



Worship Celebration

*Reign of Christ Sunday
Commitment Sunday*

November 20, 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 either a “medium” or a “low” community level rating, face masks will be optional in our building. If you are immunocompromised or at higher risk for severe disease, please consult with your healthcare provider about wearing a mask or taking other additional precautions. Higher quality masks, including N95s and KN95s, are especially encouraged as they provide additional protection both to the wearer and to those around them.

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

Festivities!

Phil Lehenbauer

Words of Welcome

+ Opening Prayer

*Loving God of power and peace, we seek a new way of being:
where there is courage to speak truth in love to power;
where there is mutual support in church and community;
where there is humility in welcoming the other;
where there is justice and equity for all.*

*Loving God of power and peace, re-order our lives and our world by your love,
in the name of Christ who reigns. Amen.*

+ Hymn

How Great Thou Art

UMH 77

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 - Jeremiah 23.1-6 (CEB)

²³ Watch out, you shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture, declares the LORD. ²This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, proclaims about the shepherds who "tend to" my people: You are the ones who have scattered my flock and driven them away. You haven't attended to their needs, so I will take revenge on you for the terrible things you have done to them, declares the LORD. ³I myself will gather the few remaining sheep from all the countries where I have driven them. I will bring them back to their pasture, and they will be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will place over them shepherds who care for them. Then they will no longer be afraid or dread harm, nor will any be missing, declares the LORD.

⁵The time is coming, declares the LORD, when I will raise up a righteous descendant from David's line, and he will rule as a wise king. He will do what is just and right in the land. ⁶During his lifetime, Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And his name will be The LORD Is Our Righteousness.

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Second Lesson - Colossians 1.11-20 (CEB)

¹¹by being strengthened through his glorious might so that you endure everything and have patience; ¹²and by giving thanks with joy to the Father. He made it so you could take part in the inheritance, in light granted to God's holy people. ¹³He rescued us from the control of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves. ¹⁴He set us free through the Son and forgave our sins.

¹⁵The Son is the image of the invisible God,
the one who is first over all creation,

¹⁶Because all things were created by him:
both in the heavens and on the earth,
the things that are visible and the things that are invisible.

Whether they are thrones or powers,
or rulers or authorities,
all things were created through him and for him.

¹⁷ He existed before all things,
and all things are held together in him.
¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church,
who is the beginning,
the one who is firstborn from among the dead
so that he might occupy the first place in everything.
¹⁹ Because all the fullness of God was pleased to live in him,
²⁰ and he reconciled all things to himself through him—
whether things on earth or in the heavens.
He brought peace through the blood of his cross.

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

People: *Thanks be to God.*

Sermon

+ Hymn

At the Name of Jesus

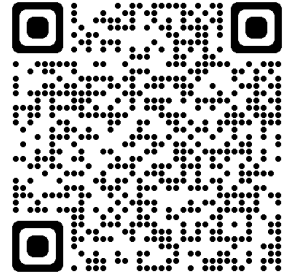
UMH 168

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. If you are worshiping 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!



Travis Cottrell
Russell Mauldin

Choir Anthem

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

+ 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 (A Covenant Prayer in the Wesleyan Tradition)

*We are no longer our own, but yours.
Put us to what you will, place us with whom you will.
Put us to doing, put us to suffering.
Let us be put to work for you or set aside for you,
praised for you or criticized for you.
Let us be full, let us be empty.
Let us have all things, let us have nothing.
We freely and fully surrender all things to your glory and service.
And now, O wonderful and holy God, Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer,
you are ours, and we are yours. So be it.
And the covenant which we have made on earth,
let it also be made in heaven. Amen.*

We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn

How Firm a Foundation

UMH 529

+ Benediction

We are all neighbors in the Spirit's beloved community,
citizens of Christ's peaceable world.

Go and share with others the justice, kindness, and compassion of God.

We will. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Postlude

Now Thank We All Our God

Paul Manz

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

Worship Participants

Pastors

Rev. Nathan Howe
Rev. Carrie Antczak

Liturgist

Joanne Mansfield

Music

Don Jackson, *Organist*
Margaret Proctor, *Choir Director*
Courtney Popp, *Choir Director*

Audio Video Elements

Mark Williams
Marlynda Dziak
Debbie Haas

Morning Prayer

God of the new day,
at the dawning of the first day,
you spoke creation into being and declared it good.
You crafted each flower and vegetable
and bird of the air and beast of the land,
and there in all of it was your Spirit and Christ.
We give thanks for the dawning of this day
and pray that we might know your holy triune presence
in all we see, say, and do.
Guard us, and cause us to sing the goodness of your creation.
Amen.

Evening Prayer

Ever-present God, you are present even
to the suffering and to those in pain.
Be present to those who hurt this night,
and rain down mercy and justice
upon your beloved creation.
Be with us and those we love this night,
and bring us through
to the dawning of a new day. Amen.

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Community Thanksgiving Worship Service

Wednesday, November 23, 7 PM

Sanctuary & online at www.facebook.com/umcberea/live

Invite your friends and neighbors, and join us as we give thanks for God's presence and share God's love with our community. Please bring with you a non-perishable food item or financial donation to be given to support the ongoing work of Berea Community Outreach, caring for our neighbors in need.



Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, November 27 following the worship services

You are invited to help prepare our worship spaces for Advent following each worship service next Sunday, November 27. All are welcome and appreciated!



Lighting Candles on the Advent Wreath

As we count down the Sundays leading up to Christmas, in worship we will light an additional candle each week on the Advent Wreath. This is a great opportunity especially for families with children to participate in a tangible ritual, but of course individuals, couples, or any other grouping is more than welcome, too!

Contact Pastor Nathan at nhowe@umcb.org or 440-234-3525 x101 to sign up.



Divine Interruptions - Advent and Christmas Worship Series

November 27, 2022 - January 8, 2023

The word "advent" is from the Latin *adventus*, meaning "coming" or "arrival." Throughout the season of Advent, we renew our anticipation not only to celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas but, from the larger perspective, to welcome the ultimate fullness of God's beloved community "on earth as it is in heaven."

The traditional readings from our scriptures during Advent include a variety of "annunciation" or "announcement" stories: stories that anticipate this arrival or fulfillment of God's promises. The most familiar of these annunciation stories is from God's messenger, Gabriel, to Mary, the mother of Jesus (Luke 1.26-38). But all throughout our scriptures, God's messengers come among God's people to announce and describe God's dream and intentions for our lives and for the life of creation. Often, these announcements are a substantial "divine interruption": disrupting our normal routines and expectations and inviting us into something new.

This year, during our Advent and Christmas seasons (from the First Sunday of Advent on November 27 through Epiphany of the Lord Sunday on January 8), we will explore a few of the many annunciation stories from our scriptures, including those of Hagar, Sarah and Abraham, Hannah, Mary and Joseph, the shepherds, the early church, and the magi. Through these stories, we will consider the many ways God comes into our lives still, as both gracious disruption and generous invitation.



United Methodist Student Sunday

Sunday, November 27

During Advent, we are reminded of the unanticipated experience of God interrupting our everyday lives. God's love in Christian community reminds us of a deeper joy that we can be part of creating. When you give to the special offering on United Methodist Student Day, you invest in a channel of hope for young leaders who bring their Wesleyan values into their schools and professions. Your contribution is an acknowledgment that the church has confidence in them and in their abilities.

Please give generously, partnering with the next generation to walk in God's path.



Upcoming Book Discussion

This Is How It Always Is: A Novel by Laurie Frankel

Wednesday, November 30, 6:30 PM, Parlor

In this novel from 2017, Frankel shares the story of a family with five boys in which the youngest feels he's something entirely different—a girl. Through the course of the story, readers are invited to reflect on the role of family and change, including the way changes often are both miraculous and hard to navigate. All are welcome to join us.

Copies of the books are available through most library systems, but please contact **Pastor Nathan** at nhowe@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x101** if you need help accessing a copy and if you plan to participate.



Children's & Youth Christmas Party

Sunday, December 4, 5 PM, Above the Barre

Save-the-date for this fun evening of gymnastics fun, gift exchange, and pizza!

Children and youth of all ages are welcome - we ask caregivers of children under 12 to stay to help supervise.

RSVP by **November 30** to Pastor Carrie at cantczak@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x105**.



Mandalas, Candles, and Prayer

Sundays beginning November 27, 10 AM, Parlor

Join us Sundays at 10 am beginning November 27 to bring color and light to the Advent Season! We'll be working contemplatively, sharing scripture, and heartfelt reflections.

Pick up a book now from room 12, for \$10. We have plenty of colored pencils, but feel free to bring your own colors of choice!



Advent Yoga with Jen Marshall

Wednesdays Beginning November 30, 7 PM, Parlor

Join us Wednesdays beginning November 30 in the Parlor at 7 PM for Advent Yoga with Jen Marshall.

Stretch your spirit and your body as we contemplate what it means to serve a God who took on flesh. No prior yoga experience necessary!

Bring a yoga/exercise mat if you have access to one; if not, a beach towel will also work.



Messy Church Minecraft

TODAY, November 20, 4 - 6 PM, Wesley Hall

The Minecraft game is arguably the most popular game right now for children and teens...and maybe even grown-ups! At this Messy Church, our guests will learn about God the Creator as they discover we are all crafted by God. Join us as we build each other up and lean into our creativity! If you know a kid, any kid... they will want to be here! So be sure to invite them!

To sign-up to help out, please sign up on the Outreach Board (by Room 13) or contact **Pastor Carrie** at cantczak@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x105**.



URGENT NEED FOR BLOOD DONORS NOW!

Please register to give at the Red Cross Blood Drive!

Wednesday, November 23, 2022, Fellowship Hall

With seasonal illnesses rising and the upcoming holidays, your support is especially needed to prevent a blood shortage. Please sign up to meet the urgent need for blood for patients in need. Come give for an exclusive Red Cross knit beanie.

Please schedule an appointment now by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org](https://www.RedCrossBlood.org) and enter sponsor code: **Berea** or calling **1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767)**.



The Giving Tree

Stars available in Narthex, Gifts Due by December 11

This program supports families in Berea by allowing community members to “adopt” a family to make their holidays a little bit more special. Pick up star listing the requested items from the giving tree in the Narthex. Gifts will need to be dropped off at the church in early December, unwrapped, with the tag attached. If you’d like to donate wrapping as well, that would be appreciated. However, we let Santa and his helpers do the wrapping!

Our Loose Change offering for November will also support the Giving Tree and Berea Community Outreach.



Love Your Neighbor -

Supporting Metanoia Ministries

Let us show love to our neighbors who are lacking adequate housing by donating needed items through Metanoia Ministries - who we have been partnering with for two years now. ***Items needed include: hats, thick gloves, thermals, pants, and t-shirts (men’s & women’s, M-3X), winter boots, and tennis shoes.*** Items may be placed in the bin near the Outreach Board. Items need not be new, but should be clean and in excellent condition.

If you’re interested in getting to know these neighbors by helping cook and serve meals this winter, please contact **Laura Rushton** at jlaurush@gmail.com or 567-303-1954.

Thank you!



Support Our Local Food Pantries

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

Our collections of food 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.)

During the school year, single serving items such as fruit cups and cheese or peanut butter crackers are especially appreciated. This is also a great time to start donating items for holiday dinners such as green beans, mushroom soup, and canned pumpkin.

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.

Happening at The UMCB this week:

Sunday, November 20

Reign of Christ Sunday
Naming Our Commitments for 2023

Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at
<http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos>

Formation

10 AM / Children - Second Floor /
Youth - Second & Third Floors / Adults First Floor

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Messy Church - Minecraft

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

Monday, November 21

Morning Prayer

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

Survivors Fellowship

11 AM / Parlor, Lunch at Red Lobster

Women's Bible Study

7 PM / Women's Bible Study / contact Katie Flynn at
kathryn.flinn@gmail.com

Tuesday, November 22

Morning Prayer

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

Tuesday Bible Study

9:30 AM/ Sustainable Berea
6:30 PM / Room 13

Wednesday, November 23

Morning Prayer

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

Red Cross Blood Drive

10 AM / Fellowship Hall

Storytime

10 AM/ Room 11 (Nursery)/ [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

Grief Share

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

Community Thanksgiving Worship Service

7 PM / Sanctuary or Online at
<http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos>

Thursday, November 24

Thanksgiving Day - Offices Closed

Friday, November 25

Offices Closed

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](#)

Saturday, November 26

Sunday, November 27

First Sunday of Advent
United Methodist Student Day

Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at
<http://www.facebook.com/umcberea/videos>

Formation

10 AM / Children - Second Floor /
Youth - Second & Third Floors / Adults First Floor

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Church Office - Beth Barner

Mon., Wed., Thurs. 9 AM – 3 PM

Tues., Fri. From Home 9AM - 3 PM

ebarner@umcb.org

440-234-3525 x100, Cell: 440-710-4498

Finance Office - Maryann Herron

Mon., Wed., Fri. 10 AM – 3 PM

mherron@umcb.org, 440-234-3525 x103

Facilities Manager - Mark Williams

Office Hours vary based on need.

mwilliams@umcb.org, 440-234-3525 x102

Pastor Nathan Howe & Carrie Antczak

Office Hours vary based on need.

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

cantczak@umcb.org, 440-234-3525x105

Please note: Friday is a day of Sabbath for our pastors, a time to rest and restore. We kindly ask that you please refrain from calling or texting them on this day. If you are in need of emergency pastoral care, please contact the church office (440-234-3525 x100, info@umcb.org) and one of the pastors will respond as soon as possible.