



Worship Celebration

Reign of Christ Sunday

November 22, 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, this week and every week:

Sunday at 11 AM online (www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos)

Wednesday at 7 PM (Evening Prayer) via Zoom (meeting id: 848 4741 1964; passcode: 195510)

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

We Gather as God's Children

Opening Song

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 / 5³³⁰ Integrity's Hosanna! Music / Used by permission. CCLI License #2333566

Words of Welcome

Opening Prayer

Glorious God, shine upon us with your Spirit of wisdom and truth.
Enlighten our hearts.
Help us to know the hope toward which you are calling us.
Reveal your presence and your will,
that we might share hope and joy in all that we do and all that we say.
In the light of Christ's love, we live, worship, and pray. Amen.

*Crown him with many crowns, The Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.*

*Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died, and rose on high,
who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.*

*Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, and all be prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.*

*Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.*

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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.*

Scripture Lesson—Ezekiel 34.11-16, 20-24 (CEB)

¹¹The LORD God proclaims: I myself will search for my flock and seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out the flock when some in the flock have been scattered, so will I seek out my flock. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered during the time of clouds and thick darkness. **13** I will gather and lead them out from the countries and peoples, and I will bring them to their own fertile land. I will feed them on Israel's highlands, along the riverbeds, and in all the inhabited places. ¹⁴I will feed them in good pasture, and their sheepfold will be there, on Israel's lofty highlands. On Israel's highlands, they will lie down in a secure fold and feed on green pastures. ¹⁵I myself will feed my flock and make them lie down. This is what the LORD God says. ¹⁶I will seek out the lost, bring back the strays, bind up the wounded, and strengthen the weak. But the fat and the strong I will destroy, because I will tend my sheep with justice.

²⁰So the LORD God proclaims to them: I will judge between the fat and the lean sheep. ²¹You shove with shoulder and flank, and with your horns you ram all the weak sheep until you've scattered them outside. ²²But I will rescue my flock so that they will never again be prey. I will even judge between the sheep! ²³I will appoint for them a single shepherd, and he will feed them. My servant David will feed them. He will be their shepherd. ²⁴I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David will be their prince. I, the LORD, have spoken.

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Scripture Lesson—Ephesians 1.15-23 (CEB)

¹⁵ Since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, this is the reason that ¹⁶ I don't stop giving thanks to God for you when I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷ I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, will give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation that makes God known to you. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart will have enough light to see what is the hope of God's call, what is the richness of God's glorious inheritance among believers, ¹⁹ and what is the overwhelming greatness of God's power that is working among us believers. This power is conferred by the energy of God's powerful strength. ²⁰ God's power was at work in Christ when God raised him from the dead and sat him at God's right side in the heavens, ²¹ far above every ruler and authority and power and angelic power, any power that might be named not only now but in the future. ²² God put everything under Christ's feet and made him head of everything in the church, ²³ which is his body. His body, the church, is the fullness of Christ, who fills everything in every way.

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Children's Message

Sermon

Hymn

Give Thanks

TFWS 2036

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given, Jesus Christ his Son.*

*Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given, Jesus Christ his Son.*

*And now let the weak say, "I am strong",
Let the poor say "I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us."*

*And now let the weak say, "I am strong",
Let the poor say "I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us."*

*Give Thanks/ Henry Smith / 5³1² Integrity's Hosanna! Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
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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.

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.*

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Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment—"A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition"

We offer these gifts to you, O God:
as food and drink for a hungry world;
as clothing and shelter for those who are naked and unhoused;
as kindness and compassion for those who are most in need of mercy.
Transform the gifts that we will bring,
that they might be your hands and feet and love in the world.
Send us forth, then, as your people,
that all that we do and all that we say will embody your presence for others.
With gratitude, we pray. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

Hymn

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

UMH 381

*Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast bought us, thine we are.*

*We are thine do thou befriend us, be the guardian of our way;
keep thy flock from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Hear, O hear us when we pray.*

*Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;
thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse and power to free.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Early let us turn to thee.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Early let us turn to thee.*

*Early let us seek thy favor, early let us do thy will;
blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus! Thou hast loved us, love us still.*

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Benediction

Let us go from this time of worship to seek the lost and bind up the injured.
Let us go to strengthen the weak and encourage the fainthearted.
Let us go to seek justice and love mercy,
helping the whole world to share in the feast of God's love in creation.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Choral Response

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service (v. 8)

UMH 581

*Called by worship to your service, forth in your dear name we go,
to the child, the youth, the aged, love in living deeds to show;
hope and health, good will and comfort, counsel, aid, and peace we give,
that your servants, Lord, in freedom may your mercy know and live.*

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Organ Postlude

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



Reign of Christ or “Christ the King” Sunday is one of the most recent additions to the Christian calendar. Begun in 1925, the celebration was intended as a response to growing secularism and competing claims for our allegiance, especially as narrow ideologies and tribalistic nationalism spread across much of Europe following the First World War. Celebrated on the last Sunday of the Christian year (before the new year starts on the First Sunday of Advent), Reign of Christ Sunday remains for us an opportunity to worship together and to reaffirm the primacy of God’s presence and purposes in our lives and throughout creation.

Morning Prayer

God of all creation,
I greet your new day with thanksgiving and praise.
Do not let me neglect the needs
of those I encounter today,
and keep me faithful to your ways,
for I want to live for you. Amen.

Evening Prayer

Thank you, Lord,
for the gifts and challenges of this day.
Where I have failed to do your will, forgive me.
Grant me peace throughout this night,
and if I should die,
welcome me into your glory
with all the saints in light;
in Jesus’ name, Amen.

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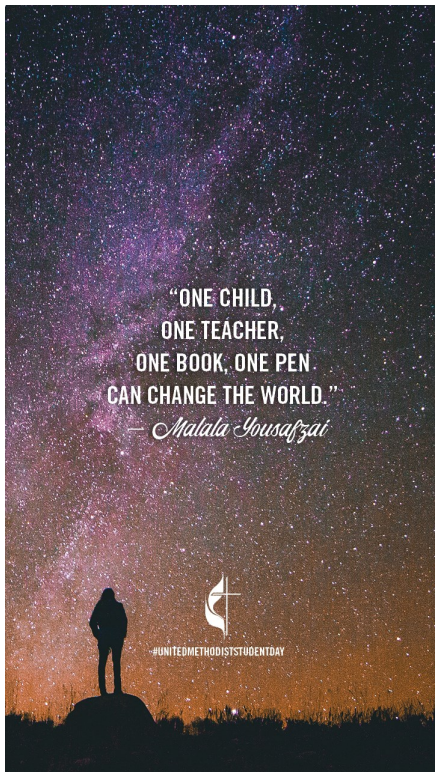
Community Thanksgiving Worship Service

Wednesday, November 25, 7:00 PM, online, (www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos)

The entire Berea community will be invited to worship together online at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, November 25. *(Please note there will be no Evening Prayer this week. We encourage you to participate in the Community Thanksgiving Worship Service instead.)*

Our worship together will include readings and music provided from multiple congregations in our community, and you will be invited to make a financial contribution through our congregation to support the ongoing work of Berea Community Outreach, caring for our neighbors in need.

Give online at www.umcb.org/donate or by mailing a check to the church office. Please mark "Thanksgiving" on the description line.



United Methodist Student Day

Sunday, November 29

On November 29, we will have an opportunity to lift up our college students and others across the globe during worship. On United Methodist Student Day, we give thanks for who they are and the ways they are growing into strong leaders.

We are mindful that many students struggle financially, spiritually, or emotionally. They are preparing themselves to face a world that in many ways is broken and hurting. Together, we can support them and remove some of their anxiety to make space for them to experience God's peace.

We will also join with other churches in the denomination to receive a special offering. While many young people have the privilege and resources to attend college, many others do not. On United Methodist Student Day, we will come together as a community to invest our resources in education.

We are indeed one body, but investing in our individual members will take us to the next stage in building the beloved community. When you support United Methodist Student Day, you make it possible for students to change the world in the name of God's love—to live out their dreams for a better world.

Please consider giving generously to supported United Methodist Student Day on Sunday, November 29.

For more information, please visit <https://youtu.be/c1nOPVtL5EA> for a short video.



Wednesday Evening Prayer Service (In-Person)

Wednesdays, 7:00 PM

All are welcome to join us in the Gathering Place on Wednesday evenings for brief worship services to re-center and re-focus together around scripture and prayer in the middle of the week. Please wear face masks 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.



Youth Group

Today, 5:00 PM, In the Metroparks

Youth are invited to join us in the Metroparks, November 22 at 5:00 PM for fun, games, and Bible Study. Rain location is the youth room with spacing and masks.

To RSVP or if you have questions, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.



Book Discussion: *The Anatomy of Peace - Resolving the Heart of Conflict* **Monday, November 30, 6:30 PM, via Zoom**

What if conflicts at home, conflicts at work, and conflicts in the world all stem from the same root cause? What if we systematically misunderstand that root cause? And what if, as a result, we systematically perpetuate the very problems we think we are trying to solve?

In a current context that feels increasingly divided and contentious—around partisan politics and responses to our public health emergency and systemic racism and countless other issues—**The Anatomy of Peace** by the Arbinger Institute seeks to instill hope and inspire reconciliation by encouraging us to understand and then resolve conflicts at every level by addressing the heart of that division.

On Monday, November 30 at 6:30 PM, all are welcome and encouraged to join us for a discussion of this book. Books can be found through most online sellers and through our local library system. We will meet via Zoom, so you can join the conversation by phone or online.

To express your interest in participating and to receive Zoom login information, please contact **Pastor Nathan** at nhowe@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x101.



Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, 6:30 PM, on Zoom

Thursday Night Bible Study has started a new book, **Matchless** by Angie Smith. *Who is Jesus? Why did He come to earth? How can I know Him? We live in a world where there's a lot of confusion about Jesus. Too often people want to shape Him and His message to fit their personal needs or agendas. So how can we know the truth?* Please join us!

For more information, 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/umcb Sundayschool/>.

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/>.





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.



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.



Warm up with some Equal Exchange items -- for yourself or for a gift

The First Wednesday of each Month, before & after the 7 PM Evening Prayer Service

Stop by before or after the 7 PM prayer service on the first Wednesday of the month to purchase some fair trade Equal Exchange coffee, tea, hot cocoa or chocolates and olive oil for yourself or to share with someone. Enjoy these items and know that you are helping farmers who use environmentally practices to earn a fair wage. Peace and health to each of you, *Wendy Jelinek for Church and Society*



Food Collection for Local Food Pantries

Wednesdays, 4:00-7:00 PM, In Front of the Red Doors on Seminary Street

Collections of food for local food banks will continue with some changes. When you drop of your donation pull up to the red doors, flash your lights and beep your horn. A masked church member will come out to accept your donation. 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 supporting this effort.



The Giving Tree is Here Now!

Look for the Giving Tree in either the Gathering Place or Wesley Hall. If you would like to adopt a needy child but will not be inside the church, you may call either **Pastor Carrie** at 440-665-8306 or **Betsy Meikle** at 440-243-5767 and they will read the list for you.

All gifts must be returned by December 13. When you return the gift, please do not wrap it! Place it in a bag with the child's family number and the name of the gift on the outside. You may put gifts in the big box beside the Giving Tree or give it to Betsy Meikle, who will be in the parking lot on Wednesdays and Saturdays from 11 AM-1 PM .

Thank you for considering helping a needy child have a happy Christmas!



Luke 3:11 Mission

Saturday, November 28

We are kicking off our ministry with the homeless communities of Cleveland on November 28 by serving lunch and sharing valuable supplies. If you have gently used winter gear (jackets, hats, gloves), new socks, gently used sleeping bags, or small bundles of firewood, please bring these on Wednesday evenings to donate, or contact Pastor Carrie for another arrangement.

Financial donations to this ministry can be made through the website at www.umcb.org/donate, with "Luke 3:11" as the description in the *Other* box.

Questions?

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



Thanksgiving Meals for Pick-up or Delivery

Thursday, November 26, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM, Call 440-234-0609 for reservations.

Pick up your meal at the Peoples Community Church Parking Lot (631 North Rocky River Drive) or have it delivered to your home.

Interested in donating or volunteering? Call **440-234-0609**.



Do Your Holiday Shopping at ButterPear.com.

ButterPear is a social enterprise supporting artists in East & West Africa and Refugees here in Cleveland. 100% of our items are HANDMADE and support the artists first. After we sell our products, we use the profits to support various programs. One program includes a house for orphans in Ganta, Liberia which sprung up after the Ebola outbreak. Other programming includes supporting school scholarships in various communities and working with young refugee entrepreneurs here in Cleveland.

We have ornaments, skirts, bags, and baskets! Perfect for a gift with a purpose! Sustainable, Ethical, & Eco-friendly!

Pastoral Care, Prayer Requests, and Care Leaders

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. 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," please 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.