

WELCOME

We extend a cordial welcome to each person worshiping with us today. If you need any assistance, please call on our ushers. They would be glad to help you. We hope you will join us in the Social Hall after the service for our Coffee Hour. If you would like to know more about Asbury, please drop by our "Connection Corner" during Coffee Hour. We hope you have a meaningful worship experience and will leave Asbury renewed, fulfilled, and challenged!



Mission Statement

Asbury Memorial UMC is a place where all people, individually and collectively, develop their spirituality, use their talents, and grow in faith as we become a living example of people who love, serve, and celebrate God, each other, and our community.

Our Tithes and Offerings

Weekly Budget Need - \$11,217.14

Given Last Sunday - \$7,247.00

Year-to-Date Budget Need - \$448,685.60

Year-to-date Received - \$443,327.15

Rev. Billy Hester, Senior Minister
Randy Canady, Church Administrator
Claudette DeLong, Office Manager
Candace Jenkins, Connectional Ministries
Christina Kincade, Asst. Youth Director

Ray Ellis, Minister of Music
Laura Angell, Youth Director
Ruthie Deffley, Family Ministries
Ashley Stroud, Children Ministries
Kay Deffley, Organist/Pianist

Asbury Memorial United Methodist Church
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E-Mail: church@asburymemorial.org

Asbury Memorial
United Methodist Church
October 15, 2017
11:15 A.M.

Wicked



God On Broadway

19th Sunday after Pentecost

WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE *Somewhere Over the Rainbow* Musicians

INTROIT *One Short Day* Asbury Choir

ANNOUNCEMENTS Glinda & Elphaba

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come to a special place – a place where people of all faiths, colors, cultures, genders, and orientations are welcomed and respected.

All: We come to the City of God.

One: We come seeking renewal;
we come seeking purpose;
we come seeking passion.

All: We'll find it in the City of God.

One: So let us bring our stories,
let us sing our songs,
and let us share in the Spirit.

All: It's good to be in the City of God.

*HYMN *Marching to Zion* No. 733

READING *Lord of the Dance* Alex Swanger
by Ann Weems

DANCE *Defying Gravity*
The Gretchen Greene Dancers

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Pat Youngquist

Silence & Reflection

Prayer

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 for ever.

Choral Amen

SCRIPTURE John 14:1-14 Rev. Youngquist

*HYMN *Help Us Accept Each Other* No. 560

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SERMON **Elphaba Christ** Rev. Billy Hester

TITHES & OFFERINGS

We recognize and bless the gifts brought to the table and those given to support the mission of the church through automatic payment.

OFFERTORY *For Good* Glinda & Elphaba
Cheri Hester & Jamie Kelso

The lyrics to the song, *For Good*, are on the insert.

*DOXOLOGY No. 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Rev. Youngquist

REPRISE *Defying Gravity* Asbury Choir
Soloist, Rachel Veazey

The lyrics for the song, *Defying Gravity*, are on the insert.

PRAYER The Prayer of St. Francis No. 481

*HYMN *Lord of the Dance* No. 261

*BENEDICTION Rev. Hester

*CHORAL RESPONSE *Here I Am, Lord* Congregation

The congregation is invited to "sign" and to "sing" the following:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

*POSTLUDE Asbury Musicians

* Please stand as you are able.

**Children are invited to attend Children's Church (K-6th grades)

For Good

I've heard it said that people come into our lives for a reason
bringing something we must learn.

And we are lead to those who help us most to grow,
if we let them, and we help them in return.

Well I don't know if I believe that's true,
but I know I'm who I am today because I knew you.

Like a comet pulled from orbit as it passes a sun
Like a stream that meets a boulder halfway through the wood
Who can say if I've been changed for the better?
But, because I knew you, I have been changed for good.

It well may be that we will never meet again
in this lifetime, so let me say before we part,
so much of me is made from what I learned from you.
You'll be with me like a handprint on my heart.
Now whatever way our stories end
I know you have rewritten mine by being my friend.

Like a ship blown from its mooring by a wind off the sea
like a seed dropped by a sky bird in a distant wood
Who can say if I've been changed for the better?
But because I knew you - because I knew you -
I have been changed for good.

And just to clear the air I ask forgiveness
for the things I've done you blame me for.
But then I guess we know there's blame to share,
And none of it seems to matter any more.

Like a comet pulled from orbit (like a ship blown from its mooring)
As it passes a sun (By a wind off the sea)
Like a stream that meets a boulder (Like a seed dropped by a bird)
Halfway through the wood (in a distant wood).
Who can say if I've been changed for the better?
I do believe I have been changed for the better.
And because I knew you, because I knew you
because I knew you, I have been changed for good.

Defying Gravity

Something has changed within' me...something is not the same.
I'm through with playing by the rules of someone else's game.
Too late for second-guessing, too late to go back to sleep.
It's time to trust my instincts, close my eyes and leap.
It's time to try defying gravity.
I think I'll try defying gravity,
and you can't pull me down.

I'm through accepting limits 'cause someone says they're so.
Some things I cannot change but 'til I try, I'll never know.
Too long I've been afraid of losing love, I guess, I've lost.
Well, if that's love, it comes at much too high a cost.
I'd sooner try defying gravity.
Kiss me goodbye; I'm defying gravity,
and you can't pull me down.

Unlimited...my future is unlimited.
And I've just had a vision almost like a prophecy.
I know it sounds truly crazy, and true, the vision's hazy.
But I swear someday I'll be up in the sky, defying gravity.
Flying so high, defying gravity.
They'll never pull me down.

So if you care to find me, look to the western sky.
As someone told me lately:
Everyone deserves the chance to fly!

And if I'm flying solo, at least, I'm flying free.
To those who'd ground me, take a message back from me.
Tell them how I am defying gravity.
I'm flying high, defying gravity.
And soon I'll match them in renown.
And nobody in all of Oz,
no Wizard that there is or was
is ever gonna bring me down. Ah!