

# Worship Celebration



*Eighteenth Sunday  
after Pentecost*

September 26, 2021 + 9 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 United Methodist Church 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 9AM** in-person in the Sanctuary and online ([www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos](https://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos))

**Sunday at 11AM** in-person in Wesley Hall

**Monday—Friday at 9AM** (Morning Prayer) via Zoom  
(1-888-788-0099, meeting id: 518 014 483; passcode: 170)

*In accordance with CDC guidelines and our county's current "high" transmission risk, we require that all persons, regardless of vaccination status, wear face masks throughout their time in our building.*

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

Prelude

*Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus*

Paul Manz, op. 21

### Words of Welcome

#### + Call to Worship

We are gathered today as a community committed to creating peace and love.

Is anyone here today suffering?

***We will pray with you.***

Is anyone here today rejoicing?

***We will rejoice with you.***

Is anyone here today longing for healing?

***We will accompany you along the way.***

All are welcome in this community of peace and love.

***We come as we are, both joyful and hurting. We come to the Healer and Giver of Life.***

#### + Hymn

*Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

UMH 126

## 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—James 5.13-20 (CEB)

<sup>13</sup>If any of you are suffering, they should pray. If any of you are happy, they should sing. <sup>14</sup>If any of you are sick, they should call for the elders of the church, and the elders should pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup>Prayer that comes from faith will heal the sick, for the Lord will restore them to health. And if they have sinned, they will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup>For this reason, confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous person is powerful in what it can achieve. <sup>17</sup>Elijah was a person just like us. When he earnestly prayed that it wouldn't rain, no rain fell for three and a half years. <sup>18</sup>He prayed again, God sent rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

<sup>19</sup>My brothers and sisters, if any of you wander from the truth and someone turns back the wanderer, <sup>20</sup>recognize that whoever brings a sinner back from the wrong path will save them from death and will bring about the forgiveness of many sins.

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

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

## **Gospel Lesson—Mark 9.38-50 (CEB)**

<sup>38</sup>John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone throwing demons out in your name, and we tried to stop him because he wasn’t following us.”

<sup>39</sup>Jesus replied, “Don’t stop him. No one who does powerful acts in my name can quickly turn around and curse me. <sup>40</sup>Whoever isn’t against us is for us. <sup>41</sup>I assure you that whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you belong to Christ will certainly be rewarded.

<sup>42</sup>“As for whoever causes these little ones who believe in me to trip and fall into sin, it would be better for them to have a huge stone hung around their necks and to be thrown into the lake. <sup>43</sup>If your hand causes you to fall into sin, chop it off. It’s better for you to enter into life crippled than to go away with two hands into the fire of hell, which can’t be put out. <sup>45</sup>If your foot causes you to fall into sin, chop it off. It’s better for you to enter life lame than to be thrown into hell with two feet. <sup>47</sup>If your eye causes you to fall into sin, tear it out. It’s better for you to enter God’s kingdom with one eye than to be thrown into hell with two. <sup>48</sup>That’s a place *where worms don’t die and the fire never goes out*. <sup>49</sup>Everyone will be salted with fire. <sup>50</sup>Salt is good; but if salt loses its saltiness, how will it become salty again? Maintain salt among yourselves and keep peace with each other.”

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

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

## **Sermon**

### **+ Hymn**

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

UMH 474

## **Prayers of the People and The Lord’s Prayer**

*As we join our hearts to lift our prayers to God, we invite you to share your concerns and joys. You can submit your prayer request any time during the week to Pastor Nathan (440-234-3525 x101, [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org)), the church office (440-234-3525 x100), or online at [www.umcb.org/worshipresources](http://www.umcb.org/worshipresources).*

## **Choir Anthem**

*God Is Our Refuge*

Allen Pote

## **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 or 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.***

Public Domain

## **+ Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment**

***By your grace, O God, make us and our gifts salt for the world.***

***Make us and our gifts a source of comfort and relief for those who are suffering,  
joy and courage for all.***

***Bless our gifts of presence and resources,***

***that our community will recognize you, the Life Giver, in our lives and in our world.***

***Amen.***

# We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn

*It Is Well with My Soul*

UMH 377

## + Benediction

Sisters and brothers, beloved in Christ, we have worshiped together today.

***Now we go out to share God's peace with the world.***

We have practiced the joy of sharing our burdens and our celebrations.

***Now we go out to share compassion and love with others.***

In the name of God, our Creator; in the peace of Christ, our Healer;

in the fellowship of the Spirit, who holds us all together;

***thanks be to God. Amen.***

Postlude

*Canon in C major*

Robert Schumann

***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**

Megan Denman, *Organist*

Courtney Popp, *Choir Director*

Margaret Proctor, *Choir Director*

### **Liturgist**

Laura Rushton

### **Audio Video Elements**

Mark Williams

Marlynda Dziak

***Morning Prayer*** (*week of Sunday, September 26*):

May the first words in my mouth today  
be the sound of Jesus' name.

Lead me to reflect on his power  
as I seek to live this day,  
honoring the One who gives me salvation  
and a new and fuller life.

In Jesus' powerful name, I pray. Amen.

***Evening Prayer*** (*week of Sunday, September 26*):

As the day winds down, O God,  
help me to consider times during the day  
when I lived in your grace  
and times when I failed to be salt in your world.

Keep working in my life,  
through the power of your Holy Spirit,  
so I can become more like you want me to be.  
In Jesus' name, Amen.

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## **Liturgist Needed**

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 services both at 9 AM and 11 AM by serving as a liturgist, reading scripture lessons.

If you are interested in being a liturgist or have any questions, please contact Pastor Nathan at [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org).



## **Sunday Afternoon Hike**

**September 26, 4 PM, Columbia Reservation (25145 Royalton Road, Columbia Station)**

Enjoy the beauty of God's creation, both outdoors and in each other! All are welcome to join us on Sunday, September 26 at 4 pm as we explore Columbia Reservation.

If you plan to join us, please RSVP by the end of the day on **Thursday, September 23** to **Pastor Nathan** at [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org) or **440-234-3525 x101**.



## **World Communion Sunday**

**Sunday, October 3**

On World Communion Sunday, our designated gifts benefit students around the world by providing scholarships, mentoring and training. The spirit of World Communion Sunday is to come together in Christian unity around the breaking bread and sharing the cup. In our Wesleyan tradition, we extend this practice through our special offering.

Please consider giving generously on Sunday, October 3. Learn more at <https://www.umc.org/en/content/world-communion-sunday-ministry-article>.



## **Blessing of the Pets**

**Sunday, October 3, 5 PM, Seminary Street Lawn**

On Sunday, October 3 at 5 PM, all are welcome to bring their pets and join us on the lawn as we give thanks to God for our animal companions and ask God's blessing on them and on us. Please have larger animals on a leash and smaller animals in a carrier.

For more information, please contact **Pastor Nathan** at [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org) or **440-234-3525 x101**.



## **Sunday Afternoon Walk**

**Sunday, October 10, 4 PM, Rocky River Nature Center**

All are welcome to join us for a fall walk/hike on the trails near the Rocky River Nature Center on Sunday, October 10. We will gather in the parking lot of the Nature Center at 4 PM and begin our walk from there.

If you plan to join us, please RSVP by the end of the day on **Thursday, October 7** to **Pastor Nathan** at [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org) or **440-234-3525 x101**.



## **Ecumenical Youth Group**

***September 26, 5 PM, Wesley Hall***

Ecumenical Youth Group begins its regular schedule on September 26, meeting the fourth Sunday of each month at 5 PM. Bringing together 10+ churches to form a sizable and diverse group will create more fun and build more friendships. EYG will meet at our church in Wesley Hall. Bring a friend and enjoy a bigger youth group experience! *EYG is open to 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade tweens, and 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth.*

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



## **Sunday Morning Faith Formation Opportunities**

### **For Children/Youth**

#### **Sunday School**

Preschool – 6<sup>th</sup> grade

10 AM, Second Floor

*We'll gather as one big family and then break out into smaller age-related groups.*

#### **Youth Bible Study**

7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade

10 AM, Youth Room (RM 31)

*Dig deep into Bible Stories chosen by youth.*

### **For Adults**

#### **Sunday Scripture Readings Reflection**

10 AM, Fellowship Hall

*Join us for a time of reflection and discussion of the morning's scripture readings. An informal group with heartfelt sharing and prayer.*

#### **FaithLink**

10 AM, Room 13

*Join us for discussion on current events as they relate to living faithfully.*



## **Tuesday Morning Bible Study**

***Tuesdays, 9 :30AM, Room 13 or via Zoom***

Join us in person or via Zoom. This fall's theme is "What does it mean to belong?" This unit looks at the various ways that the Bible makes clear how we belong to God's people even when we appear to be outsiders. Several of the sessions point out where we as human beings insert distinctions that restrict membership within the community of Christ.

RSVP to **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or **440-234-3525 x105** to receive a student workbook.



## **Women's Bible Study**

***Thursdays, 6:30 PM, via Zoom***

Thursday Night Bible Study will be doing Women of the Old Testament by Gladys Hunt It is a twelve week study and it will take us from Eve through Esther with stops for Ruth, Abigail and other favorites ... please come join us !

For more information, please contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at **440-409-5931** or [marylynn482@gmail.com](mailto:marylynn482@gmail.com).



## **Halloween at Cedar Point October 10 following Sunday School**

Leaving after Sunday School all youth 7<sup>th</sup> grade and older are invited to have a fun day at Cedar Point! Pastor Lisa and Kelsey Johnson will be chaperoning - other parents are welcome to attend! *(You will need to purchase your own ticket. )*

Contact Pastor Lisa ([lisazmorrison@gmail.com](mailto:lisazmorrison@gmail.com)) to RSVP.





### **Red Cross Blood Drive**

**September 30, 1-6 PM, Fellowship Hall**

*Give Blood. Help Save Lives.* The American Red Cross will host a blood drive in our Fellowship Hall on Thursday, September 30, from 1 pm to 6 pm. To schedule an appointment, visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter sponsor code, **Berea**, or call **1-800-RED-CROSS**.



### **Equal Exchange**

**October 3, 10-11 am, outside the Parlor**

Equal Exchange fair trade items will now be available on Sundays from 10-11 AM. (between the two church services). Please stop by to purchase coffee, tea, hot cocoa or some chocolate. Learn more about Equal Exchange at [equalexchange.coop](http://equalexchange.coop).

Thanks for your continued support of this mission!



### **Loose Change Offering for September**

*September's Loose Change Offering will support Saylor Christmas Shop.* Is it beginning to look a lot like Christmas? Only four months away! What a great time to start setting aside some change to make a difference in the holidays of children supported by OhioGuidestone. Jingle all the way to church to get in the Christmas generosity spirit!

You can support the selected mission by either mailing in an offering, or donating electronically at [www.umcb.org/donate](http://www.umcb.org/donate) using the "other" box and marking it "loose change offering".



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

### **Crafts, Chili, & Clean Clutter**

**October 9, 10 AM - 4 PM, Wesley Hall & Hallway**

Please join us for craft tables, ceramic ornaments, and gourmet popcorn in the Wesley Hallway.

Clean clutter will be on tables in Wesley Hall, and this may include plants, books, toys, appliances, tools, kitchen utensils, and china.

Two delicious kinds of chili (meat and vegetarian) may be purchased in Wesley Hall near the kitchenette. For your convenience, it will be packaged with cornbread and dessert to go.

***Masks are required for this one of a kind event, and all proceeds will be donated to UMW missions.***

Clean Clutter donors are expected to deliver, set up, and price their own items. The set-up will be Friday, October 8, from 3-7 PM. Donors will also need to retrieve any unsold items between 4 - 6 PM Saturday, October 9. *Please remember: No clothing, jewelry, food, or baked goods will be accepted.*

All donors and shoppers are greatly appreciated for participating in this mission fund-raiser!

To make a reservation for a Clean Clutter table, please contact **Nancy Buehler** by **September 24**, at **440-23417613** or [nbuehler75@gmail.com](mailto:nbuehler75@gmail.com).

# Happening at The UMCB this week:

## Sunday, September 26

### **Traditional Worship**

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

<http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos>

### **Fellowship Hour via Zoom**

10 AM / [Join online](#)

### **Formation for All Ages**

10 AM / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

### **Modern Worship**

11 AM / Wesley Hall

### **Sunday Afternoon Hike**

4 PM / Columbia Reservation

### **Ecumenical Youth Group**

5 PM / Wesley Hall / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

## Monday, September 27

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

9 AM – 9:30 AM / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

### **Survivorship Fellowship**

11 AM / Parlor, Lunch at Aladdins

## Tuesday, September 28

### **Morning Walk**

7:30 AM / Wallace Lake / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

9 AM – 9:30 AM / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

### **Tuesday Morning Bible Study**

9 AM / Room 13, on Zoom / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

## Wednesday, September 29

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

9 AM – 9:30 AM / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

### **Homework Helpers**

4 PM / Second Floor / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

## Thursday, September 30

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

9 AM – 9:30 AM / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

### **Handbell Choir**

6:00 PM / Sanctuary / [Contact Tori Lero](#)

### **Women's Study via Zoom**

6:30 PM / [Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at marylynn482@gmail.com](#)

### **Choir**

7:00 PM / Sanctuary / Contact [Courtney Popp](#) or [Margaret Proctor](#)

## Friday, October 1

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

9 AM – 9:30 AM / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

## Saturday, October 2

### **UMW Executive Board**

10 AM / Fellowship Hall

## Sunday, October 3

### **World Communion Sunday**

### **Traditional Worship**

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

<http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos>

### **Fellowship Hour via Zoom**

10 AM / [Join online](#)

### **Formation for All Ages**

10 AM / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

### **Modern Worship**

11 AM / Wesley Hall

### **Blessing of the Pets**

5 PM / UMCB Front Lawn / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

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*Contact Pastor Nathan at*

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

*Contact Pastor Carrie at*

*440-234-3525 x105 or [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org)*

### **Church Office Hours**

**Monday, Wednesday, Thursday:** 9 AM – 3 PM

**Tuesday, Friday:** Beth works from home

*When working from home, Beth can be reached by email ([ebarner@umcb.org](mailto:ebarner@umcb.org)) or cell phone (440-710-4498).*

*She will also return voicemails left on the church office phone (440-234-3525 x100).*

Many of our staff members have hours based on need.

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

### **Office Mask Policy**

As an expression of love for our entire community, especially those with compromised immune systems or who are unable to be vaccinated, visitors to the staff offices are required to wear face masks regardless of their vaccination status. Masks will be provided for those who do not have them.

Thank you in advance for your understanding.