7th SUNDAY OF EASTER  †  MAY 16, 2021

Ascension Sunday

You are witnesses of these things.

John 24:48

CELEBRATION OF THE CHRISTIAN HOME  MARRIAGE & FAMILY SUNDAY

The 11:00 a.m. Worship Celebration is broadcast LIVE on KJLH Radio Free 102.3 FM and worldwide on www.kjlhradio.com

TODAY’S RADIO BROADCAST MINISTRY IS SPONSORED BY

MRS. JOHNETTA JONES
In Memory of
DONALD JONES
Our beloved husband, father, grandfather, friend!

So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.
1 Corinthians 13:13

1945-2021
CELEBRATING 76 YEARS OF MISSION & MINISTRY

We GATHER for dynamic worship, GROW through inspired learning, GO into joyful service, and LIVE the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Inviting people into discipleship with Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.”
WORSHIP CELEBRATION

CENTERING MOMENT  (A time of meditation upon entering Sanctuary)
Holy Lord, the gift of your hope and the power of your Spirit are given to all who believe, even to us who worship here today. Help us grasp the enormity of your gifts, that we may receive these gifts with open hearts and celebrate them joyfully as we serve you in every aspect of our lives. Amen.

PRELUDE

“He Is Exalted”  Robert Johnson, Jr.
Twila Paris

GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP
Leader:  Today is Ascension Sunday when we celebrate Christ’s return to God.
People:  We look up in wonder as he is lifted from us into heaven!
Leader:  But this is not a time to gaze upward. There is work to be done.
People:  Jesus has entrusted the ministry of God’s love to us.
Leader:  The voice of God gathers us this day;
People:  God’s warmth brings us together as family, as community, as one people.
Leader:  We come together to praise God through whom all families on earth receive their life.
People:  We come to celebrate and support families with our commitment to practice peace in our homes and in our communities.
Leader:  Let’s make our hearts ready for the task ahead with prayer and praise!
ALL:  Come, let us worship our Timeless, Awesome and Matchless God. Amen!

CELEBRATION OF PRAISE & WORSHIP

“I Command My Soul”  Bishop Neil C. Ellis

I command my soul to praise the Lord. (4x)  I command my heart to love the Lord. (4x)  I command my hands to lift Him high. (4x)  I command my feet to leap for joy. (4x)
Soul, praise the Lord. (4x)  Heart, love the Lord. (4x)  Hands, lift him up. (4x)  Feet, leap for joy. (4x)

INVOCATION (in unison)
Lord, we gather today under the banner of one testimony. We believe in your Son, Jesus Christ. He is the one you sent through many generations to bring us back into communion with you. It is because of him that we are able to cry out “Abba, Father!” We have access to you and that access is life giving. We have eternal life through Jesus Christ all because we believe. So, Lord, receive our worship; receive our praise. Find pleasure in our offerings, for we will bless you always. In Jesus’ name, we pray . . . AMEN.

MINISTRY IN LITURGICAL DANCE

“Praise to God Each Day”  In HIS Steps
Arranged by David Sears
Rachel and Naomi Grant, duet
CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE
Liturgist: The Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God!

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

“Amazing”
Hezekiah Walker

Sandra Gray, soloist

SERMON

“YOU ARE WITNESSES!”
Rev. Dr. Ken J. Walden

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP, MEMBERSHIP AND COMPANIONSHIP (ALTAR CALL)
God’s word has been proclaimed. God invites us to begin a new season of life; to know and begin a relationship with Him through His son, Jesus Christ, so that we might walk in the newness of life. That new relationship begins when you pause right now and tell Christ, “I give myself to you.” If you have already surrendered your life to Christ, you are invited to live your faith through a relationship with Christ’s church. If you are not actively in fellowship with a congregation, we invite you to come forth and join this fellowship called Holman. Give us your hand but God your heart so He might give you a new start. We will embrace you with the love of Christ and share in your spiritual journey. If you have strayed away from a past commitment to Christ, are struggling with a life situation that causes you great concern, or you just want to give God some thanks and praise, we invite you to contact the church office (323.703.5868). We can support you in a time of prayer, accompany you as you tell God of your desire to be in relationship, assist you in the renewal of your vows for Christian discipleship. We are here to meet you in the journey. May this be a time for reconciliation and renewal in your life.

OFFERTORY PRAYER IN THANKSGIVING FOR OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

CELEBRATION OF THE CHRISTIAN HOME AND MARRIAGE & FAMILY (see p.5)

INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN MINISTRY (ANNOUNCEMENTS)

BENEDICTION

As we depart worship, wherever you go, toll YOUR bell!!

POSTLUDE

“My Soul Is A Witness”
African American Negro Spiritual

Robert Johnson, Jr.

PARTICIPATING IN OUR SERVICES TODAY: Rev. Dr. Ken J. Walden; Liturgist: Theodore King; Music Ministry directed by Melida Skeete Smith; Robert Johnson, Jr., assistant director and organist; Ricardo L.J. Mowatt, drummer; In HIS Steps Liturgical Dance Ministry coordinated by Candace Hobson; Media Ministry: David R. Sears, Keith McGruder, and Mark Conway; Live Stream: Jules Green.
WORDS OF APPRECIATION

The family of BEVERLY WEST CEPHUS expresses thanks to all for the calls, texts, cards, flowers & other expressions of sympathy for the loss of our mother. She will surely be missed. God Bless! THE CEPHUS / WOOLFOLK FAMILIES

To My Holman Family: I take this time to express my sincere gratitude for your kindness, your prayers, your beautiful cards and calls on behalf of my Mother’s, HELEN B. LUCAS, transition. I am forever grateful.

God bless you all, HELEN HARRIS

NEW PRAYER REQUESTS

Rozena Anderson, Elva Croswell,

The Lord is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song.

Psalm 28 (NIV)

FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR

In Honor of the Heavenly Birthday of a loving father, grandfather, and dedicated member, FLEMMON L. COX

Gone but never forgotten.

Love,

MILLICENT, DJ AND JASMINE EDWARDS

In Memory of the birthdate of THOMAS A. MACK, DDS, May 17, 1932, who will forever be in our hearts as an outstanding father and brother.

Given by CINA MACK, PHD AND RUTH MACK GRAY

ASCENSION SUNDAY

The risen Jesus appeared for 40 days prior to his Ascension, Ascension Day is traditionally celebrated on a Thursday, the fortieth day of Easter – and in 2021, that date was Thursday, May 13th. The United Methodist Church, and some other Christian denominations have moved the observance to the following Sunday.
WEEKLY HEALTH TIP:
Get enough sleep! Poor sleep can drive insulin resistance, disrupt your appetite hormones, and reduce your physical and mental performance. It is also one of the strongest individual risk factors for weight gain and obesity. One study linked insufficient sleep to an 89% and 55% increased risk of obesity in children and adults, respectively. Source: https://www.healthline.com/nutrition/27-health-and-nutrition-tips#TOC_TITLE_HDR_7

Celebration of the Christian Home and Affirmation of Marriage & Family

We celebrate the Christian Home and affirm families and marriages as signs of God’s promise and love. Christian Homes seek to strengthen committed relationships and advances family as the primary human agency to welcome and nurture persons – images of the divine with faith, hope and love.

God dwells where there is love and all are welcomed as children of God.
We support and encourage dignity and quality in relationships within families in all its diverse manifestations.

We commit Holman to ministries that nurture and strengthen all Christian Homes and families.
We recognize the challenges individuals face and will work to promote healthy and loving relationships and marriages.

Husbands and wives, partners and companions, have a unique responsibility to commune and struggle as one.
Parents, whether partnered, single, divorced or widowed, we will support you in raising your children in the love and knowledge of God.

Parenting is a blessed and good work. Holman is committed to ministries for all children and parents.
In the name of Christ, we renew our covenants to the Christian Home, healthy and loving relationships, marriage and family. Will you accept and love those whom God has committed to your care?

By the grace of God, we will accept and love those whom God has committed to our care.
Thank you, Lord, that we can gather today, in different places and spaces, to celebrate love, commitment, marriage and family. We ask your blessing upon all Homes. May our Homes be and become a reflection of our relationship and partnership with you. We thank you for providing for us, for keeping us, and for your ongoing strength and blessings.

We thank you that you have given us the example of love, compassion and forgiveness. Help us to move forward in that love, reflected in our words and acts of compassion, and forgiveness as a path to healing and wholeness. To God be the glory!
**2021 COMMITMENT CARDS**

It’s not too late to submit your Commitment Card. A fill-in form is available on the Holman website for your convenience.

Thanks in advance for supporting this important commitment to stewardship with Holman United Methodist Church. Your Commitment Card is an important tool for the financial planning of the church.

WITH APPRECIATION,
Lydia Cincore Templeton, Chair–Stewardship Comm.

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**A MESSAGE FROM SPPRC**

Fellow Holmanites,

We give thanks to God that we are beginning to see a light at the end of the tunnel for the COVID-19 Pandemic! However, we still have a way to go, be it “step by step,” to get to in-person worship when most of you will finally get to meet and greet our Senior Pastor, Rev. Dr. Ken J. Walden.

We have noticed that some groups, including subgroups to various ministries, Bible study classes, and choirs have not had the opportunity to participate in our Zoom small group meetings with Rev. Walden. We encourage those of you who would like to do so, to contact Joni Arlain to schedule a time.

Rev. and Mrs. Michelle Walden look forward to a time of meet and greet with all Holmanites.

Blessings to all!
Jo Isabel-Jones, SPPRC Chair
Mary Norris, SPPRC Vice Chair

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**BIBLE STUDY WITH THE PASTOR**

**Wednesdays**
May 12, 19 and 26
@ 6:30 pm via Zoom

**Theme:**
THE SPIRITUAL ASPECTS OF SELF CARE

Call the church office on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday between 10 am and 2 pm or send email to joniarlain@holmanumc.com

BRING YOUR BIBLE!!

323.703.5868 | www.holmanumc.com
Rev. Dr. Ken J. Walden, Senior Pastor

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**Watts Healthcare**

Watts Healthcare wants you to know

May is National Women’s Health Month

Schedule a women's health check-up at 323-505-3501
Jefferson Crenshaw Health Center
Need a COVID-19 Vaccine
visit
www.wattshealthcarecovidtesting.com

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**Virtual Town Hall**
“Coming out of Quarantine”

Professionals in:
- Medical - Mental Health
- Local Government Resources

Sunday May 16, 2021
3:00 PM until 4:30
Specifically designed for seniors and their families
Hosted by: African American Firefighter Museum / PICS
This event is free, however donations are always appreciated and 100% goes to the operation of the AAFFM
Come and have your questions and concerns answered by subject matter experts
SCHOLARSHIPS OPPORTUNITIES

The Holman UMC Permanent Endowment Committee (PEC) has established the HOLMAN UMC PERMANENT ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP to assist deserving students currently in college as well as graduating high school seniors who plan to pursue education in college or in a vocational school program. A scholarship committee, appointed by the PEC, administers the Scholarship Program. Awards vary in size. Applications are available on the Holman UMC website and are due electronically by MAY 31, 2021. Further details are explained in the application.

2021 CLAUDIA WHITMORE / BEATRICE BORDERS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP – Sponsored by Holman United Methodist Women. Applications are now available. To qualify you must be an active member of Holman UMC, a high school graduating senior accepted for admission to a college or University, or a continuing college/university student (age limit 25). An official transcript from your high school or college/university must be submitted with the completed application which includes a one-page narrative. Applications may be obtained by calling Claudia Spears at 323 294-8622. The deadline to return applications and official sealed transcripts is JUNE 4, 2021.

HOLMAN BELL TREE OF LIFE

A GIFT / TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LEGACY OF THE Church of the Bells

The bells at Holman United Methodist Church have been ringing for 76 years and have brought us much love and joy. The bells remind us of our blessings; and if ever we need to be reminded it is now. As we move out of a tumultuous 2020, we need something to lift our spirits.

Our Church of the Bells Campaign is one way to lift our spirits as we remember and honor our loved ones who have passed, and loved ones to whom we can still reach out and show our love and appreciation.

We encourage you to consider sponsoring a bell on our Holman Bell Tree of Life in the Multipurpose Building. Donation amount is $500.00. More information and sponsorship form are available on our Holman website at: https://www.holmanumc.com/14544-2/

Let’s keep the bells ringing at Holman and support this campaign. Let the Bells ring at Holman United Methodist Church. Please join in and support this Campaign.

“So that this may be a sign among you. When your children ask in time to come, ‘What do those stones mean to you?’ Then you shall tell them that the waters of the Jordan were cut off in front of the ark of the covenant of the Lord. When it crossed over the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. So these stones shall be to the Israelites a memorial forever.”

Joshua 4:6-9,

With appreciation,
HOLMAN STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Faith Foster Families Network

Announcing the G.U.I.D.E. Mentorship Program
(Give, Unite, Include, Dedicate and Educate)

Interested in learning more?
Please CLICK HERE to sign up to attend one of the information sessions and learn more about the program where you can motivate and inspire foster and transitional age youth through mentorship.

www.faithfosterfamilies.org - 323.531.7900
SUNDAY, MAY 16, 2021

Worship Celebration
11:00 A.M.

RADIO BROADCAST LIVE ON
KJLH RADIO 102.3 FM
WWW.KJLHRADIO.COM
and
LIVE STREAM VIA FACEBOOK
(HolmanChurch)

SERMON NOTES
“WE ARE WITNESSES!”

SCRIPTURE
PSALM 47
LUKE 24:44-53

Rev. Dr. Ken J. Walden

REFLECTION
Family Means Different Things
By Kelly Roper

Family means different things
to different people.
To some, family means
mom, dad and the kids.
To others, family means single parents
doing the job of two to make a home.
To some, family means
living with grandparents too.
To others, family is the
aunt or uncle who has stepped up
to fill in for parents.
To some, family means
two moms or
two dads growing a family together.
To others, family means
two people multiplying their love
through adoption.
To some, family is
limited to blood relations.
To others, family includes friends
who are there through thick and thin.
To some, family is
all about the people in their lives.
To others, pets are considered
family members too.
Yes, family means different things
to different people,
But every family
has one thing in common,
and that's love.

LOOKING AHEAD
DAY OF PENTECOST
Sunday, May 23, 2021
Heritage Sunday
Psalm 104:24-34; Romans 8:22-27
“Help In Weakness”
Rev. Dr. Ken J. Walden

Send us forth, O God,
with every breath
a thanksgiving,
every thought
wrapped in compassion,
every word
filled with kindness, and
every deed
a channel of Love.
Through your grace
may our lives become a prayer.
Amen.

By all the means we can . . .
Connecting people with the love of God
through all channels.
Cal-Pac UMC Annual Conference – Vision Statement