



# Worship Celebration

13th Sunday after Pentecost

August 30, 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 Christ for the transformation of the world.***

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

*In the midst of your holy presence, O God,  
we encounter a mystery deeper than the foundations of the earth.  
You are who you are, sacred and indefinable.  
Forgive us when we try to put you in a box or frame you in our own image.  
Give us courage to allow your divine image to define and shape us.  
Speak mercy and grace to us when we deny the path before us,  
and guide us with your shepherding love when we are unsure how to follow.  
Strengthen and empower us to say: "Here I am, ready to love and serve."  
In your holy name, we worship, live, and pray. Amen.*

**Opening Songs**

*High and Exalted*

*You are high and exalted and worthy of praise, with our hearts we will love and adore;  
You are high and exalted and worthy of praise, holy are you, Lord.*

*Holy, holy, holy are you, Lord; holy, holy, holy are you, Lord.*

*High and Exalted / Kyle Rasmussen / 1996 Integrity's Hosanna! Music / Used by permission. CCLI License #2333566*

*I Will Follow*

***Where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay; where you move, I'll move. I will follow.***

***All your ways are good, all your ways are sure; I will trust in you alone.***

***Higher than my sight, high above my life; I will trust in you alone.***

***Where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay; where you move, I'll move. I will follow.***

***Whom you love, I'll love; how you serve, I'll serve; if this life I lose, I will follow you.***

***Light into the world, light into my life—I will live for you alone.***

***You're the one I seek, knowing I will find all I need in you alone.***

***Where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay; where you move, I'll move. I will follow.***

***Whom you love, I'll love; how you serve, I'll serve; if this life I lose, I will follow you.***

***In you, there's life everlasting. In you, there's freedom for my soul.***

***In you, there's joy, unending joy; and I will follow.***

***Where you go, I'll go; where you stay, I'll stay; where you move, I'll move. I will follow.***

***Whom you love, I'll love; how you serve, I'll serve; if this life I lose, I will follow you.***

*I Will Follow / Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Reuben Morgan / 2010 sixsteps Music / Used by permission. CCLI License #2333566*

## **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—Exodus 3.1-15 (CEB)**

<sup>1</sup>Moses was taking care of the flock for his father-in-law Jethro, Midian's priest. He led his flock out to the edge of the desert, and he came to God's mountain called Horeb. <sup>2</sup>The LORD's messenger appeared to him in a flame of fire in the middle of a bush. Moses saw that the bush was in flames, but it didn't burn up. <sup>3</sup>Then Moses said to himself, Let me check out this amazing sight and find out why the bush isn't burning up.

<sup>4</sup>When the LORD saw that he was coming to look, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!"

Moses said, "I'm here."

<sup>5</sup>Then the LORD said, "Don't come any closer! Take off your sandals, because you are standing on holy ground." <sup>6</sup>He continued, "I am the God of your father, Abraham's God, Isaac's God, and Jacob's God." Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look at God.

<sup>7</sup>Then the LORD said, "I've clearly seen my people oppressed in Egypt. I've heard their cry of injustice because of their slave masters. I know about their pain. <sup>8</sup>I've come down to rescue them from the Egyptians in order to take them out of that land and bring them to a good and broad land, a land that's full of milk and honey, a place where the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites all live. <sup>9</sup>Now the Israelites' cries of injustice have reached me. I've seen just how much the Egyptians have oppressed them. <sup>10</sup>So get going. I'm sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt."

<sup>11</sup>But Moses said to God, "Who am I to go to Pharaoh and to bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

<sup>12</sup>God said, "I'll be with you. And this will show you that I'm the one who sent you. After you bring the people out of Egypt, you will come back here and worship God on this mountain."

<sup>13</sup>But Moses said to God, "If I now come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' they are going to ask me, 'What's this God's name?' What am I supposed to say to them?"

<sup>14</sup>God said to Moses, "I Am Who I Am. So say to the Israelites, 'I Am has sent me to you.'" <sup>15</sup>God continued, "Say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, Abraham's God, Isaac's God, and Jacob's God, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever; this is how all generations will remember me.

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

**People: *Thanks be to God.***

## **Gospel Lesson—Matthew 16.21-28 (CEB)**

<sup>21</sup>From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and legal experts, and that he had to be killed and raised on the third day.

<sup>22</sup>Then Peter took hold of Jesus and, scolding him, began to correct him: “God forbid, Lord! This won’t happen to you.” <sup>23</sup>But he turned to Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan. You are a stone that could make me stumble, for you are not thinking God’s thoughts but human thoughts.”

<sup>24</sup>Then Jesus said to his disciples, “All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. <sup>25</sup>All who want to save their lives will lose them. But all who lose their lives because of me will find them. <sup>26</sup>Why would people gain the whole world but lose their lives? What will people give in exchange for their lives? <sup>27</sup>For the Son of Man is about to come with the majesty of his Father with his angels. And then he will repay each one for what that person has done. <sup>28</sup>I assure you that some standing here won’t die before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

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

**People: *Thanks be to God.***

## **Children’s Message**

## **Sermon**

## **Hymn**

*As a Fire Is Meant for Burning*

TFWS 2237

*As a fire is meant for burning with a bright and warming flame,  
so the church is meant for mission, giving glory to God’s name.  
Not to preach our creeds or customs, but to build a bridge of care,  
we join hands across the nations, finding neighbors everywhere.*

*We are learners; we are teachers; we are pilgrims on the way.  
We are seekers; we are givers; we are vessels made of clay.  
By our gentle, loving actions we would show that Christ is light.  
In a humble, listening Spirit we would live to God’s delight.*

*As a green bud in the springtime is a sign of life renewed,  
so may we be signs of oneness ‘mid earth’s peoples, many hued.  
As a rainbow lights the heavens when a storm is past and gone,  
may our lives reflect the radiance of God’s new and glorious dawn.*

*As a Fire Is Meant for Burning / Ruth Duck / GIA Publications, Inc. / 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](http://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.*

## **Doxology**

UMH 95

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

## Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment

*In gratitude for your amazing works in this world, O God,  
we offer our gifts to participate in that work.*

*Bless us as you have blessed your people before us,  
that we may be a blessing to others.*

*Guide our steps, and bless the offerings we will bring,  
that the whole world may be touched again by your holy love. Amen.*

## We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

Hymn

*All That I Am*

*Everything's on the altar now; no holding back, no holding out.*

*In view of your matchless sacrifice, take every treasure, take this life.*

*All that I am for all that you are, my Lord. All that I have for all that you are.*

*You're the pearl beyond price, greater than life. All that I am for all that you are.*

*Selfish ambition and my pride, I'm giving up, I'm letting die.*

*In these empty hands I have it all, have it all: the pure joy of knowing you, my Lord.*

*All that I am for all that you are, my Lord. All that I have for all that you are.*

*You're the pearl beyond price, greater than life. All that I am for all that you are.*

*It's only in surrender that I'm free. It's only in surrender that I'm truly free.*

*It's only in surrender that I'm free. It's only in surrender that I'm truly free. I am free.*

*All That I Am / Rend Collective / 2014 Thankyou Music / Used by permission. CCLI License #2333566*

## Benediction

God sends us to serve. God sends us to love. God sends us to bless the world.

As we go, may almighty God be with us and all people both in suffering and in hope.

*Thanks be to God. Amen.*

## Postlude

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

### Morning Prayer:

God of love, today help us to live peaceably with all.

Help us live in genuine love:

loving our neighbors as ourselves,

and loving you, O God,

with our whole heart, mind, and strength.

In Jesus' loving name, Amen.

### Evening Prayer:

Holy God, because you have been with us today,  
we have stood on holy ground. Thank you.

We know that you will remain with us  
through the night. Thank you.

We know that you will be with us again tomorrow.

Thank you.

In Jesus' holy name, Amen.

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## 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](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x101.



## In-Person Indoor Worship

*Resuming Sunday, September 6, 9AM, Wesley Hall*

While Cuyahoga County's Public Health Emergency Risk Level remains at Level 2 or lower, we will plan to resume limited-capacity in-person Sunday morning worship services at 9 AM in Wesley Hall, beginning September 6. If you are ill, experiencing symptoms related to COVID-19, or recently have been in contact with someone experiencing symptoms, please stay at home and join us for our online worship service at 11 AM. Face coverings will be required at all times while you are in the building, and we will maintain safe physical distancing (minimum of six feet) from members of other households.

Worship attendance will be limited to forty persons, and you must register in advance if you plan to attend. Registration for each Sunday's worship service will be open from noon on Tuesday to noon on Friday. You can register online ([www.umcb.org](http://www.umcb.org)) or by calling the church office and leaving a message (440-234-3525 x100).



## Youth Group - Putt-Putt & Dairy Queen

*August 30, 5-6:30 PM, Southwest Golf Center - 1005 W Bagley Rd, Berea, OH 44017*

Join us at 5 PM for a physically-distanced and safe social experience - Putt-Putt and Dairy Queen! A short devotion and prayer will kick off the fun. Face coverings required. Show off your best designs!

**Plan Purple:** Screen Share movie night - Pick up your treats Sunday morning on the church porch. (*Plan Purple kicks in if our county is level 4/purple.*)

Questions? Please contact **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105.



## Read & Grow Book Discussion Group

*September 14, 6:30-8 PM, on Zoom*

*(Watch for Zoom information in the September Caller.)*

The 2020-2021 Read and Grow Book Discussion Group invites YOU to join us as we discuss **Galileo's Daughter A Historical Memoir of Science, Faith, and Love** by Dava Sobel. *The book chronicles some of Galileo's scientific work which led him to adopt the Copernican system, in which the Sun is the center of the Solar System with all the planets orbiting it. His problems with the Catholic church were very hurtful to him and caused him much suffering. It is a fascinating book to read.*

Each month's discussion is led by a different member of the group. If you have questions, please contact **Janet Mallarnee** at 440-235-7331, **Betsy Meikle** at 440-243-5767 or **Jan Harlamert** at 440-243-7126.



## Rally Day

*Sunday, September 13*

Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 13! We will be kicking off our new Sunday School Format for children and youth as well as highlighting Adult Faith Formation opportunities.

For more information, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105.



## Children's and Youth Formation

We're excited to be offering Virtual Faith Formation this year on Zoom video conferencing! You'll see your Sunday School teachers and classmates, hear more stories and Scriptures together, and discover new ways God is reaching us and working within us. Watch for more information coming soon in the September Caller.

We are excited to welcome children and youth from our community in these groups as well - so give them a warm welcome! Have a friend you'd like to join us? Send us their contact information and we'll be sure to send an invite.

Please be sure to fill out this year's registration form with new vital information we'll need from each family at <http://www.umcb.org/child-youth-formation-registration-page/>.



## House Churches

Well ingrained in our Wesleyan heritage is the practice of coming together in small groups for fellowship, discipleship, and mission. As we weather this storm of a pandemic, and look towards a brighter future, we encourage you to consider this kind of small group community. Below you will find types of "House Churches" that we'd like to help you organize. The idea would be for you to safely begin meeting either online or outdoors, while weather permits. As we ease out of physically distancing ourselves from each other, the hope would be that these strengthened community groups will stay together.

How are house churches different from small groups or topical classes? In some ways, there's much similarity. However, we are recognizing our need to be together in different ways during this season. While we won't be able to gather as a whole congregation for some time, we are still, the church together and apart. We can be together in small groups and still be and experience the Church, or experience belonging to the Beloved Community.

Your house church will have a culture and rhythm of your group's creating. Perhaps you'll gather online once a month, and in-person once a month. Or perhaps you'd like to talk weekly. For now, we'll help organize a few households together based on their desired focus for their house church.

Complete the interest form **online** at <http://www.umcb.org/adult-formation-interest-form/> or **coming soon in the September Caller** and we'll help get you connected to a house church.





## Running the Race Virtual 5K/1 Mile

*September 13-20, Celebration of Our Journey on Sunday, September 20*

We are kicking off a year of running the race in faith, with an actual run! (...Or walk, or crawl, or roll, however you move!) Join us for a virtual race September 13-20. All you need to do is register and then pick a day to complete your steps. You may want to use a pedometer or car to map out your distance. Once you're good and sweaty, take a smiling picture of you doing what you can do, to help out Nehemiah Mission of Cleveland.

You can make your donation of \$10/person or \$25/family online at [www.umcb.org/donate](http://www.umcb.org/donate) or by mailing a check. Please note "Virtual Race" on the description line. We'll celebrate our journey together on Sunday, September 20.

Register at

<http://www.umcb.org/resources-for-connecting-supporting-our-community/>  
or by calling Pastor Carrie at 440-234-3525 x105.



## 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](http://www.umcb.org/donate). Please note "food pantry" on the description line. Thank you for your generous participation.



## 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>

### Pastoral Care and Prayer Requests

Please contact Pastor Nathan ([nhowe@umcb.org](mailto: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. You can also submit prayer requests on our website at [www.umcb.org/sermons](http://www.umcb.org/sermons).

### Care Leaders

As an expression of our connection, we 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," please contact Pastor Nathan at 440-234-3525 x101 or [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org).

### Staff & Office Hours

To protect you and our staff from COVID-19 exposure, staff members continue to work remotely as much as possible. Please conduct business with the staff by email or phone whenever possible. If your business requires an in-person visit to the church building, please call ahead to ensure that someone will be available to assist you.