

Worship Celebration



Twenty-first Sunday
after Pentecost

Laity Sunday

October 17, 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)

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

I Love to Tell the Story

Gordon Young

Words of Welcome

+ Opening Litany for Laity Sunday (adapted from *The Book of Discipline*, ¶¶126-129)

From the beginning, God enters into covenant with the human family.

***Through the waters of our baptism, we are called into this covenant
and equipped to live as ministers of Christ's reconciling love.***

The heart of our ministry is Christ's ministry of outreaching love.

Together, we demonstrate a common life of gratitude and devotion,
witness and service, celebration and discipleship.

***All of us are called through our baptism into this ministry of servanthood in the world,
to the glory of God and for the well-being of all creation.***

The church, as the community of the new covenant,
participates in Christ's ministry of grace in every time and place.

***Together, we stretch out to human needs,
wherever love and service may convey God's love and ours.***

Our outreach will be without limit.

In our ministry of servanthood, this is our ultimate concern:

that all persons will be brought into a loving relationship with God
and be renewed after the image of their Creator.

***We are called to minister wherever Christ will have us serve and witness
in deeds and words that heal and free.***

This ministry of servanthood is our gift and our task.

+ Hymn

We Are the Church

UMH 558

+ Affirmation of Faith

A Litany Companion 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 all 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.

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—Psalm 104.1-5, 10-13, 24, 35c (NRSV)

¹ Bless the LORD, O my soul. O LORD my God, you are very great.

You are clothed with honor and majesty, ² wrapped in light as with a garment.

You stretch out the heavens like a tent, ³ you set the beams of your chambers on the waters, you make the clouds your chariot, you ride on the wings of the wind,

⁴ you make the winds your messengers, fire and flame your ministers.

⁵ You set the earth on its foundations, so that it shall never be shaken....

¹⁰ You make springs gush forth in the valleys; they flow between the hills,

¹¹ giving drink to every wild animal; the wild asses quench their thirst.

¹² By the streams the birds of the air have their habitation; they sing among the branches.

¹³ From your lofty abode you water the mountains;

the earth is satisfied with the fruit of your work....

²⁴ O LORD, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures....

³⁵ Bless the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD!

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Gospel Lesson—Mark 10.35-45 (CEB)

³⁵ James and John, Zebedee's sons, came to Jesus and said, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask."

³⁶ "What do you want me to do for you?" he asked.

³⁷ They said, "Allow one of us to sit on your right and the other on your left when you enter your glory."

³⁸ Jesus replied, "You don't know what you're asking! Can you drink the cup I drink or receive the baptism I receive?"

³⁹ "We can," they answered.

Jesus said, "You will drink the cup I drink and receive the baptism I receive, ⁴⁰ but to sit at my right or left hand isn't mine to give. It belongs to those for whom it has been prepared."

⁴¹ Now when the other ten disciples heard about this, they became angry with James and John. ⁴² Jesus called them over and said, "You know that the ones who are considered the rulers by the Gentiles show off their authority over them and their high-ranking officials order them around. ⁴³ But that's not the way it will be with you. Whoever wants to be great among you will be your servant. ⁴⁴ Whoever wants to be first among you will be the slave of all, ⁴⁵ for the Son of Man didn't come to be served but rather to serve and to give his life to liberate many people."

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

+ Hymn

Pass It On

UMH 572

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), the church office (440-234-3525 x100), or online at www.umcb.org/worshipresources.

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), 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

Generous God, all creation is the work of your hands.

From you, we receive all that we need and more.

To you, we give not only our resources but our very selves and all that we are.

Use us, that your world might be blessed through our service in your name. Amen.

We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn

Go, Make of All Disciples

UMH 571

+ Benediction (quote from *The Book of Discipline*, ¶130)

***"The people of God, who are the church made visible in the world,
must convince the world of the reality of the gospel or leave it unconvinced."***

***Sent by God and encouraged by the presence of the Holy Spirit,
go now to offer Christ to all people.***

We will! Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

Toccatina

Henry Woodward

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

Worship Participants

Pastors

Rev. Nathan Howe
Rev. Carrie Antczak

Music

Megan Denman, *Organist*
Courtney Popp, *Vocalist*

Liturgist

Cindy McCowen

Audio Video Elements

Mark Williams
Marlynda Dziak

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, October 17):
Gracious God, keep me humble throughout the day.
Help me to seek your wisdom
as I offer myself in service to others.
In your name, I pray. Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, October 17):
Loving God,
thank you for keeping me today.
Thank you for the awesome works
with which you have surrounded me.
Continue to bless my community through the night.
In the name of Jesus, Amen.

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“Back to Basics” Worship Series

Sundays, October 24 – November 21, 9 AM in the Sanctuary & online, 11 AM in Wesley Hall

At The United Methodist Church of Berea, our mission is “to make and mature disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.” Each year, during the fall, we re-consider what this mission statement means for our lives as disciples and our life together as a community of faith.

What is a disciple?

How do we mature as disciples?

How do we “make disciples” or help others to mature as disciples?

How do we transform, or make a real positive difference, in the world?

How can we become more fully engaged and flourishing as we live in the way of Christ?

For five Sundays in October and November, we will explore together a model for Christian discipleship built around *five essential practices* that God called each of us to engage in both personally and together as we center our lives more fully on loving God and loving others. Join us in worship in October and November as we get “back to the basics” of our mission and discipleship.

October 24: Called to Worship—Cultivating a Life of Gratitude

October 31: Called to Give—Cultivating a Life of Generosity

November 7: Called to Serve—Cultivating a Life of Justice and Kindness

November 14: Called to Study—Cultivating a Life of Learning

November 21: Called to Share—Cultivating a Life that Bears Witness

October Loose Change Offering Supports The Sunshine Fund

The Sunshine Fund at Grindstone Elementary supports teachers, staff, and families in need of a little "sunshine". This lends support wherever PTA leadership feel it is needed. In the past, funds have given encouragement gifts to teachers undergoing cancer care, helped purchase winter coats needed for children, and has supported other students who we'll never know needed our care. But God knows, and grace abounds. Thank you for your generosity!

You can support the selected mission by either mailing in an offering, or donating electronically at www.umcb.org/donate using the “other” box and marking it “loose change offering”.



Berea City School District Board of Education Candidates Night

Three seats on the Berea City School District Board of Education are up for general election this coming November 2. To help you learn more about the seven candidates who are running for these three seats, we have invited them to join us for a "candidates night" in our Sanctuary at 7 PM on Wednesday, October 27. Pastor Carrie will be serving as moderator, asking questions submitted by the audience in advance. Please join us and invite your friends and neighbors to join us, also, as we prepare to vote for our local leaders in this year's upcoming election.



UMW Gives Thanks

UMW wants to thank everyone who worked, donated, supported and participated in the Craft, Chili, and Clutter event. Our first venture (in over 18 months) was a success. With your help, we are able to honor our mission commitments. Please stop at our table by the library for Sunday special items: Oct. 17...handmade cards, note paper, bookmarks, gift boxes; Oct.24...handmade ceramic Christmas ornaments; Oct. 31...assorted handmade decorations.

As always, we appreciate your support and generosity.



Ecumenical Youth Group

October 24, 5-6:30 PM, The UMCB lawn or Wesley Hall

What a great start we had in September! We are looking forward to our next event on October 24 from 5-6:30 PM. Pumpkin Carving! Bring a sharp knife! (The only time Pastor Carrie says this.) Join several other churches in this fun time for youth to make friends and explore their faith.

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



Sunday Morning Faith Formation Opportunities

For Children/Youth

Sunday School (Preschool – 6th grade)
10 AM, Second Floor

Youth Bible Study (7th-12th grade)
10 AM, Youth Room (RM 31)

For Adults

Sunday Scripture Readings Reflection
10 AM, Fellowship Hall

FaithLink
10 AM, Room 13



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Tuesdays, 9 :30 AM, 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 or 440-234-3525 x105 to receive a student workbook.



Support Our Local Food Pantries

Donations can be left in the cupboard between the Narthex and the Library

Our collections of food to support our neighbors through local food pantries continue. Please place donations of non-perishable food in the cupboard between the narthex (the hallway outside the Sanctuary) and the library anytime you are in the building. (If you need help finding the right location, talk to one of the pastors or other staff.)

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.



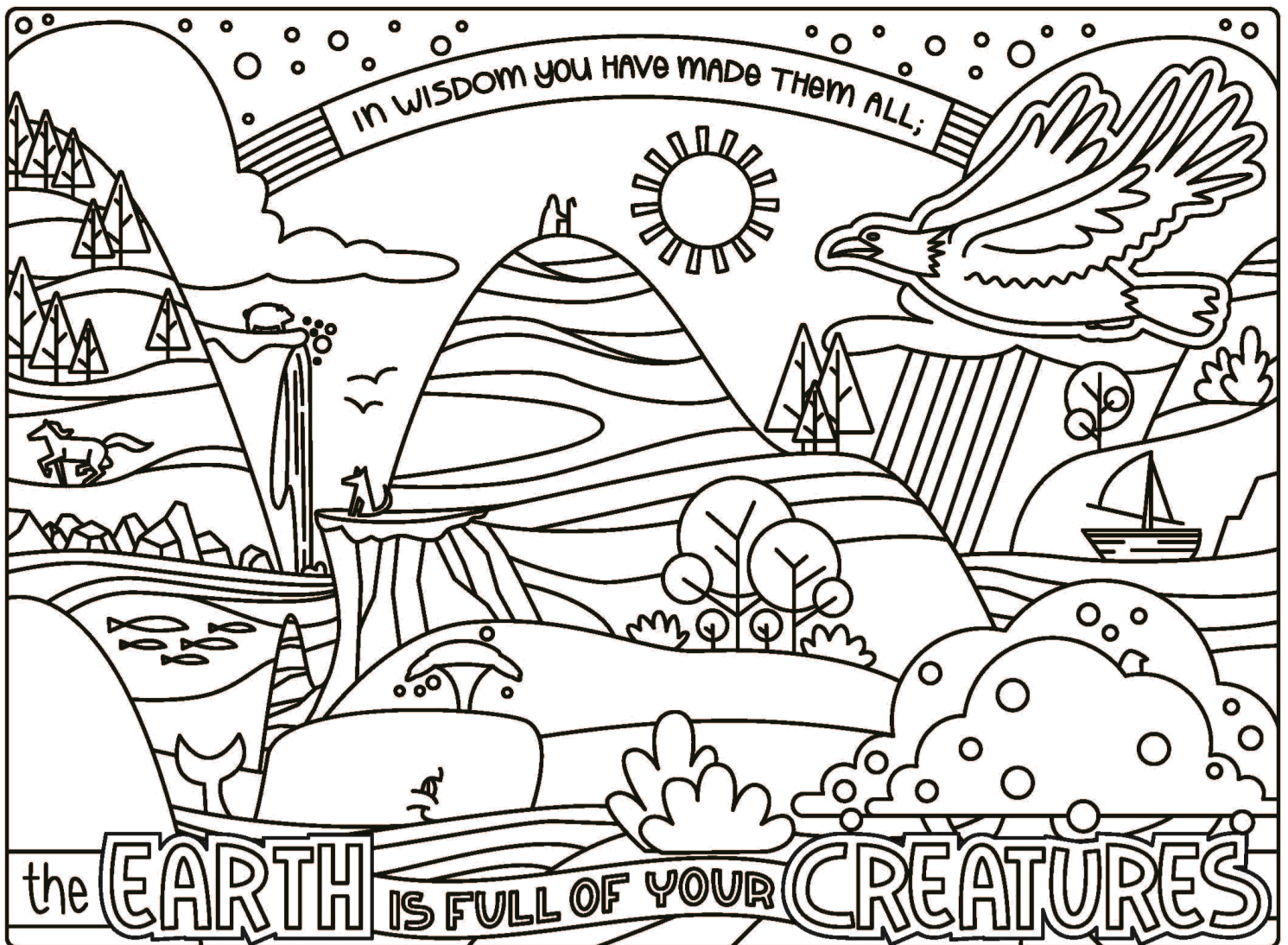
Updated Collection to Welcome Afghan Refugees

Place donations in the plastic tub outside Room 13.

Thank you for all of your generous donations to support and help welcome to our region refugees through the ministry of Catholic Charities in Cleveland. Through October 17, we are collecting items to be assembled into kits of "essentials" for individuals and families who will be arriving. Based on what we have received through your generosity already, our goal is to complete 60 kits. To do so, we still need:

- packs of toilet paper (6-8 rolls preferred)
- packs of paper towels
- bottles of dish soap
- bottles of laundry soap (up to 75 oz preferred)
- bottles of hand soap
- toothbrushes (individually wrapped preferred)
- toothpaste
- deodorant sticks

Please donate any of these items by placing them in the plastic tub located outside Room 13. Thank you for your continued participation in this welcoming ministry, and please contact **Pastor Nathan** at nhowe@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x100 with any questions.



Psalm 104:24 · illustratedministry.com

Happening at The UMCB this week:

Sunday, October 17

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

Messy Church - Trunk or Treat

4-6 PM / The UMCB Lawn

Monday, October 18

Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

Survivorship Fellowship

11 AM / Parlor / Lunch at Red Lobster

Nominations & Leadership Development Meeting

7 PM / Room 13

Tuesday, October 19

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, October 20

Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

UMC Circle

9:30 AM / Fellowship Hall / Contact Betsy Miekle
at meiklebetsyj@juno.com or 440-243-5767
or Nancy Buehler at 440-234-7613

Homework Helpers

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

Thursday, October 21

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 22

Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

Saturday, October 23

Sunday, October 24

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

Ecumenical Youth Group

5-7 PM / The UMCB Lawn, Wesley Hall

Contact Pastor Nathan at

440-234-3525 x101 or nhowe@umcb.org

Contact Pastor Carrie at

440-234-3525 x105 or 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 (ebarnar@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.