL 35222-3310