



**JESUS,
HELP US DO
GOOD WORKS.**

Ephesians 2:10

Worship Celebration

Trinity Sunday

Peace with Justice Sunday

May 30, 2021

8 AM + 11 AM

*This First Sunday after Pentecost is **Trinity Sunday**, a celebration of who God is, how God is known to us, and the many, diverse, and mysterious ways God is active among and through us. In the life of The United Methodist Church, this is also **Peace with Justice Sunday**, an affirmation that when our lives are rooted in the life and story of God, we know and grow to realize that we are all called to work together toward God's shalom (just peace, wholeness) in our communities and throughout the world.*



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.
The people of The United Methodist Church®

#PeaceWithJusticeSunday

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, in our relationship with God, with each other, and with all creation, **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 8 AM in-person in the Sanctuary

Sunday at 11AM online (www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos) and in-person in the Sanctuary

Monday—Friday at 9AM (Morning Prayer) via Zoom (meeting id: 518 014 483; passcode: 170)

Wednesday at 7PM (Evening Prayer) in-person in the north lot (weather permitting).

Bring your lawn chair.

(Face masks and physical distancing required for all indoor, in-person worship.)

If you are worshiping with us from home, either by phone or online, 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

Prelude in B minor

César Franck

Words of Welcome

Choral Introit

Trinity Song

***Holy Father, Son, and Spirit. Holy Communion, Three in One.
Come with your peace, with your invitation. Bind us together in holy love.***

Trinity Song / Sandra McCracken / 2016 Integrity Worship Music / Used by permission. CCLI License #2333566

+ Call to Worship

Jesus is calling us, inviting us in.

Holy, holy, holy God, we gather as your children.

The Spirit is calling us, inviting us to listen.

Holy, holy, holy Christ, we gather in your name.

Our Divine Parent is calling us, adopting us as family.

Holy, holy, holy Spirit, we come to worship you today.

Hymn

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty (vv. 1-2, 4)

UMH 64

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

***Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee, which wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.***

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Public Domain

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—Romans 8.12-17 (CEB)

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we have an obligation, but it isn't an obligation to ourselves to live our lives on the basis of selfishness. ¹³If you live on the basis of selfishness, you are going to die. But if by the Spirit you put to death the actions of the body, you will live. ¹⁴All who are led by God's Spirit are God's sons and daughters. ¹⁵You didn't receive a spirit of slavery to lead you back again into fear, but you received a Spirit that shows you are adopted as his children. With this Spirit, we cry, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶The same Spirit agrees with our spirit, that we are God's children. ¹⁷But if we are children, we are also heirs. We are God's heirs and fellow heirs with Christ, if we really suffer with him so that we can also be glorified with him.

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Lesson—John 3.1-17 (CEB)

¹ There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a Jewish leader. ² He came to Jesus at night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one could do these miraculous signs that you do unless God is with him."

³ Jesus answered, "I assure you, unless someone is born anew, it's not possible to see God's kingdom."

⁴ Nicodemus asked, "How is it possible for an adult to be born? It's impossible to enter the mother's womb for a second time and be born, isn't it?"

⁵ Jesus answered, "I assure you, unless someone is born of water and the Spirit, it's not possible to enter God's kingdom. ⁶ Whatever is born of the flesh is flesh, and whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Don't be surprised that I said to you, 'You must be born anew.' ⁸ God's Spirit blows wherever it wishes. You hear its sound, but you don't know where it comes from or where it is going. It's the same with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

⁹ Nicodemus said, "How are these things possible?"

¹⁰ "Jesus answered, 'You are a teacher of Israel and you don't know these things? ¹¹ I assure you that we speak about what we know and testify about what we have seen, but you don't receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you don't believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³ No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up ¹⁵ so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life. ¹⁶ God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him won't perish but will have eternal life. ¹⁷ God didn't send his Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through him.'"

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

+ Affirmation of Faith—A Companion Litany to Our Social Creed

God in the Spirit revealed in Jesus Christ, calls us by grace

***to be renewed in the image of our Creator,
that we may be one in divine love for the world.***

Today is the day God cares for the integrity of creation, wills the healing and wholeness of all life,
weeps at the plunder of earth's goodness.

And so shall we.

Today is the day God embraces all hues of humanity, delights in diversity and difference,
favors solidarity transforming strangers into friends.

And so shall we.

Today is the day God cries with the masses of starving people,
despises growing disparity between rich and poor,
demands justice for workers in the marketplace.

And so shall we.

Today is the day God deplores violence in our homes and streets,
rebukes the world's warring madness, humbles the powerful and lifts up the lowly.

And so shall we.

Today is the day God calls for nations and peoples to live in peace,
celebrates where justice and mercy embrace, exults when the wolf grazes with the lamb

And so shall we.

***Today is the day God brings good news to the poor,
proclaims release to the captives, gives sight to the blind, and sets the oppressed free.***

And so shall we.

Hymn

Womb of Life

TFWS 2046

***Womb of life, and source of being, home of every restless heart,
in your arms the worlds awakened; you have loved us from the start.
We, your children, gather 'round you, at the table you prepare.
Sharing stories, tears, and laughter, we are nurtured by your care.***

***Word in flesh, our brother Jesus, born to bring us second birth,
you have come to stand beside us, knowing weakness, knowing earth.
Priest who shares our human struggles, Life of Life, and Death of Death,
Risen Christ, come stand among us, send the Spirit by your breath.***

***Brooding Spirit, move among us; be our partner, be our friend.
When our memory fails, remind us whose we are, what we intend.
Labor with us, aid the birthing of the new world yet to be,
free of servant, lord, and master, free for love and unity.***

***Mother, Brother, Holy Partner; Father, Spirit, Only Son:
We would praise your name forever, One-in-three, and Three-in-one.
We would share your life, your passion, share your word of world made new,
ever singing, ever praising, one with all, and one with you.***

Womb of Life / Ruth Duck, Skinner Chavez-Melo / 1985, 1992 GIA Publications, Inc. / Used by permission. One License A-737772

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

***Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.***

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

***Holy, holy, holy God, bless these gifts and our lives with your holiness and your love.
Through our giving of time, talent, and treasures,
may your Spirit blow ever more lovingly, ever more expansively,
and ever more pervasively through every corner of creation,
making of us and this world your beloved community, your new creation. Amen.***

We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

Hymn

Come, Join the Dance of Trinity

WS 3017

***Come, join the dance of Trinity, before all worlds begun—
the interweaving of the Three, the Father, Spirit, Son.
The universe of space and time did not arise by chance,
but as the Three, in love and hope, made room within their dance.***

*Come, see the face of Trinity, newborn in Bethlehem;
then bloodied by a crown of thorns outside Jerusalem.
The dance of Trinity is meant for human flesh and bone;
when fear confines the dance in death, God rolls away the stone.*

*Come, speak aloud of Trinity, as wind and tongues of flame
set people free at Pentecost to tell the Savior's name.
We know the yoke of sin and death, our necks have worn it smooth;
go tell the world of weight and woe that we are free to move!*

*Within the dance of Trinity, before all worlds begun,
we sing the praises of the Three, the Father, Spirit, Son.
Let voices rise and interweave, by love and hope set free.
to shape in song this joy, this life: the dance of Trinity.*

*Come, Join the Dance of Trinity / Richard D. Leach / 2002, 2005 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.
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Benediction

When God calls,
we will answer.

As Christ loves,
we will love.

Where the Spirit leads,
we will follow.

Go in peace, then, as children of the Almighty Creator, One-in-Three and Three-in-One.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

Here I Am, Lord

arr. by Barbara MacGregor

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

Worship Participants

Pastors

Rev. Nathan Howe
Rev. Carrie Antczak

Music

Anita Evans, *Organ (8am)*
Dr. Barbara MacGregor, *Organ (11am)*
Grace Dahl, *Vocalist*
Courtney Popp, *Vocalist*

Liturgist

Barbara Peterson

Video Production

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, May 30):

Life-giving God, awaken me to your
threefold presence
in the world this day
that I may share your love with others
as freely as you have done for us in Christ.
Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, May 30):

God, I give thanks for the gifts of this day,
and above all, for the gift of your love
made known to me in Christ.
How grateful I am that by your love
I am counted as a precious member of your family.
Mere words cannot convey
the wonder of your love. Amen.

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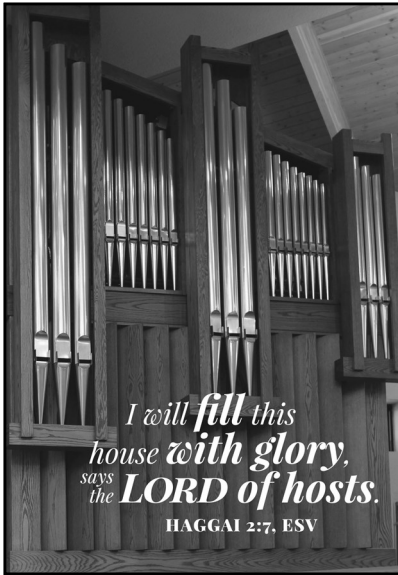
FROM OUR ORGANIST

Last Fall, my husband Mark retired after 55 years as a practicing CPA. Since then, I've been contemplating my own retirement as organist for The United Methodist Church of Berea.

June 6 will be my last Sunday playing for worship, completing seven years of service that I began in June 2014. We are planning to relocate to our home in St. Augustine, Florida, where we hope to see a lot of sunshine!

I've enjoyed working with the staff and members of the congregation and am gratified to have been a part of the church's ministry. Thank you all for this opportunity.

Soli Deo Gloria - To God be the Glory
Barbara MacGregor



*I will fill this
house with glory,
says the LORD of hosts.*
HAGGAI 2:7, ESV



We are collecting your cards and notes, expressing your gratitude for Barbara MacGregor's ministry, to be given to her during her last worship service with us on Sunday, June 6. Please drop your notes/cards at church or mail them to the church office. Thank you.



Update Regarding Worship Practices

On Thursday, May 13, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated its guidance for individuals who are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated-guidance.html>), and on Monday, May 17, the Ohio Department of Health issued a new order to align with this updated CDC guidance (<https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/static/publicorders/rev-2nd-final-amended-do-soc-dist-remove-face-cover-21.pdf>).

In accordance with these updates from public health officials, in our worship life together, beginning **next Sunday, June 6:**

- we will continue offering online worship on Sundays (moving to **10:30 AM on June 6**) for those who are either unable or uncomfortable gathering in a public setting;
- if you are feeling ill or experiencing symptoms, please stay home and worship with us online until you are feeling healthy and symptom-free;
- if you are fully vaccinated, beginning June 6, you are no longer required to wear a mask or to practice physical distancing;
- if you are not yet fully vaccinated, you are asked to continue wearing a mask and physically distancing from members of other households, in order to protect yourself and other unvaccinated or immunocompromised individuals;
- we will resume singing as a congregation, but only those who are fully vaccinated should do so without wearing a mask.



Tuesday Morning Walks

Tuesdays, 7:30 AM, Meet in the Wallace Lake parking lot

It's always a joy to get outside and get moving. It's also a great way to care for the bodies God has given us and to experience God's presence in creation. All are welcome to join us on any Tuesday mornings at 7:30 AM. We meet in the parking lot by Wallace Lake and head out on the all-purpose trail that runs beside Valley Parkway.



Opportunities to Serve in Worship

As we continue living our new normal with regard to indoor, in-person worship opportunities for our whole congregation, you are invited to help us offer meaningful worship both online and in person in the Sanctuary by serving in the following ways:

- Serving as an usher, greeting worshipers as they enter the building and providing any needed information.
- Serving as a liturgist, reading scripture lessons.
- Serving on the "A/V team," learning from Mark Williams how to assist with the livestream worship service.

Please contact Pastor Nathan at **440-234-3525 x101** or nhowe@umcb.org for more information and to express your interest.

You can also express your interest by completing the form at www.umcb.org/worshipresources.



Children's Ministry Looking for VBS Volunteers

The Children's Ministry team is excited to host a completely outdoor Vacation Bible School in July. This year, we're going to where the kids are! VBS will be held Monday evenings in July at a local playground. This VBS alternative is just half an hour! Kids and parents or caregivers will enjoy a short Bible story, craft, and game, and be sent home with a snack. Volunteers are needed to help with each 10-minute activity. Can't help every Monday? No problem! You can sign up for one time or more!

If you think you'd like to help, and would feel comfortable doing so, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x 105**.



Women's Bible Study

Thursdays, 6:30 pm, via Zoom

Anyone is welcome to join. We are currently studying **You're Loved No Matter What** by Holley Gerth.

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

Information Regarding COVID-19 Vaccinations

As an expression of love for our neighbors and for the well-being of our entire community, each of us is encouraged to receive the COVID-19 vaccine when we are eligible to do so. All Ohioans age 12 and over are eligible to receive one of the vaccines. Visit <https://gettheshot.coronavirus.ohio.gov/> or call 2-1-1 (United Way's 211 HelpLink) on weekdays between 8AM and 4PM to find information about where you can receive the vaccine once you are eligible.

If you have additional questions or can use assistance navigating this process, please do not hesitate to contact **Pastor Nathan** at nhowe@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x101**.



GriefShare Support Group - New Participants Welcome!

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.

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



Equal Exchange

June 2 and the First Wednesday of each month, 6:30-7:15 PM, in the Church Vestibule

Equal Exchange items, which are made from organically grown ingredients, will be for sale on the first Wednesday of each month from 6:30-7:15pm. Just come up to the church's main entrance.

Unable to come to the church? Contact the **church office** at info@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x100** as it may be possible to make other arrangements.



Food Collection for Local Food Pantries

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

Collections of food for local food banks will continue with some changes. When you drop off 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.

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.

Please note: *Beth will be on vacation until Tuesday, June 1. During this time, all urgent voicemails left on the church office phone will be forwarded to other staff members. Urgent e-mails sent to ebarner@umcb.org or info@umcb.org will be handled in this manner as well. Non-urgent messages will be answered once Beth returns to work (Wednesday, June 2).*