

# Worship Celebration



*Third Sunday  
after the Epiphany*

January 23, 2022 + 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.*

# We Gather as God's Children

Prelude

*Lord, Here Am I*

John Ness Beck, arr. Alice Jordan

## Words of Welcome

### + Opening Prayer

*Holy maker of stars and planets, Holy mender of broken dreams,  
Holy fountain of joyful news, we gather in awe of your glory.  
We gather in wonder as your word is proclaimed throughout creation.  
We gather with your faithful ones as your presence is made known  
in the stories of your people in all times and places.  
We gather as you call us to be members of the body of Christ,  
your Word embodied in flesh, offering healing and wholeness through our lives.  
May our songs and our stories, our praise and our thanks,  
guide us closer to you and your dream for creation,  
O Lord, our Rock and our Redeemer. Amen.*

### + Hymn

*Gather Us In*

TFWS 2236

## Commissioning Our Servant Leaders

*Those who serve in leadership roles, on ministry teams and committees, are invited to stand.*

Co-workers with Christ,  
you have been called by God and chosen by God's people  
for leadership in this congregation.  
This ministry is a blessing and a responsibility,  
recognizing your gifts and calling you to work among us toward God's mission.  
In love, we thank you for accepting this call  
to offer your best to God, to this congregation, and to our ministry in the world.  
By God's grace, may you live in Christ  
and make Christ known through all your witness and your work.

Let us pray:

*Almighty God, pour out your blessings upon these your servants  
who have been entrusted with particular ministries in your church.  
Grant them grace to give themselves to your service.  
Keep before them the example of Christ.  
Guide them and us in the work to which you are calling us,  
as we seek to fulfill your mission in this time and place. Amen.*

### Hymn

*We Are the Church* (v. 1 and refrain)

UMH 558

*I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together!  
All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together!*

*The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple  
the church is not a resting place, the church is a people.*

*I am the church! You are the church! We are the church together!  
All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church together!*

Donald Stuart Marsh & Richard Kinsey Avery / © 1972 Hope Publishing Company /  
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# 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 19 (UMH 750)

*Read Responsively*

<sup>1</sup> The heavens are telling the glory of God;  
and the firmament proclaims his handiwork.

<sup>2</sup> ***Day to day pours forth speech,  
and night to night declares knowledge.***

<sup>3</sup> There is no speech, nor are there words;  
their voice is not heard;

<sup>4</sup> ***yet their voice goes out through all the earth,  
and their words to the end of the world.***

In the heavens God has set a tent for the sun,

<sup>5</sup> which comes out like a bridegroom from his chamber,  
and runs its course with joy like a strong man .

<sup>6</sup> ***Its rising is from the end of the heavens,  
and its circuit to the end of them;  
and nothing is hid from its heat.***

<sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect,  
reviving the soul;

***the testimony of the LORD is sure,  
making wise the simple;***

<sup>8</sup> the precepts of the LORD are right,  
rejoicing the heart;

***the commandment of the LORD is clear,  
enlightening the eyes;***

<sup>9</sup> the fear of the LORD is pure,  
enduring forever;

***the ordinances of the LORD are true  
and righteous altogether.***

<sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold;

***sweeter also than honey,  
and drippings of the honeycomb.***

<sup>11</sup> Moreover by them is your servant warned;  
in keeping them there is great reward.

<sup>12</sup> ***But who can detect their errors?  
Clear me from hidden faults.***

<sup>13</sup> Also keep your servant from the insolent;  
let them not have dominion over me!

***Then I shall be blameless,  
and innocent of great transgression.***

<sup>14</sup> ***Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable in your sight,  
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.***

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

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

## Second Lesson—Nehemiah 8.1-3, 5-6, 8-10 (CEB)

8 When the seventh month came and the people of Israel were settled in their towns, all the people gathered together in the area in front of the Water Gate. They asked Ezra the scribe to bring out the Instruction scroll from Moses, according to which the LORD had instructed Israel.

<sup>2</sup>So on the first day of the seventh month, Ezra the priest brought the Instruction before the assembly. This assembly was made up of both men and women and anyone who could understand what they heard. <sup>3</sup>Facing the area in front of the Water Gate, he read it aloud, from early morning until the middle of the day. He read it in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand, and everyone listened attentively to the Instruction scroll.

<sup>5</sup>Standing above all of the people, Ezra the scribe opened the scroll in the sight of all of the people. And as he opened it, all of the people stood up. <sup>6</sup>Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all of the people answered, "Amen! Amen!" while raising their hands. Then they bowed down and worshipped the LORD with their faces to the ground.

<sup>8</sup>They read aloud from the scroll, the Instruction from God, explaining and interpreting it so the people could understand what they heard.

<sup>9</sup>Then Nehemiah the governor, Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all of the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God. Don't mourn or weep." They said this because all the people wept when they heard the words of the Instruction.

<sup>10</sup>"Go, eat rich food, and drink something sweet," he said to them, "and send portions of this to any who have nothing ready! This day is holy to our LORD. Don't be sad, because the joy from the LORD is your strength!"

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

People: *Thanks be to God*

## Sermon

### + Hymn

*How Great Thou Art*

UMH 77

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

*As we join our hearts to lift our prayers to God, we invite you to share your joys and concerns. 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

*Amazing Grace*

John Newton, arr. Jack Schrader

## 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.***

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## + Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Holy Word, Holy Breath, Holy Creator of all,  
with gratitude for making us one body,  
we share our gifts with one another and with the world.  
Transform these gifts in the direction of your dream;  
transform our lives into signs of your presence. Amen.***

# We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

UMH 140

## + Benediction

As living members of the holy body of Christ,  
may we perceive the face of God in everyone we meet.

***May we hear God's holy word in every sound and voice we hear.***

Attentive to God's presence all around us and within us,  
go now in peace to love and serve the world.

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

Postlude

*Agincourt Hymn*

John Dunstable

***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

### **Liturgist**

Sharon Williams

### **Music**

Megan Denman, *Organist*  
Courtney Popp, *Choir Director*  
Margaret Proctor, *Choir Director*

### **Audio Video Elements**

Mark Williams  
Marlynda Dziak

#### ***Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, January 23):***

Holy One, thank you for the gift of this new day.  
Help me to stay attentive to your creation  
and mindful of your teachings throughout it.  
Empower me to notice and to share  
the good news of your grace for all people.  
Amen.

#### ***Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, January 23):***

Holy One, thank you for the gift of this new night.  
Thank you for all the ways  
I noticed your glory and learned your teachings,  
beyond speech or words,  
in the course of the day.  
As I drift to sleep this night,  
draw me closer to you,  
my rock and my redeemer. Amen.

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### **Read & Grow Book Discussion Group**

**Monday, February 14, 6:30-8 PM, via Zoom**

We will meet February 14 at 6:30 PM via Zoom to discuss **The Four Winds** by Kristin Hannah.

For more information and the Zoom link, please contact **Betsy Meikle** at [meiklebetsyj@gmail.com](mailto:meiklebetsyj@gmail.com) or 440-243-5767.



### **Animate Bible Study**

**Sunday Mornings, 10 AM, Chapel**

If Pastor Carrie's sermon on the Bible got you wondering even more questions about Bible study and the life of faith, this class may interest you! Join us for this 7-week short-term study of the Bible: how it came to be, what's really in there, and how the Bible speaks to our souls. Pastor Carrie and Rev. Linda McCowen will lead the class Sundays at 10 AM in the Chapel. Participant books are \$15.

To register, contact **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105.



### **Griefshare Support Group**

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

We will be starting up a new session in January. It is a thirteen week session filled with some reading, some questions, some laughter, and a few tears - all in the comfort of your home. Come meet some new friends who share the same concerns and thoughts as you might have. We will talk about feelings, about doubts, and about problems getting back to a new normal way of life.

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



### **Thursday Night Bible Study**

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

Thursday Night Bible Study will begin a new study. Ladies, come learn more about the Women of the New Testament. Books will be available Sunday morning in Pastor Carrie's study table. Elizabeth's life challenges us to care for others. Women like Herodias and Sapphira warn us against turning away from God toward bitterness and dishonesty. Visit with us to learn about these delightful women.

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



### **UMW Has the perfect gift for Valentine's Day!**

**Order by February 1, Payment and pickup will be February 11**

*"Roses are red, violets are blue, UMW loves popcorn, we know you do, too!"*

Just in time for Valentine's Day, UMW is selling popcorn to help you celebrate. Flavors: Butter (\$ 6), Depot Delight (caramel and cheddar mix \$7) and a Valentine's Day special CHERRY CORDIAL (cherry popcorn drizzled with chocolate \$8)

Please contact **Carol McCleery** (440-234-9078 or [mcmanistee7250@gmail.com](mailto:mcmanistee7250@gmail.com)) to place your order by **February 1**. Payment and pickup will be **February 11**.

Thanks, in advance, for your support.



## January's Love Your Neighbor - Adopt-a-Grindstone Staff Member

This month's "Love Your Neighbor" focus is appreciation of the staff at our partner school, Grindstone Elementary. You're invited to "adopt" a staff member by plucking a heart with a name off of the outreach board starting in January. Simply write a Valentine or Thank you note and place it in the box. You are also welcome to include a small gift card if you choose. Ideas include: Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks, 5 Below, bookstores, local restaurants, and more. (If you choose to do this, place in the finance office mail slot.) There are 72 staff members, so we need your help in making sure each staff member is adopted! You are free to take more than 1! Cards are due back by **February 6**.



## January Loose Offering Benefits UMCOR Sager Brown

Loose change put in the offering plates this month will benefit the **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)** mission station in Sager Brown. We've become keenly aware of the need to continue to support relief efforts over the past month. Sager Brown typically hosts thousands of volunteers each year that put together needed supplies for communities experiencing disasters. Sager Brown has been a vital part of our own congregation's mission activity. While they have not been able to host in the past year, they've continued their work with virtual mission trips, and are preparing now for the eventual arrival of in-person service again. Your loose change is appreciated!

You can also support this 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".



## Support Our Local Food Pantries

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

Please place donations of non-perishable food in the cupboard between 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 prefer, 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 supporting this effort.



## 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 5 and over are eligible to receive one of the vaccines. Visit <https://coronavirus.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/covid-19/dashboards/covid-19-vaccine/covid-19-vaccine-provider-dashboard> 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**.

# Happening at The UMCB this week:

## Sunday, January 23

*Third Sunday after the Epiphany*

### **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

## Monday, January 24

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

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

### **Survivorship Fellowship**

11 AM / Parlor / Lunch at Aladdin's

### **Finance Meeting**

7 PM / Room 13

## Tuesday, January 25

### **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**

9:30 AM / Room 13 and via Zoom / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

### **Griefshare**

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

## Wednesday, January 26

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

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

## Thursday, January 27

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

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

### **Women's Bible 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, January 28

### **Morning Prayer via Zoom**

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

## Saturday, January 29

## Sunday, January 30

*Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany*

### **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

### **Creation Justice Fair Team Meeting**

1:30 PM / Room 13

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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)*

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### **Sunday Morning Formation Opportunities**

#### **Sunday School** (Preschool – 6<sup>th</sup> grade)

10 AM, Second Floor

#### **Youth Bible Study** (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade)

10 AM, Youth Room (RM 31)

#### **Animate Bible Study** (Adults)

10 AM, Chapel

#### **Sunday Scripture Readings Reflection** (Adults)

10 AM, Fellowship Hall

#### **FaithLink** (Adults)

10 AM, Room 13

### **Church Office Hours**

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

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

*Email: [ebarner@umcb.org](mailto:ebarner@umcb.org) or [info@umcb.org](mailto:info@umcb.org)*

*Church office phone: 440-234-3525 x100*

*Work cell phone: 440-710-4498*

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.

### **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 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.