



Worship Celebration

11th Sunday after Pentecost

August 16, 2020 + 11 AM

Welcome to The United Methodist Church of Berea!

*As followers of Jesus Christ, who reveals a God whose love knows no boundaries, we are committed to welcoming and affirming every person as a beloved child of God. Every person—of every sexual orientation, gender identity, ethnicity, age, economic status, health, ability, or any other identifying label—is welcome to participate fully in our ministries and life together as church. We hope The UMC of Berea will become a home for you, your family, and your friends as together, **we make and mature disciples of Jesus***

Join us in worship, Sunday mornings at 11 am, on Facebook Live (www.facebook.com/UMCBEREA), or watch and share the video of our worship service later on our website at www.umcb.org/sermons.

In preparation for worship, you are encouraged to light a candle as a reminder of God's presence.

We Gather as God's Children

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Opening Prayer

*Eternal God, re-awaken us to the reality of our unity as your beloved children.
When those we love hurt and betray us,
 help us let go of our pain and find the balm of forgiveness.
When we feel abandoned by those we have trusted,
 help us seek your peace and reconciliation.
When our hearts are pierced with anguish,
 help us connect with those who will bring us consolation,
through your loving Spirit, which binds us to you and to one another, Amen.*

Hymn

How Can We Name a Love

UMH 111

*How can we name a Love that awakens heart and mind,
in-dwelling all we know or think or do or seek or find?
Within our daily world, in every human face,
Love's echoes sound and God is found, hid in the common-place.
If we awoke to life built on a rock of care
that asked no great reward but firm, assured, was simply there,
we can, with parents' names, describe, and thus adore,
Love unconfined, a father kind, a mother strong and sure.*

*When people share a task, and strength and skills unite
in projects old or new, to make or do with shared delight,
our Friend and Partner's will is better understood,
that all should care, create, and care, and know that life is good.*

*So in a hundred names, each day we all can meet
a presence, sensed and shown at work, at home, or in the street.*

*Yet every name we see, shines in a brighter sun:
In Christ alone is Love full grown and life and hope begun.*

*How Can We Name a Love / Brian Wren, Franklin Sheppard / 1975 Hope Publishing Co.
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We Grow in God's Word

Leader: With disciples of every time and place, let us listen for the word of God among us.

People: *Our ears and hearts are open.*

First Lesson—Psalm 133 (NRSV)

¹ How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

² It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard,
on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.

³ It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion.

For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Lesson—Matthew 15.21-28 (CEB)

²¹ From there, Jesus went to the regions of Tyre and Sidon. ²² A Canaanite woman from those territories came out and shouted, "Show me mercy, Son of David. My daughter is suffering terribly from demon possession." ²³ But he didn't respond to her at all.

His disciples came and urged him, "Send her away; she keeps shouting out after us."

²⁴ Jesus replied, "I've been sent only to the lost sheep, the people of Israel."

²⁵ But she knelt before him and said, "Lord, help me."

²⁶ He replied, "It is not good to take the children's bread and toss it to dogs."

²⁷ She said, "Yes, Lord. But even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall off their masters' table."

²⁸ Jesus answered, "Woman, you have great faith. It will be just as you wish." And right then her daughter was healed.

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Children's Message

Sermon

Hymn

Draw the Circle Wide

WS 3154

*Draw the circle, draw the circle wide. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
No one stands alone, we'll stand side by side. Draw the circle, draw the circle wide.
Draw the circle wide, draw it wider still. Let this be our song: no one stands along.
Standing side by side, draw the circle, draw the circle wide.*

Draw the Circle Wide / Mark A. Miller / 2008 Choristers Guild / Used by permission. CCLI License #2333566

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Opportunities for Ministry and Invitation to Give our Tithes and Offerings

Some of us may be experiencing financial hardship or uncertainty during this season, but our generosity through the life of the church remains crucial as an expression of our discipleship and to ensuring that we can maintain our commitments to mission and ministry during this uncertain time. If you already give financially online (www.umcb.org/donate) or by mailing a check to the church office, thank you! If you do not do so already, please consider giving through one of these methods now as we continue to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

Hymn

Whole Heart (Hold Me Now)

*Hold me now in the hands that created the heavens.
Find me now where the grace runs as deep as your scars.
You pulled me from the clay, you set me on a rock,
called me by your name and made my heart whole again.*

*Lifted up, and my knees know it's all for your glory
that I might stand with more reasons to sing than to fear.
You pulled me from the clay, set me on a rock,
called me by your name and made my heart whole again.*

*So here I stand, high in surrender, I need you now.
Hold my heart, now and forever, my soul cries out.
Once I was broken, but you loved my whole heart through.
Sin has no hold on me, 'cause your grace holds me now.*

*And that grace owns the ground where the grave did,
where all my shame remains left for dead in your wake.
You crashed those age-old gates, you left no stone unturned.
You stepped out of that grave and shouldered me all the way.*

*So here I stand, high in surrender, I need you now.
Hold my heart, now and forever, my soul cries out.
Once I was broken, but you loved my whole heart through.
Sin has no hold on me, 'cause your grace holds me now.*

*Healed and forgiven, look where my chains are now.
Death has no hold on me, 'cause your grace holds that ground.
And your grace holds me now. Your grace holds me now.*

*Whole Heart (Hold Me Now) / Joel Houston, Aodhan King / 2018 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia
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Benediction

The God who forgives, reconciles, heals, and unites is with us today and forevermore.
May we leave this time of worship to share God's gifts of love,
inviting others—through our words and our deeds—to experience God's unconditional welcome.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

*Our service of worship is ended.
Our worship through service now begins.*

Morning Prayer

Merciful God, this day is full of your possibilities for healing and reconciliation, for new beginnings and restored relationships. Unite my heart with your will so that your abundant anointing will flow through me. Send me with your blessings to the lives of those in need. Amen.

Evening Prayer

God of the night watches, guard me from terror, release me from distress. Call me close to you and mark me with your favor that I may rest secure in you. Amen.

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Dismantling Racism: Pressing on to Freedom - August Town Halls

Wednesdays, August 19 & 26, 1 PM, Live on [UMC.org](https://www.umc.org).

In August, we will host two Town Hall conversations that will help us see today's work of dismantling racism in light of what has gone before. Join emerging leaders in the current movement and seasoned leaders who have been instrumental in this work since the 1960s.

Seasoned Leaders

Wednesday, August 19, 1 PM

The work of dismantling racism is not new; now more than ever we need to be reminded of the work that has moved us to today's reality—and to name where we still need to go. Four United Methodist leaders in the civil rights movement will answer your questions about their experiences in confronting racism and the church's role in this work. Join panelists James Lawson, Joel N. Martinez, Sue Thrasher and Clara Ester for their insights.

More information, including bios, are available at <https://www.umc.org/en/content/town-hall-seasoned-leaders-discuss-dismantling-racism-8-19-2020>.

Emerging Leaders

Wednesday, August 26, 1 PM

A panel of young United Methodist leaders will discuss their strategies for changing the world and their encouragement for partners in this work. They will respond to your questions about their vision for how to take action with intention and how the Church can draw from the wisdom of the past and hope for the future. Join panelists Ann Jacob, Theon Johnson III, Andres De Arco and Katelin Hansen for this important conversation.

More information, including bios, are available at <https://www.umc.org/en/content/town-hall-emerging-leaders-discuss-dismantling-racism-8-26-2020>.

Praying for Change: Daily Prayers for Anti-Racism from Discipleship Ministries

Discipleship Ministries of our United Methodist Church is providing resources and guidance to help bathe our current moment and work together in prayer. From Monday through Friday, new prayers are being posted and can be received by email.

For more information and to sign up to receive these resources at your email address, visit <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/articles/praying-for-change-daily-prayers-for-anti-racism>.

**Student & School Staff
Drive-thru
Back-to-School
Blessing**

**August 16, 12-2 PM
Drive Past on Seminary St.**



This school year is a little different. Let us pray for you and send you into the year with a little more peace and a blessing. Drive up past our red doors on Seminary St. for a blessing and a small token of peace. All teachers, school staff, and students of all ages are welcome. Pastors will be a safe distance away and will be wearing face coverings.

We hope to pray with you with soon!



Seeds Family Worship Concert - Live Online

Sunday, August 23, 4 PM, on Facebook

Join us for a fun family concert! We'll be using Seed's worship music as part of our family devotions this fall - this is a great way to preview and enjoy their worship songs!

Visit <https://www.facebook.com/events/601818407067174/> for more information.

For a link to watch together, contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.



Wednesday Evening Prayer Service (In-Person)

Wednesdays, 7 PM

All are welcome to join us on the north lot of our property on Wednesday evenings (weather-permitting) for brief worship services to re-center and re-focus together around scripture and prayer in the middle of the week. Please bring your own chair, wear face coverings, and maintain safe social distance (six feet) from members of other households.

For more information, contact **Pastor Nathan** at nhowe@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x101.



Children's Chapel

Friday, August 21, 9 AM

It's a fun way for your kiddos to start the day and this coming Friday is our final one so join us on Zoom! Meeting ID **820 1966 6376**

We gather together for half an hour of praise, Bible stories, and prayer. Come in your jammies from your living room, yard, sandbox, or wherever!

For more information, contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.



Thursday Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, 6:30 - 8 PM

Thursday evening Bible Study is studying **Determined** by Heather M. Dixon. All are welcomed to join us in this study of Luke and how he helps us see the everyday encounters, turn into something more. Books can be ordered through Amazon.

Join us online at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85619179718pwd=NUIFR3dUc0lKdkM2OVIWbHcwblpCdZ09> or by phone by dialing 1-888-788-0099. Meeting ID 856 1917 9718 and Password 600537

Questions?

Please contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at 440-409-5931 or marylynn482@gmail.com.



Online Adult Formation - God and the Pandemic: A Christian Reflection on the Coronavirus and its Aftermath

Sundays, 10 AM via Zoom

Join us on Sunday mornings at 10 AM via Zoom for a conversation that puts our current experience of pandemic into the context of our Christian scriptures and tradition, based on this recent book by N.T. Wright, professor of New Testament and early Christianity at the University of St. Andrews. You are welcome to purchase the book but do not need to do so to join us for our conversations as we consider questions related to our experience of pandemic including, *What should be the Christian response? How should we think about God and God's role? How do we live in the present moment? What can we learn about ourselves? and How do we recover?*

Join us online: <https://zoom.us/j/487816871> or
by phone: dial **1-888-788-0099** and enter meeting ID **487 816 871**.



Breakfast-on-the-Go for B.W. Students

Donations accepted Wednesdays, 5-8 PM in the UMCB Parking Lot

We plan on continuing to offer hospitality and welcome to our B.W. students this year as they head back to some in-person classes. Pastors will do this the morning of August 24th. This year we are simplifying our donations to "chewy" bars and coffee and water. If you'd like to donate breakfast bars or bottled water, please do so on a Wednesday evening coming up. Thank you!



Food Collection for Local Food Pantries

Wednesdays, 5-8 PM in the UMCB Parking Lot

Dave LeBrun will be in the church parking lot, practicing safe social distancing and receiving your donations of non-perishable food items to support local food pantries. Canned meat (e.g. tuna or chicken) especially is being requested. If you are not planning already to make a trip to the grocery store, please feel free to participate with a monetary donation instead, either by mailing a check to the church office or online at www.umcb.org/donate. Please note "food pantry" on the description line. Thank you for your generous participation.

Pastoral Care and Prayer Requests

Please reach out to **Pastor Nathan** (nhowe@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x101**) if you would like to schedule an individual time to talk or if you have a specific prayer request. Likewise, if you find yourself needing food or other supplies and unable to get them, please contact me, and we will do our best to care for you; we have a team of servants ready to respond as best we can. Know that none of us is alone even though we will not be gathering together in person.

Care Leaders

While we are apart from one another physically, we remain connected through our common mission and through our mutual concern and care. As an expression of our connection, we now have a team of "care leaders" who are making phone calls throughout the course of the week to check in, be in conversation, and share prayer requests. If you have not heard from a "care leader" yet and would like to connect this way, or if you would like to serve as a "care leader," contact **Pastor Nathan** at **440-234-3525 x101** or nhowe@umcb.org.

Staff & Office Hours

For the protection of all, our staff continues to work from home whenever possible. If you contact the staff by email or phone message, please be assured they will respond as quickly as they are able. If your business requires a visit to the church building, please call in advance to ensure a staff member will be available.