

# Worship Celebration



*Third Sunday after Pentecost*

June 13, 2021 + 10:30 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, 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 8AM** in-person in the Sanctuary

**Sunday at 10:30AM** online ([www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos](https://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)

*(For those who are fully vaccinated, facemasks and physical distancing are optional.*

*Those who are not yet vaccinated are expected to protect themselves and others by wearing facemasks and physically distancing from members of other households.)*

If you are worshipping 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

+ Opening Songs

*Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)*

*Praise is rising, eyes are turning to you; we turn to you;  
hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for you; we long for you;  
'cause when we see you, we find strength to face the day;  
in your presence all our fears are washed away.*

*Hosanna, hosanna, you are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises;  
Hosanna, hosanna, come have your way among us; we welcome you here, Lord Jesus.*

*Hear the sound of hearts returning to you; we turn to you;  
in your kingdom broken lives are made new, you make us new;  
'cause when we see you, we find strength to face the day;  
in your presence all our fears are washed away.*

*Hosanna, hosanna, you are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises;  
Hosanna, hosanna, come have your way among us; we welcome you here, Lord Jesus.*

*'Cause when we see you, we find strength to face the day;  
in your presence all our fears are washed away.  
'Cause when we see you, we find strength to face the day;  
in your presence all our fears are washed away.*

*Hosanna, hosanna, you are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises;  
Hosanna, hosanna, come have your way among us; we welcome you here, Lord Jesus.*

*Hosanna, hosanna, you are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises;  
Hosanna, hosanna, come have your way among us; we welcome you here, Lord Jesus.*

*Hosanna (Praise Is Rising) / Paul Baloche, Brenton Brown / 2005, 2006 Thankyou Music  
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*Hallelujah*

*Your love is amazing, steady and unchanging. Your love is a mountain, firm beneath my feet.  
Your love is a mystery, how you gently lift me. When I am surrounded, your love carries me.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, your love makes me sing.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, your love makes me sing.*

*Your love is surprising, I can feel it rising, all the joy that's growing deep inside of me.  
Every time I see you all your goodness shines through. I can feel this God song rising up in me.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, your love makes me sing.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, your love makes me sing.*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, your love makes me sing.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, your love makes me sing.  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, your love makes me sing.*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, your love makes me sing. Lord, you make me sing.*

*Hallelujah / Brenton Brown, Brian Doerksen / 2000 Vineyard Songs / Used by permission. CCLI License #2333566*

Words of Welcome

## + Call to Worship

If anyone is in Christ, that person is part of the new creation.

**Today, we gather as people of God's new creation.**

Scattered seeds, emerging seedlings...

**we all are welcome here.**

Tall cedars, tender shoots...

**we gather to worship God.**

In the love of Christ, being created anew...

**we worship and live together.**

## + Hymn

*Hymn of Promise*

UMH 707

***In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.***

***There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;  
there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.***

***In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.***

*Hymn of Promise / Natalie Sleeth / 1986 Hope Publishing Company / Used by permission. One License A-737772*

## Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

# 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.***

## Children's Message

### First Lesson—Ezekiel 17.22-24 (CEB)

<sup>22</sup>The LORD God proclaims: I myself will take one of the top branches from the tall cedar. I will pluck a tender shoot from its crown, and I myself will plant it on a very high and lofty mountain. <sup>23</sup>On Israel's mountainous highlands I will plant it, and it will send out branches and bear fruit. It will grow into a mighty cedar. Birds of every kind will nest in it and find shelter in the shade of its boughs. <sup>24</sup>Then all the trees in the countryside will know that I, the LORD, bring down the tall tree and raise up the lowly tree, and make the green tree wither and the dry tree bloom. I, the LORD, have spoken, and I will do it.

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

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

### Gospel Lesson—Mark 4.26-34 (CEB)

<sup>26</sup>Then Jesus said, "This is what God's kingdom is like. It's as though someone scatters seed on the ground, <sup>27</sup>then sleeps and wakes night and day. The seed sprouts and grows, but the farmer doesn't know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces crops all by itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full head of grain. <sup>29</sup>Whenever the crop is ready, the farmer goes out to cut the grain because it's harvesttime."

<sup>30</sup> He continued, "What's a good image for God's kingdom? What parable can I use to explain it?  
<sup>31</sup> Consider a mustard seed. When scattered on the ground, it's the smallest of all the seeds on the earth;  
<sup>32</sup> but when it's planted, it grows and becomes the largest of all vegetable plants. It produces such large branches that the birds in the sky are able to nest in its shade."

<sup>33</sup> With many such parables he continued to give them the word, as much as they were able to hear.  
<sup>34</sup> He spoke to them only in parables, then explained everything to his disciples when he was alone with them.

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

## Sermon

## + Hymn

*Sois la Semilla (You Are the Seed)*

UMH 583

*You are the seed that will grow a new sprout; you're a star that will shine in the night;  
you are the yeast and a small grain of salt, a beacon to glow in the dark.*

*You are the dawn that will bring a new day; you're the wheat that will bear golden grain;  
you are a sting and a soft, gentle touch, my witnesses where'er you go.*

*Go, my friends, go to the world, proclaiming love to all, messengers of my forgiving peace, eternal love.  
Be, my friends, a loyal witness, from the dead I arose; "Lo, I'll be with you forever, till the end of the world."*

*You are the flame that will lighten the dark, sending sparkles of hope, faith, and love;  
you are the shepherds to lead the whole world through valleys and pastures of peace.*

*You are the friends that I chose for myself, the word that I want to proclaim.*

*You are the new kingdom built on a rock where justice and truth always reign.*

*Go, my friends, go to the world, proclaiming love to all, messengers of my forgiving peace, eternal love.  
Be, my friends, a loyal witness, from the dead I arose; "Lo, I'll be with you forever, till the end of the world."*

*You are the life that will nurture the plant; you're the waves in a turbulent sea;  
yesterday's yeast is beginning to rise, a new loaf of bread it will yield.*

*There is no place for a city to hide, nor a mountain can cover its might;*

*may your good deeds show a world in despair a path that will lead all to God.*

*Go, my friends, go to the world, proclaiming love to all, messengers of my forgiving peace, eternal love.  
Be, my friends, a loyal witness, from the dead I arose; "Lo, I'll be with you forever, till the end of the world."*

*Sois la Semilla / Cesareo Gabarain, Raquel Gutierrez-Achon, Skinner Chavez-Melo  
1987 Skinner Chavez-Melo, 1989 Cesareo Gabarain / Used by permission. One License A-737772*

## Opportunities for Ministry and Invitation to Give our Tithes and Offerings

*You are invited to give your tithes and offerings online ([www.umcb.org/donate](http://www.umcb.org/donate)), by mailing a check to the church office, or in one of the offering plates located just inside the back wall of the Sanctuary, either on your way into our out of the worship space. Through whatever means you give, thank you for your generosity and ongoing commitment to making and maturing 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

*As we give of ourselves for others, O God, we ask for your guidance and grace.*

*Grow our seeds into fruit that feeds the world.*

*Turn our gifts into ministries that transform lives.*

*In our giving of time, talent, and resources, bring your new creation into being, here and now.*

*In hope and gratitude, we pray. Amen.*

# We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn

*Oceans (Where Feet May Fail)*

*You call me out upon the waters, the great unknown where feet may fail.*

*And there I find you in the mystery, in oceans deep, my faith will stand.*

*And I will call upon your name and keep my eyes above the waves.*

*When oceans rise, my soul will rest in your embrace for I am yours and you are mine.*

*Your grace abounds in deepest waters, your sovereign hand will be my guide.*

*Where feet may fail and fear surrounds me, you've never failed, and you won't start now.*

*And I will call upon your name and keep my eyes above the waves.*

*When oceans rise, my soul will rest in your embrace for I am yours and you are mine.*

*Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders,  
let me walk upon the waters wherever you would call me.*

*Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander  
and my faith will be made stronger in the presence of my savior.*

*Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders,  
let me walk upon the waters wherever you would call me.*

*Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander  
and my faith will be made stronger in the presence of my savior.*

*Spirit lead me where my trust is without borders,  
let me walk upon the waters wherever you would call me.*

*Take me deeper than my feet could ever wander  
and my faith will be made stronger in the presence of my savior.*

*I will call upon your name and keep my eyes above the waves.*

*When oceans rise, my soul will rest in your embrace for I am yours and you are mine.*

*Oceans (Where Feet May Fail) / Matt Crocker, Joel Houston, Salomon Ligthelm / 2012 Hillsong Music Publishing  
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## + Benediction

As participants in God's new creation, let us go forth to proclaim the good news.

***As seeds planted by God, we will go to spread God's gifts of love and hope.***

Go forth to live the good news that we are living in a time of new beginnings.

***We will! Thanks be to God. Amen.***

## Postlude

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

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### Worship Participants

#### **Pastors**

Rev. Nathan Howe  
Rev. Carrie Antczak

#### **Music**

Carmen Massaro, *Organ*  
Jeremy Piper, *Praise Band Leader*  
Courtney Popp, *Choir Director*

#### **Liturgist**

Julie Swartz

#### **Video Production**

Mark Williams

**Morning Prayer** (week of Sunday, June 13):

The sunlight greets me in morning,  
reminding me that I begin this day in you.  
The air I breathe instructs me  
that I live by your constant love.  
I will seek your face, O God,  
in every person I meet  
and make it my aim to please and serve you  
in all things and all places. Amen.

**Evening Prayer** (week of Sunday, June 13):

The numerous stars shine the wonder of God  
whose grace is beyond all measure.  
As I lay down my head and rest in you,  
I imagine Jesus being with those  
who look for a place to lay their heads tonight.  
O God, I ask for your mercy  
and pray for the day when we all can sleep  
in your shalom—your peace—  
trusting in your work through Christ. Amen.

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**Virtual Fellowship Hour**

**Sundays immediately following the 10:30AM worship service**

**Online via Zoom: meeting id 878 1505 0844, passcode 775348**

**By phone: 1-888-788-0099, passcode 775348**



**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](mailto: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](http://www.umcb.org/worshipresources)**.

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



## Reminder of the Changes to Our Worship Practices

In accordance with these updates from public health officials, in our worship life together:

- we will continue offering online worship on Sundays at 10:30 AM 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, 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.



## Vacation Bible School

***Mondays July 12, 19, & 26, August 2 & 9, 6:30-7 PM, Parknol Playground***

The Children's Ministry team is excited to host a completely outdoor Vacation Bible School in July. VBS will be held Mondays 6:30-7PM on July 12, 19, 26, and August 2 and 9, at Parknol Playground. Kids and parents or caregivers will enjoy a short Bible story, craft, and game, and be sent home with a snack. While we will have room for "walk-ups", registration is appreciated and helpful. Register online at <https://forms.gle/jj7V5ogUVTaoCRkN8>.

Volunteers are also needed to help with each 10-minute activity. Can't help every Monday? No problem! You can sign up for one time or more!

For a list of roles and open dates or if you have any questions, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x 105.



## Youth Work Mission Sending

***Next Sunday, June 20, during Worship***

Our youth are excited to go on their work mission trip this month to the Nehemiah Mission of Cleveland. They will be sent out with your prayers during worship on June 20, and work all that week. A special offering will be taken for Nehemiah Mission during that worship service. We hope you'll join us in supporting the vital work in supporting the community of Cleveland.



## 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](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com) or 440-409-5931.



## 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](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com).



## Launching an After School Program

The missions committee is very excited to share our intention to launch a new ministry in September. Our program will seek to assist families in getting on track academically, and offer an optional faith formation program. On Wednesday afternoons, students kindergarten - high school will arrive between 4 and 4:30 PM for academic help and then be invited to stay for a half hour of faith formation or devotional time. The program will conclude by 5:30 PM.

We will need a small village to support these students. Will you consider helping? For now, we're simply looking for a team of folks who are eager to help and be added to a list of potential team members.

If you'd like to learn more about this new adventure God is calling us to, please let Pastor Carrie know at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105!



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

## Pastoral Care, Prayer Requests, and Care Leaders

Please reach out to **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. 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](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org).

## Staff Office Hours & Face Mask Policy

Effective June 7, Beth (Office Manager) will be in the church office on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9AM -3PM. She will continue to work from home on Tuesday and Friday. You can reach Beth by email ([ebarner@umcb.org](mailto:ebarner@umcb.org)), by leaving a voicemail on the church office phone (440-234-3525 x100), or by calling 440-710-4498 (Beth's home office phone). All messages will be answered during office hours.

Maryann (Finance & Membership Secretary) is typically available in the Finance office 10AM—3PM on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.

The Pastors and Mark (Facilities Manager) are in their offices at varying times based on need.

If your business requires a visit to the church building, it may still be helpful to call in advance to ensure the staff member you wish to see will be available.

***Out of an abundance of caution and for the continued protection of all, visitors to the staff offices are required to wear face masks and practice safe distancing.***

***Masks will be provided for those who do not have them.***

***Thank you in advance for your understanding.***