

Worship Celebration



Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 4, 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)

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)

While our county is at “high” community level, you are asked to wear a face mask at all times inside our building in accordance with CDC guidelines. Wearing a well-fitted face mask provides a layer of safety for you and for others in the room with you. Please practice love for your neighbors by wearing a face mask whenever you are indoors and in public, in our building and throughout our county.

If you are experiencing symptoms—including but not limited to a cough, fever or chills, shortness of breath, fatigue, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, or congestion—please practice caution and stay connected with us from home until your symptoms are ended.

We Gather as God's Children

Prelude

Berceuse

Louis Vierne

Words of Welcome

+ **Call to Worship** (from Psalm 139)

O Lord, you have searched us, and you know us.

You know when we sit down and when we rise.

You discern our thoughts from far away.

We gather to praise you, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works. This we know very well.

With all your children everywhere, you have knit us together as family.

We give you all thanks and praise!

+ **Hymn**

How Great Thou Art

UMH 77

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 - Philemon 1-21 (CEB)

¹ From Paul, who is a prisoner for the cause of Christ Jesus, and our brother Timothy.

To Philemon our dearly loved coworker, ² Apphia our sister, Archippus our fellow soldier, and the church that meets in your house.

³ May the grace and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

⁴ Philemon, I thank my God every time I mention you in my prayers ⁵ because I've heard of your love and faithfulness, which you have both for the Lord Jesus and for all God's people. ⁶ I pray that your partnership in the faith might become effective by an understanding of all that is good among us in Christ. ⁷ I have great joy and encouragement because of your love, since the hearts of God's people are refreshed by your actions, my brother.

⁸ Therefore, though I have enough confidence in Christ to command you to do the right thing, ⁹ I would rather appeal to you through love. I, Paul—an old man, and now also a prisoner for Christ Jesus—¹⁰ appeal to you for my child Onesimus. I became his father in the faith during my time in prison. ¹¹ He was useless to you before, but now he is useful to both of us. ¹² I'm sending him back to you, which is like sending you my own heart. ¹³ I considered keeping him with me so that he might serve me in your place during my time in prison because of the gospel. ¹⁴ However, I didn't want to do anything without your consent so that your act of kindness would occur willingly and not under pressure. ¹⁵ Maybe this is the reason that Onesimus was separated from you for a while so that you might have him back forever—¹⁶ no longer as a slave but more than a slave—that is, as a dearly loved brother. He is especially a dearly loved brother to me. How much more can he become a brother to you, personally and spiritually in the Lord!

¹⁷ So, if you really consider me a partner, welcome Onesimus as if you were welcoming me. ¹⁸ If he has harmed you in any way or owes you money, charge it to my account. ¹⁹ I, Paul, will pay it back to you (I'm writing this with my own hand). Of course, I won't mention that you owe me your life.

²⁰ Yes, brother, I want this favor from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. ²¹ I'm writing to you, confident of your obedience and knowing that you will do more than what I ask. ²² Also, one more thing—prepare a guest room for me. I hope that I will be released from prison to be with you because of your prayers.

²³ Epaphras, who is in prison with me for the cause of Christ Jesus, greets you, ²⁴ as well as my coworkers Mark, Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke.

²⁵ May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson - Luke 14.25-33 (CEB)

²⁵Large crowds were traveling with Jesus. Turning to them, he said, ²⁶“Whoever comes to me and doesn’t hate father and mother, spouse and children, and brothers and sisters—yes, even one’s own life—cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever doesn’t carry their own cross and follow me cannot be my disciple.

²⁸“If one of you wanted to build a tower, wouldn’t you first sit down and calculate the cost, to determine whether you have enough money to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when you have laid the foundation but couldn’t finish the tower, all who see it will begin to belittle you. ³⁰They will say, ‘Here’s the person who began construction and couldn’t complete it!’ ³¹Or what king would go to war against another king without first sitting down to consider whether his ten thousand soldiers could go up against the twenty thousand coming against him? ³²And if he didn’t think he could win, he would send a representative to discuss terms of peace while his enemy was still a long way off. ³³In the same way, none of you who are unwilling to give up all of your possessions can be my disciple.

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

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

Sermon

+ Hymn

Help Us Accept Each Other

UMH 560

Prayers of the People

As we join our hearts to lift our prayers to God, we invite you to share your joys and concerns. If you are worshipping with us online, you can share your prayer request through the “comments” section on Facebook. And throughout the week, you can share your prayer requests with Pastor Nathan (440-234-3525 x101, nhowe@umcb.org), the church office (info@umcb.org), or through our website (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 or scan the QR code to the right), by mailing a check to the church office, or in the offering plates that are passed through the worship space. Through whatever means you give, thank you for your generous and ongoing participation toward making and maturing disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world!



Offertory Anthem

The Lone, Wild Bird

Invitation to Communion

God our Creator, who has fashioned us carefully,
draws us together, invites us to worship, and welcomes us to the table.
Trusting that God knows us better than we know ourselves,
that God alone comprehends the true value of every creature,
and that God’s grace is helping us to become what we’re created to be,
let us consider and confess all that separates us from God and from each other:

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart.

We have failed to be an obedient church.

***We have not done your will, we have broken your law,
we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors,
and we have not heard the cry of the needy.***

Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Remember the good news: the grace of God holds us and perfects us day by day,
making us holy and whole. In the name of Christ, we are forgiven.

In fellowship with the Holy Spirit, we are freed to live more fully.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. ***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts. ***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. ***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

It is right, it is good, and it is joyful to give thanks to you, God of mystery and miracle.

When there was only darkness, you made light.

When we cried out to you from captivity, you claimed us as your own.

When we forgot our love for you, you did not forget us.

You sent your prophets to turn us around and renewed your promises

with a bow in the sky, the parting of the sea, the gift of a your Child, the company of your Spirit.

And so, with your people on earth and all the communion of your good creation,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.***

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy God, we thank you for Jesus—for his teaching and healing, his challenging and feeding,
his living and dying and rising, that we might be raised with him, and all the world be made new.

We thank you that on the night before he died, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it, and shared it with his friends, saying:

“Receive, eat; this is my body, given for you.”

We thank you for the way he took the cup, gave thanks to you, shared it, and said:

***“Drink from this, all of you. This is the sign of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.***

Whenever you eat and drink, do so in remembrance of me.”

And so, with thanksgiving, we receive this bread and wine, gifts of your good earth,
offering our whole selves as a living sacrifice, committed to your mission
as we remember the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on your people gathered and on these gifts—

bread and wine of earth, body and blood of heaven;

our frail flesh and blood, your holy people. Make us to be Christ’s body for your world.

For this world, we work and pray: ***end all war, mend your wounded earth,
heal those who suffer, comfort those who mourn,
and infuse us with your peace, rooted in what is just.***

Through the power of your Holy Spirit, unite us with Christ and with one another
as we work and wait in hope, confident in that day when Christ will come to make all things new
and we will feast all together at your table.

***Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of your Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.***

The Lord’s Prayer

Sharing of the Bread & Cup

Hymn

*Breathe on Me, Breath of God
Spirit of the Living God*

UMH 420

UMH 393

Prayer following Communion

***Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us.
Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit,
to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn

A Place at the Table

*For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star over head.*

*And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice! justice, and joy!*

*For woman and man, a place at the table, revising the roles, deciding to share,
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power, for woman and man, a system that's fair.*

*And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice! justice, and joy!*

*For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song,
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong.*

*And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice! justice, and joy!*

*For just and unjust, a place at the table. abuser, abused, with need to forgive,
in anger, in hurt, a mind-set of mercy, for just and unjust, a new way to live.*

*And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice! justice, and joy!*

*For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free.*

*And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,
Yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice! justice, and joy!*

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+ Benediction

May the God whose hands are making us and whose grace is saving us,
now lead us forward to share joy with the world.

Go from this place in fellowship with the Creator, the Savior, the Companion.

Go from this place to love and serve this world God has made.

We go in peace. We go in hope. We go to share God's joy!

Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

Postlude

Little Fugue in G minor

J. S. Bach

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

Worship Participants

Pastors

Rev. Nathan Howe
Rev. Carrie Antczak

Liturgist

Sandy Marek

Music

Megan Denman, *Organist*

Audio Video Elements

Mark Williams
Marlynda Dziak
Debbie Haas

Morning Prayer (week of Sunday, September 4):

God of all creation,
guide my hands throughout this day.
Prompt me to keep my hands open—
not clinging to what you have entrusted
but freely offering, freely receiving,
in response to this day's needs.
May each small movement be a sign of trust,
a reminder that my life is in your hands. Amen.

Evening Prayer (week of Sunday, September 4):

God of every beginning and ending,
as I remember the moments of this day,
help me to recognize sisters and brothers
entrusted to my care.
As I rest this night in your care,
mend my courage and fire my imagination,
that I might be useful to you.
Plant me where you need me tomorrow,
in the name of Christ. Amen.

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Make a Joyful Noise to the Lord: Join our Music Ministry

Handbell Choir - Thursdays, beginning September 8, 6 PM, Sanctuary

The **handbell choir** is always looking for new joyful ringers, and you do not need to have any prior music experience to participate. For more information, please contact **Tori Penfound** (tpenfound@umcb.org).

Choir - Thursdays, beginning September 8, 7 PM, Parlor

Our choir will sing during the 9 am worship service on Sundays in the Sanctuary. For more information, please contact **Courtney Popp** (cpopp@umcb.org) or **Margaret Proctor** (margaret.proctor@sbcglobal.net).

Praise Band

The **praise band**, which helps to lead our 11 AM worship service in Wesley Hall, always is open to welcoming new singers, joining their voices to help the congregation sing praise to God. For more information, please contact **Courtney Popp** (cpopp@umcb.org).



Sunday Afternoon Walk

Sunday, September 11, 5 PM,

West Creek Reservation, 2277 West Ridgewood Dr., Parma, OH 44134

Enjoy the beauty of God's creation, outdoors and in each other! All are welcome to join us on Sunday, September 11 at 5 PM as we explore some of the trails around the West Creek Reservation. If you plan to join us, please RSVP by **Thursday, September 8** to **Pastor Nathan** at 440-234-3525 x101 or nhowe@umcb.org.



Fall Formation Open House Weekend

Saturday, September 10 - Sunday, September 11

Join us as we kick-off the 2022-2023 formation year! Events will include a **Stuffie & Dolly Sleepover** (Saturday, 7 PM), a **Bonfire Fellowship** (Saturday, 7 PM, the North Lawn), **Friends & Neighbors Worship** (Sunday, 9 AM in the Sanctuary or 11 AM in Wesley Hall), and a **Faith Formation Brunch** (Sunday, 10 AM, Fellowship Hall). Please invite at least three friends or neighbors, and attend these fun and engaging events with them! Questions? Please contact to **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x105.



Read & Grow Book Discussion Group

Monday, September 12, 6:30-8 PM, Room 13

Our first book discussion is on **The World That We Knew** by Alice Hoffman. For more information, please contact **Betsy Meikle** at meiklebetsyj@gmail.com or 440-243-5767.



A Disciple's Path

Mondays, September 12, September 19, September 26, and October 3, 6:15 PM, Parlor

A Disciple's Path is a four-week study based on a Wesleyan practice of discipleship that explores what it means to glorify God through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. This study is perfect for those who are new to our congregation, who are interested in learning about membership in The United Methodist Church, or who want to deepen their relationship with Christ and the church. For more information or to express your interest in participating, please contact **Pastor Nathan** at **440-234-3525 x101** or nhowe@umcb.org.



Tuesday Morning Bible Study

Tuesdays beginning September 13, 9:30 AM, Room 13

All are welcome to join us every Tuesday as we read and discuss scripture together. For the next couple months, our focus will be on the ministry of the Holy Spirit, which brings new life to us as members of the body of Christ, leading and guiding us in ways that transform us and prepare us for ministry in the world. For more information, please contact **Pastor Nathan** at **440-234-3525 x101** or nhowe@umcb.org.



GriefShare Support Group

Wednesdays Starting September 7, 6:30 PM, via Zoom or

Fridays, Starting September 9, 1:30 PM, Room 13

We are starting a new GriefShare session! We are offering encouragement and help after the loss of a spouse, child, family member or friend or pet. For more information and Zoom details, contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at marylynn482@gmail.com or **440-409-5931**.



Equal Exchange Items Available the First Sunday of Each Month

Sunday, September 4, 10-11 AM, by the Parlor

Stop by the Equal Exchange sales table this Sunday (and each first Sunday of the month) to inquire about or buy some delicious chocolates, tea (did someone say iced tea?) or the ever popular Breakfast Blend (or decaf) coffee. Thank you for your continued support of farmers around the world who are paid a fair wage for their hard work in producing these items in a sustainable manner. Learn more about Equal Exchange at equalexchange.coop.



Drink Local Drink Tap Beach Clean-up

Saturday, September 10, 10 am - Noon, Edgewater Park

Registration Required at <https://drinklocaldrinktap.org/engagement/beach-cleanups/>

Enjoy the summer weather with your family near Lake Erie and partner with some new people to protect birds and fish and help clean up our great lake! Join Drink Local Drink Tap for their summer beach clean-up will be held from 10 am - Noon on Saturday, September 10.



Support Our Local Food Pantries

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

We support our local food pantries on a continual basis. Please place donations of non-perishable food in the cupboard between the Sanctuary and the library anytime you are in the building. Deliveries to pantries are made regularly as we do our best to keep them stocked.

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. Please note "food pantry" on the description line. Thank you for supporting this effort.

Happening at The UMCB this week:

Sunday, September 4

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

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

[videos](#)

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Monday, September 5

Labor Day - Offices Closed

****No Survivor's Fellowship****

Morning Prayer

9 AM - 9:30 AM / via Zoom /

[Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

Tuesday, September 6

Morning Prayer

9 AM - 9:30 AM / via Zoom /

[Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

Stephen Ministers

6:30 PM / Room 13

Wednesday, September 7

Morning Prayer

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

Grief Share

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

Thursday, September 8

Morning Prayer

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

Handbell Choir Rehearsal

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

Thursday Evening Bible Study

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

Choir Rehearsal

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

Friday, September 9

Morning Prayer

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

Grief Share

1:30 PM / Room 13 / [Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at marylynn482@gmail.com](#)



THE UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF BERA

170 Seminary Street, Berea, OH 44017

Open House Weekend

Saturday, September 10 -

Sunday, September 11

Stuffie & Dolly Sleepover

Saturday, 7 PM, Second Floor - Bring your stuffed animal or doll for a fun slumber party! Popcorn, games, and story. Tuck in your toy for the night, and enjoy brunch with them tomorrow!



Bonfire Fellowship

Saturday, 7 PM, North Lawn - Join us for s'mores and friendship. No agenda, just getting to know you!

Friends & Neighbors Worship

Join us for worship **Sunday at 9 AM (Traditional)** or **11 AM (Modern)**.



Faith Formation Brunch

Sunday, 10 AM, Fellowship Hall - Join us for brunch as we get to know our Sunday School and Small Group leaders.



Invite your friends or neighbors and attend with them!

Saturday, September 10

UMW Executive Board

10AM / Fellowship Hall

Fall Formation Open House - Stuffie & Dolly Sleepover

7 PM / Second Floor

Fall Formation Open House - Bonfire

7 PM / Front Lawn

Sunday, September 11

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

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

Fall Formation Open House - Brunch

10 AM / Fellowship Hall

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Sunday Afternoon Walk

5 PM / West Creek Reservation
(2277 West Ridgewood Drive, Parma, OH 44134)

BW Campus Ministry (Breaking Bread Fellowship)

6 PM / Fellowship Hall