



Worship Celebration

World Communion Sunday

October 4, 2020 + 9 AM and 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), 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

Call to Worship—Psalm 19 (UMH 750-751)

The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.

There is no speech, nor are there words; their voice is not heard;

yet their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

In them God has set a tent for the sun, which comes forth like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and runs its course with joy like a strong man.

Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them; and there is nothing hid from its heat.

The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;

the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple;

the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;

the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;

the fear of the Lord is clean, enduring for ever;

the ordinances of the Lord are true, and righteous altogether.

More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;

sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

Moreover by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

But who can understand one's own errors? Clear me from hidden faults.

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,

O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.

*All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us sing,
 Oh, we praise you, Alleluia!
 Oh, brother sun with golden beam, Oh, sister moon with silver gleam!
 Oh, we praise you! Oh, we praise you! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Dear mother earth, who day by day unfoldest blessings on our way,
 Oh, we praise you! Alleluia!
 The flowers and fruits that in thee grow, let them God's glory also show!
 Oh, we praise you! Oh, we praise you! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
 Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
 Oh, we praise you! Alleluia!
 Praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!
 Oh, we praise you! Oh, we praise you! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*All Creatures of Our God and King / Francis of Assisi / 5³2³ The United Methodist Publishing House
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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—Exodus 20.1-4, 7-17 (CEB)

¹ Then God spoke all these words:

² I am the LORD your God who brought you out of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

³ You must have no other gods before me.

⁴ Do not make an idol for yourself—no form whatsoever—of anything in the sky above or on the earth below or in the waters under the earth....

⁷ Do not use the LORD your God's name as if it were of no significance; the LORD won't forgive anyone who uses his name that way.

⁸ Remember the Sabbath day and treat it as holy. ⁹ Six days you may work and do all your tasks, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. Do not do any work on it—not you, your sons or daughters, your male or female servants, your animals, or the immigrant who is living with you.

¹¹ Because the LORD made the heavens and the earth, the sea, and everything that is in them in six days, but rested on the seventh day. That is why the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

¹² Honor your father and your mother so that your life will be long on the fertile land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³ Do not kill.

¹⁴ Do not commit adultery.

¹⁵ Do not steal.

¹⁶ Do not testify falsely against your neighbor.

¹⁷ Do not desire and try to take your neighbor's house. Do not desire and try to take your neighbor's wife, male or female servant, ox, donkey, or anything else that belongs to your neighbor.

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Second Lesson—Philippians 3.4b-14 (CEB)

If anyone else has reason to put their confidence in physical advantages, I have even more:

⁵ I was circumcised on the eighth day.

I am from the people of Israel and the tribe of Benjamin.

I am a Hebrew of the Hebrews.

With respect to observing the Law, I'm a Pharisee.

⁶With respect to devotion to the faith, I harassed the church.

With respect to righteousness under the Law, I'm blameless.

⁷These things were my assets, but I wrote them off as a loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸But even beyond that, I consider everything a loss in comparison with the superior value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. I have lost everything for him, but what I lost I think of as sewer trash, so that I might gain Christ ⁹and be found in him. In Christ I have a righteousness that is not my own and that does not come from the Law but rather from the faithfulness of Christ. It is the righteousness of God that is based on faith. ¹⁰The righteousness that I have comes from knowing Christ, the power of his resurrection, and the participation in his sufferings. It includes being conformed to his death ¹¹so that I may perhaps reach the goal of the resurrection of the dead.

¹²It's not that I have already reached this goal or have already been perfected, but I pursue it, so that I may grab hold of it because Christ grabbed hold of me for just this purpose. ¹³Brothers and sisters, I myself don't think I've reached it, but I do this one thing: I forget about the things behind me and reach out for the things ahead of me. ¹⁴The goal I pursue is the prize of God's upward call in Christ Jesus.

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Children's Message

Sermon

Prayers of the People

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.

Hymn

The Table

I will feast at the table of the Lord. I will feast at the table of the Lord.

I won't hunger anymore at his table.

Come all you weary, come and find his yoke is easy, his burden light.

He is able, he will restore at the table of the Lord.

There is peace at the table of the Lord. There is peace at the table of the Lord.

I won't worry anymore at his table.

There is healing at the table of the Lord. There is healing at the table of the Lord.

I won't suffer anymore at his table.

Come all you weary, come and find his yoke is easy, his burden light.

He is able, he will restore at the table of the Lord.

***I know he has a place for me. Oh, what joy will fill my heart
with the saints around the mercy seat of God.***

Come all you weary, come and find his yoke is easy, his burden light.

He is able, he will restore at the table of the Lord.

I'm invited to the table of the Lord. I'm invited to the table of the Lord.

He says come just as you are to his table.

The Great Thanksgiving

In these extraordinary circumstances, you are invited this morning to have prepared Communion elements or a simple piece of bread ready to receive as we participate together in the holy mystery of Communion, even while we remain physically apart. We will receive the elements at the same time, though not in the same place, trusting that through the presence of the Holy Spirit, our sharing is sacramental as our spirits interact with God's and with one another's. If the risen Christ really is present in all times and places, then surely Christ really is present among us even now. There is no substitute for gathering together in person; however, through God's grace, we trust that we still are held in communion with God and with one another.

The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

Eternal God, in the generosity of your love you have caused all things to be;
from dust and spirit you have woven our humanity;
in all our wanderings you never cease calling us into fullness of life in community.
By your grace, you gave us Jesus, son of Mary, the bread of life broken by and for the world;
he fed us and feasted with us, healed us and suffered with us;
his living and dying and rising have set us free from our captivity to sin and death.

And so, with all your people on earth and the communion of your whole creation,
with all who hunger for your beloved community and will not rest until it is here,
with the broken saints and redeemed sinners of every age, we join the song of your praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

During the last supper he shared with his disciples, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said:
"This is my body, given for you. Do this to remember me."

In the same way after supper, Jesus took the cup, again gave thanks to you, and shared it, saying:
"This cup is the new covenant in my love. Do this, whenever you drink it, to remember me."

And so, in our eating and our drinking—our gathering and our sharing—
we are filled with the life-giving presence of Christ;
we proclaim Christ as creation's host, transforming poverty into plenty
in the reckless generosity of your love.

Great is the mystery of this faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts that these fragile, earthy things
may be for us and through us the body and blood of Jesus Christ.

By your Spirit, make us now one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until that day when death and greed will be no more
and people beyond number will gather from east and west, north and south
to share in your communion meal.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory are yours, almighty God, now and forever. ***Amen.***

The Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread and Cup

Hymn

Communion

*Come, hedge me in. Oh God, that you'd know me, a garden enclosed, I'll be your friend.
Stay it again. Come, lavish love on me, 'til I am convinced of who you say I am.
More and more and more, 'til we are one, 'til we are one.
More and more and more, 'til we are one, 'til we are one.*

*I was made for communion. I was made to walk the garden with you.
I was made for communion. I was made to walk the garden with you.
Oh, to be with you where you are. Oh, to be with you where you are.
I was made for communion.*

Communion / Bryan McCleery / 645³ McCleery MSC / Used by permission. CCLI License 3 67779⁰⁰

Prayer following Communion

*Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

Hymn

Be Still My Soul (In You I Rest)

*Be still, my soul, the Lord is on thy side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.
Leave to thy God to order and provide. In every change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul, thy best, thy heavenly friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.
Be still, my soul, thy God doth undertake to guide the future as he has the past.
Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake. All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul, the waves and winds still know his voice, who ruled them while he dwelt below.
In you I rest; in you I found my hope. In you I trust; you never let me go.
I place my life within your hands alone.
Be still, my soul, the hour is hastening on when we shall be forever with the Lord.
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, Love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul, when change and tears are past; all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.
In you I rest; in you I found my hope. In you I trust; you never let me go.
I place my life within your hands alone.*

*Be Still My Soul (In You I Rest) / Jean Sibelius, Jane Laurie Borthwick / 6457 Worship Together Music
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Benediction

May we leave this time of worship, continuing to listen for God's word in the world.
May we live God's ways and share in God's teachings.
God has blessed us and holds us together with a path of life-giving love.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

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

Morning Prayer

Faithful God,
you remain when others forsake.
When I am tempted to abandon myself today,
help me to stay present to this moment,
that I may know and do your will.
Through the Creator who enfolds me,
Christ who defends me,
and the Spirit who never abandons me. Amen.

Evening Prayer

Mothering God,
bring me back from today's distractions
to the stillness of your presence,
that I may rest in your enfolding arms.
Amen.

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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>.

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.



Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, October 4, 5:00 pm, Seminary Street Lawn

On Sunday, October 4 at 5:00pm, all are welcome to bring their pets and join us in the lawn on Seminary Street as we give thanks to God for our animal companions and ask God's blessing on them and us. Please wear face coverings and have larger animals on a leash and smaller animals in a carrier.

If you are uncomfortable joining us in person, please participate in an online "pet parade" by emailing a picture of yourself and your pet to **Pastor Nathan** (nhowe@umcb.org) by the end of the day on **Thursday, October 1**. Pictures will be shared on our Facebook page (www.facebook.com/umcberea).

For more information, please contact **Pastor Nathan** at nhowe@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x100**.



Blessing of the Bibles

October 11, 11:00am Facebook Live Worship Service

Normally in October, we present (gift) 3rd graders with their own Bible as a part of our worship service. Knowing that faith formation is happening at home now more than ever, we have extended an invitation to students of ALL ages to receive a Bible and participate in Bible skills formation. Instead of a Sunday School class or unit, we are inviting these students to participate in a workshop unit on how to use their own Bible and delivering the Bibles to their home. Join us for a blessing of these Bibles and the students receiving them during the 11:00am Facebook Live worship service on October 11.



Fall Hike

Sunday, October 11, 4:30pm, Rocky River Nature Center

Enjoy the beauty of God's creation, outside and in one another! All are welcome to join us for a fall hike on the trails near the Rocky River Nature Center on Sunday, October 11. We will gather in our parking lot at 4:30pm and then carpool to the Nature Center to begin our walk (weather permitting).

If you plan to join us, please wear a face covering even though we will be outside.

Please RSVP by the end of the day on **Thursday, October 8** to **Pastor Nathan** at nhowe@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x100**.



Messy Church @Home

October 18, 6:00pm, on Zoom

Join us on Zoom for another Messy Church @home, October 18 at 6:00pm. October can be spooky, but not when God is always with you! Join us as we talk about fear and courage!

Fun crafts with supplies at home, worship, and snack time will bring us all together as we learn that God helps us conquer our fears.

Register on Facebook (www.facebook.com/umcberea) or by emailing **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org

for the Zoom link.



In-Person Indoor Worship

Sundays, 9AM, Wesley Hall

While Cuyahoga County's Public Health Emergency Risk Level remains at Level 2 or lower, we will have in-person Sunday morning worship services at 9 AM in Wesley Hall. 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) or by calling the church office and leaving a message (**440-234-3525 x100**).



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**.



Young Adult Bible Study

A young adult small group is beginning to form! They hope to meet online for Bible Study and later for fellowship and service projects. If you know a younger adult who might be interested, please invite them and share Pastor Carrie's contact information. This will be a mix of college students and young professionals.

Questions?

Please contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x105**.



Read & Grow Book Discussion Group

October 12, 6:30pm - 8 pm, on Zoom

We invite YOU to join us on Monday, October 12, to discuss **Now Is the Time to Open Your Heart** by Alice Walker.

Online at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81259288501>

By phone: 1-888-788-0099

Meeting ID: 812 5928 8501 (no password)

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**.



Women's Bible Study: *Seamless* by Angie Smith

Thursdays, 6:30 PM, on Zoom

We've just started a new book, *Seamless* by Angie Smith. Whether you've grown up hearing Bible stories or you're exploring Scripture for the first time, the full story of the Bible can be overwhelming. This book covers the people, places, and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of Scripture. Join us, learn more, and share your knowledge. The books can be purchased through Amazon for about \$13 dollars.

Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85619179718pwd=NUIFR3dUc0lKdkM2OVIWbHcwblpCdz09>

By phone: 1-888-788-0099

Meeting ID 856 1917 9718 **Password** 600537

For more information, please contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at **440-409-5931** or marylynn482@gmail.com.



GriefShare Group - New Participants Welcome!

Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8 PM, via Zoom

GriefShare Programs are designed for help and encouragement after the death of a spouse, child, family member, friend or animal. It is a warm caring place, to be you and share a little of how you are feeling with others, in the same situation. There are workbooks available for \$15.00

Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88344694889?pwd=RjlkcnGN5VU9FSUR0bHR3YThucVJMUT09>

By Phone (audio only): 1-888-788-0099

Meeting ID: 883 4469 4889, **Passcode:** 788920

For more information or workbooks, please contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at **440-409-5931** or marylynn482@gmail.com.



Children's and Youth Formation

We're off to a great start with faith formation. We would love to have you help share Bible stories with our kids! Email Pastor Carrie on how to pre-record a Bible story to be used in Sunday School.

Families with children need to join the Facebook Group found here to access family-led Sunday School: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/umcbsundayschool/>.

Families with Youth should note this zoom link for Live Sunday School at 12 PM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87382928705>.

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

Your house neighbors are waiting! We would love to add more friends to our house churches. These small groups are meeting remotely or outdoors (while weather permits) for faith formation, fellowship, and prayer. Please be sure to fill out the registration form (link here) letting us know our interests.

Complete the interest form **online** at

<http://www.umcb.org/adult-formation-interest-form/>

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



Trunk or Treat

***October 31, 2:00pm - 4:00pm, The UMCB Parking Lot
(Please Park Cars 1:00pm - 1:45pm)***

Join us for a fun Halloween afternoon of trunk or treating! We need YOU to come and park your decorated trunk with treats for kids in our community. Safety measures will include masks, sanitizer stations, and cars every other spot. We encourage you to bring a chair and sit in the open spot, while you greet kids who will help themselves to candy from your trunk. Treats should be spaced out for easy grabbing and less rummaging. Our kids have been through a lot this year, so we're excited to show them a good time and a little bit of normal seasonal cheer!

Extra treats will be collected on Wednesday evenings in October.

RSVP a spot with Pastor Carrie at

cantczak@umcb.org or 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. Please note "food pantry" on the description line. Thank you for your generous participation.



Christmas on the Porch

October 24, 10:00am - 3:00pm

The UMCB Front Porch (Facing Seminary Street)

UMW is celebrating "Christmas on the Porch" on Saturday, October 24 from 10:00am-3:00pm. We're "trimming down" our Craft Show. UMW will be selling Christmas goodies (ornaments, gift boxes, and "Methodist Mix" popcorn) to raise money to support our missions. Please join us on the front porch (social distancing will be observed and face masks are required) ... let's gather for some fun and fellowship to help our mission projects.

Women, children and youth will benefit from your kindness.

As always, we appreciate your encouragement and support.



October is Clergy Appreciation Month

Over the last few months our Clergy, Pastor Nathan and Pastor Carrie, have stepped forward in previously uncharted territory to continue our life in Christ together.

We are especially blessed to have them, and a good way to honor them would be by sending them cards and letters expressing our appreciation for their hard and innovative work.

Tom Marek, Chair of SPRC