



# Worship Celebration



## *UMCOR Sunday*

March 27, 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/live](https://www.facebook.com/umcberea/live))

**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 "low" community level, face masks are not required in our building. Although face masks will not be required, you are welcome to continue wearing a mask if you choose to do so. Please respect the various comfort levels and risk levels of those around you. If you are experiencing symptoms, please stay connected with us from home until your symptoms are ended.*

# We Gather as God's Children

Prelude

*Largo*

G.F. Handel  
arr. Harry Rowe Shelley

## Words of Welcome

### + Opening Prayer

*In your love, O God, we are never lost.  
In your care, O Christ, we are ever found.  
Help us to feel this truth in our very bones,  
for we are often far from home, uncertain how to return.  
Teach our hearts to embrace your hope.  
Teach our minds to cry out to you.  
We long to taste the goodness of your new creation,  
and we yearn to be held in your arms as beloved children. Amen.*

### + Hymn

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

UMH 384

### Blessing of Mack Emery Kozmalski

*Mack Emery Kozmalski was born on March 21, 2022. Andrew & Christine McMillin are the Grandparents.*

Hail the day on which a child, Mack Emery Kowalski, was born.  
Rejoice! Let us all sing and praise her that gave birth to a child for whom she longed.  
Greet this day with joy. Our hearts are glad.

Let us pray.

*O Creator, who dost all human beings create,  
thou hast a great worth on us conferred by bringing us this little child.  
Amen.*

## 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 32 (CEB)

- 32** The one whose wrongdoing is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered over, is truly happy!  
<sup>2</sup> The one the LORD doesn't consider guilty—  
in whose spirit there is no dishonesty—  
that one is truly happy!  
<sup>3</sup> When I kept quiet, my bones wore out;  
I was groaning all day long—  
every day, every night!—  
<sup>4</sup> because your hand was heavy upon me.  
My energy was sapped as if in a summer drought.  
<sup>5</sup> So I admitted my sin to you;  
I didn't conceal my guilt.  
"I'll confess my sins to the LORD," is what I said.  
Then you removed the guilt of my sin.  
<sup>6</sup> That's why all the faithful should pray to you during troubled times,  
so that a great flood of water won't reach them.

<sup>7</sup>You are my secret hideout!  
You protect me from trouble.  
You surround me with songs of rescue!  
<sup>8</sup>I will instruct you and teach you  
about the direction you should go.  
I'll advise you and keep my eye on you.  
<sup>9</sup>Don't be like some senseless horse or mule,  
whose movement must be controlled  
with a bit and a bridle.  
Don't be anything like that!  
<sup>10</sup>The pain of the wicked is severe,  
but faithful love surrounds the one who trusts the LORD.  
<sup>11</sup>You who are righteous, rejoice in the LORD and be glad!  
All you whose hearts are right, sing out in joy!

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

**Gospel Lesson** - Luke 15.1-3, 11b-32 (CEB)

<sup>15</sup>All the tax collectors and sinners were gathering around Jesus to listen to him. <sup>2</sup>The Pharisees and legal experts were grumbling, saying, "This man welcomes sinners and eats with them."

<sup>3</sup>Jesus told them this parable:

<sup>11</sup>Jesus said, "A certain man had two sons. <sup>12</sup>The younger son said to his father, 'Father, give me my share of the inheritance.' Then the father divided his estate between them. <sup>13</sup>Soon afterward, the younger son gathered everything together and took a trip to a land far away. There, he wasted his wealth through extravagant living.

<sup>14</sup>"When he had used up his resources, a severe food shortage arose in that country and he began to be in need. <sup>15</sup>He hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. <sup>16</sup>He longed to eat his fill from what the pigs ate, but no one gave him anything. <sup>17</sup>When he came to his senses, he said, 'How many of my father's hired hands have more than enough food, but I'm starving to death! <sup>18</sup>I will get up and go to my father, and say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. <sup>19</sup>I no longer deserve to be called your son. Take me on as one of your hired hands." ' <sup>20</sup>So he got up and went to his father.

"While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with compassion. His father ran to him, hugged him, and kissed him. <sup>21</sup>Then his son said, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.' <sup>22</sup>But the father said to his servants, 'Quickly, bring out the best robe and put it on him! Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet! <sup>23</sup>Fetch the fattened calf and slaughter it. We must celebrate with feasting <sup>24</sup>because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life! He was lost and is found!' And they began to celebrate.

<sup>25</sup>"Now his older son was in the field. Coming in from the field, he approached the house and heard music and dancing. <sup>26</sup>He called one of the servants and asked what was going on. <sup>27</sup>The servant replied, 'Your brother has arrived, and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he received his son back safe and sound.' <sup>28</sup>Then the older son was furious and didn't want to enter in, but his father came out and begged him. <sup>29</sup>He answered his father, 'Look, I've served you all these years, and I never disobeyed your instruction. Yet you've never given me as much as a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. <sup>30</sup>But when this son of yours returned, after gobbling up your estate on prostitutes, you slaughtered the fattened calf for him.' <sup>31</sup>Then his father said, 'Son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. <sup>32</sup>But we had to celebrate and be glad because this brother of yours was dead and is alive. He was lost and is found.'"

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

**Sermon**

**+ Hymn**

*Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling*

UMH 348

## **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**

*I Know the Lord*

arr. Joyce Eilers Bacak

### **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!*

**Today is UMCOR Sunday.** *Your gifts, combined with gifts from across the connection, will help UMCOR respond promptly during times of crisis. UMCOR has no source of income for sustaining administration except through gifts to UMCOR Sunday offering. When we support the UMCOR's business expenses, 100 percent of gifts given to UMCOR for specific projects will go toward each project, not administrative costs. Your gifts allow UMCOR to share God's love with communities that are in need. Thank you for your faithful giving.*

### **+ Doxology**

*(to the tune of Amazing Grace, UMH 378)*

***Praise God our Maker, Christ the Son,  
who came to walk this earth.  
Through joy and pain he knows our life,  
with Spirit, gives new birth.***

Public Domain

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

***God of overflowing abundance, you bless the earth and it brings forth food.  
We, who have been given so much, rejoice in our ability to offer help to those in need.  
As we give generously today and in the days to come,  
bless what we give, the bounty of this good earth,  
that our gifts may reach those who need it most.  
May we, who seek to follow Christ, continue to give freely  
just as Christ gave all. Amen.***

## **We Go Out to Serve in God's Name**

### **+ Hymn**

*This Is a Day of New Beginnings*

UMH 383

### **+ Benediction**

*In Christ, we are a new creation.  
In Christ, the lost are found.  
In Christ, we find our truest home.  
In Christ, we are brought into communion, with God and with each other.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.*

### **Postlude**

*College University*

arr. Adrian Vernon Fish

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

## Worship Participants

### **Pastors**

Rev. Nathan Howe  
Rev. Carrie Antczak

### **Liturgist**

Linda McCowen

### **Music**

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

### **Audio Video Elements**

Mark Williams  
Marlynda Dziak

#### ***Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, March 27):***

Loving God, in all I do this day,  
use me as a sign of your reconciling love.  
Let me not view others from a human point of view,  
but let me perceive all whom I will encounter  
with the mind of Christ,  
through whom I live and pray. Amen.

#### ***Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, March 27):***

Merciful God, if I have strayed from you this day,  
call me back to your loving embrace.  
If I have harbored resentment  
for the grace you have given others, correct me.  
Help me claim in thought and deed  
the inheritance of the saints who share with Jesus  
compassion and forgiveness for all  
who lose their way. Amen.

*Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion.  
Copyright 2013.*



### **Calling All Ushers, Current and Prospective**

#### ***Sunday, March 27, after the 9 AM worship service, Sanctuary***

On Sunday, March 27, after the 9 AM worship service, all current ushers for worship services in the Sanctuary and those who are interested in learning more about the ministry of ushers are invited to join Pastor Nathan in the Sanctuary for a brief meeting.

*Are you friendly, outgoing, and looking for a place to serve?* If so, you might enjoy serving as an usher. In many ways, ushers are the "face" of the congregation, the first people many folks see when they arrive and the last ones they see as they leave. Ushers can serve weekly, occasionally, or as needed, depending on your availability. Typical duties include greeting worshipers as they enter the building, distributing bulletins, assisting folks to find their way around the building, and making sure the Sanctuary is tidy after the congregation has left.

If you are not able to attend the meeting on March 27 but would like to serve in this role or learn more about it, please contact **Pastor Nathan** at [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x101.



### **Thursday Night Bible Study**

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

Ladies, come learn more about the Women of the New Testament. We are learning about some ladies, whom we don't know about, as well as some favorites, Elizabeth, Mary and sisters Mary & Martha ... do you think you really know these ladies? Come join us and find out new ...

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



### **Ecumenical Youth Group - Extreme Easter Egg Hunt**

#### ***March 27, 5 PM, Wesley Hall***

It's Easter Egg Season! Join us for a Teen-level Easter Egg hunt! (Open to 4th-12th grade.)

Questions? Contact **Pastor Carrie** at [cantczak@umcb.org](mailto:cantczak@umcb.org) or 440-234-3525 x105.



## Upcoming Book Discussions

At the heart of our discipleship journey—growing in our love of God and neighbor—is the ongoing challenge and opportunity to perceive ourselves and each other more fully and more truly as God’s beloved children. Please join us for one or more of these conversations around books that can help us grow in this sacred work.

**Tuesday, March 29, 6:30 PM, Fellowship Hall**

### **Biased: Uncovering the Hidden Prejudice that Shapes What We See, Think, and Do**

by Jennifer L. Eberhardt

How do we perceive one another? What biases are ingrained in ourselves, our institutions, and our communities? With a perspective that is simultaneously scientific, investigative, and informed by personal experience, Jennifer Eberhardt—a social psychologist at Stanford University—offers us the language and courage we need to face one of the biggest and most troubling issues of our time: the biases that cloud our perception of one another. Each of us is vulnerable to bias, but we are not doomed to live under its grip.

To express your interest in participating in any of these discussions, please **Pastor Nathan** at 440-234-3525 x101 or [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org).



## Candy Donations Needed

***Place donations in the bin by the Outreach Board next to Room 13***

It’s time to load up the kids on sugar... and small prizes! Our children’s egg hunt will be **April 10**, and our Youth egg hunt, **March 27**. The bin for your donations of candy and prizes is located by the outreach board.

Thank you for your sharing some joy and fun with our kids big and small!



## March Loose Offering Benefits Berea Community Outreach

The mission of Berea Community Outreach is to support residents and connect the community by lending a hand to make a difference. They strive to identify specific needs and provide services to the people who need it most with programs such as Berea Cares which mobilizes religious and civic organizations to serve the community. Their programs include: Senior Grass, Leaf and Snow Removal, Senior Wheels, Berea Cares, Housing Resource Office, Veterans Outreach Office, The Food Pantry, Dinner to Your Door, and The Backpack Food Program (provides a bag of food to food insecure students at Grindstone Elementary and Berea-Midpark High School).

You can 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”.

Thank you for your generous support!



## 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.



## **Remember or Honor a Loved One & Support Our Global Partners in Mission** **DEADLINE TO SUBMIT REQUEST & PAYMENTS IS THIS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30!**

This Easter, we are inviting you to give missionally and fill our worship space with symbolic new life in the form of seed paper butterflies. Each butterfly will represent a donation made in memory or honor of a person of your naming. The funds donated will support the important ministry of our global partners in mission in Cambodia and Guatemala. (There will be some lovely flowers decorating our worship space as well.)

Request butterflies by **this Wednesday March 30** online at [www.umcb.org/donate](http://www.umcb.org/donate) or by using the forms available at the back of each worship space. Your donation can be made by a check mailed to the church or online at [www.umcb.org/donate](http://www.umcb.org/donate) with the memo "butterfly".

A full list of those remembered or honored will be included in the Easter bulletin as well as the May Caller. After Easter, we invite you to come take your butterfly from our display or request it be mailed to you. You can then plant your butterfly to enjoy lovely spring flowers. (Directions will be included for planting.)



## **Creation Justice Fair**

**Saturday, April 23, 11 AM - 4 PM, Wesley Hall, Fellowship Hall, & Gathering Place**

The United Methodist Church of Berea in collaboration with Ridgewood United Methodist Church looks forward to welcoming you to our Creation Justice Fair. As United Methodists, we are committed to caring for the wholeness and health of God's creation, affirming the inherent goodness of the world God has made. All people are called to live in healthy, compassionate, and just relationships with God, with our neighbors, and with the earth.

We hope you will join us for our Creation Justice Fair on April 23 as we continue to grow in our response to God's call to care for the goodness of creation.

Details about the Speakers and Organizations that will be hosting tables can be found on the Creation Justice Fair page of our website: [www.umcb.org/creation-justice-fair.org](http://www.umcb.org/creation-justice-fair.org).

If you have any questions about the training or the Fair in general, please contact **Barb Dawson** at 440- 885-1672 or [bdawson8531@sbcglobal.net](mailto:bdawson8531@sbcglobal.net) or Pastor Nathan at 440-234-3525 x101 or [nhowe@umcb.org](mailto:nhowe@umcb.org).



## **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.

## **Memorial service for Buck Stultz**

**Saturday, April 9, Visitation - 10:30 AM, Service - 11 AM, Asbury UMC in Delaware, OH**

The memorial service for Buck Stultz, spouse of former UMCB pastor, Rev. Valerie Stultz, will be Saturday, April 9 at Asbury UMC in Delaware, Ohio. The service will begin at 11 AM. The family will be available to greet beginning at 10:30 AM, and there will be a reception following the memorial service. For a Zoom link for the service, those who are interested are invited to email [marnyfrances@gmail.com](mailto:marnyfrances@gmail.com).

# Happening at The UMCB this week:

## Sunday, March 27 - Fourth Sunday in Lent

### 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

### New Member Class

4 PM / Room 13 / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

### Ecumenical Youth Group - Extreme Easter Egg Hunt

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

### The Porch (BW Campus Ministries)

7 PM / Chapel

## Monday, March 28

### Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

### Survivorship Fellowship

11 AM / Parlor / Lunch at Teamz Restaurant

## Tuesday, March 29

### Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

### Tuesday Morning Bible Study - Animate: Spiritual Practices

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

### Book Discussion

6:30 PM / Fellowship Hall / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

### Griefshare

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

## Wednesday, March 30

### Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

### Homework Helpers

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

## Thursday, March 31

### Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

### Handbells

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

### 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, April 1

### Morning Prayer via Zoom

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

### Women's Retreat

6:30 - 9 PM / [Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at marylynn482@gmail.com](#)

## Saturday, April 2

### Women's Retreat

8:30-3:30 PM / [Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at marylynn482@gmail.com](#)

## Sunday, April 3 - Fifth Sunday in Lent

### 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

### New Member Class

4 PM / Room 13 / [Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

### The Porch (BW Campus Ministries)

7 PM / Chapel



### Holy Week at The United Methodist Church of Berea

170 Seminary St, Berea, OH 44134 + [www.umcb.org](http://www.umcb.org)

Online worship services: [www.facebook.com/umcberea/live](http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/live)



### Palm Sunday April 10

9 AM, Sanctuary & online

The Baldwin Wallace University Treble Choir will participate, marking the conclusion of BWU's Bach Festival.

11 AM, Wesley Hall



### Maundy Thursday April 14

7 PM, Sanctuary & online



### Good Friday April 15

Noon, Meet at Coe Lake

Berea Community Crosswalk with a brief worship service

7 PM, Sanctuary & online  
*Tenebrae (Service of Shadows)*



### Holy Saturday April 16

7 PM, Sanctuary & online



### Easter Sunday April 17

7 AM, North Lawn + 9 AM, Sanctuary & online + 11 AM, Wesley Hall

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

Email: [ebarner@umcb.org](mailto:ebarner@umcb.org) or [info@umcb.org](mailto:info@umcb.org)  
Office: 440-234-3525 x100, Cell: 440-710-4498