



He was lifted up,
and a cloud took him
out of their sight.
ACTS 1:9

Worship Celebration

Ascension of the Lord Sunday

May 21, 2023 + 9 AM

We Gather as God's Children

Words of Welcome

Prelude *Lord, in Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor* Michael Burkhardt

+ Call to Worship

+ Hymn *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* UMH 173

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— Acts 1.1-14 (CEB)

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: *Christ is risen, indeed!*

Second Lesson— Ephesians 1.15-23 (CEB)

Leader: Christ is risen!

People: *Christ is risen, indeed!*

Bell Choir Anthem *I Will Arise* Robert Hughes

Sermon

+ Affirmation of Faith (*Adapted from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2023*)

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

Opportunities for Ministry and Invitation to Give our Tithes and Offerings

Choir Anthem *The Power & The Glory* Joyce Eilers

+ Doxology *Alleluia, Alleluia* (v. 1 and refrain) UMH 162

+ Prayer of Thanksgiving and Commitment

We Go Out to Serve in God's Name

+ Hymn *Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise* UMH 312

+ Benediction

Postlude *Little Prelude and Fugue in G* 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

Orley Aten

Music

Don Jackson, *Organist*
Tori Penfound, *Bell Choir Director*
Courtney Popp, *Choir Director*
Margaret Proctor, *Choir Director*

Audio Video Elements

Mark Williams
Marlynda Dziak
Debby Haas

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.**



Day of Pentecost

Sunday, May 28

The Day of Pentecost is the fiftieth and final day of the Easter season and the third of the three great festivals that give shape to the Christian year (alongside Christmas and Easter). On the Day of Pentecost, we celebrate the gift of the Holy Spirit to the church as told in Acts 2. As you worship with us at 9 AM or 11 AM, you are encouraged to wear red or some other fire-inspired color.



Volunteers Needed for Farewell and Welcome Receptions

Farewell to the Howe's - Sunday June 11 following the 10 AM Worship Service

Welcome to the Knisely's - Sunday, July 2 following the 10 AM Worship Service

(There will be one 10 AM worship service both Sundays so we can all worship together.)

Thanks to those who have already volunteered to help with the Farewell Reception for Pastor Nathan and Megan Howe on **Sunday, June 11**, and the Welcome Reception for Pastor Steve, Sarah, Eli, and Eva Knisely on **Sunday, July 2**. There will be **one service at 10 AM** on these Sundays with receptions immediately following. More volunteers would be appreciated for set-up the day before and the day of each reception. Interested? Curious? Please contact Barb Peterson at **440-785-1282** or at peterson.barbara8@gmail.com. All are welcome!



Help Welcome Pastor Steve by Opening Your Home

Also, would you like to help welcome Pastor Steve in another manner? SPRC is encouraging you to volunteer your home for a small group gathering to get to know Pastor Steve and vice versa. These could be scheduled over the summer, at a mutually convenient date and time. If you would like to provide your home for a gathering, please contact Barb Peterson at **440-785-1282** or at peterson.barbara8@gmail.com.



Sunday Afternoon Walk

Sunday, June 11, 4 pm, West Creek Reservation (2277 Ridgewood Drive, Parma)

Enjoy God's creation--outside and in each other. All are welcome to join us for a walk on the trails of West Creek Reservation (2277 West Ridgewood Drive, Parma). We will meet in the parking lot near the Watershed Stewardship Center at 4 PM. If you plan to join us, please RSVP by the end of the day on **Thursday, June 8 to Pastor Nathan** at nhowe@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x101**.



UMCB Communications Survey

As we seek to provide opportunities for all people to be involved in our ministries of worship, fellowship, teaching and learning, and engaging with our community toward compassion and justice, excellent communication is essential. In our ongoing effort to provide excellent communication regarding the many opportunities to be involved in our ministries, we are asking you to complete this "Communications Survey" to help us assess which communication channels are most effective in extending this invitation. You can complete the survey online at <https://forms.gle/BoLP7g5yH1oo7Djp8>. Alternately, physical copies are available on the tables at the back of each worship space and can be turned into the church office. If you have any questions or additional thoughts you want to share, please contact **Pastor Nathan** at nhowe@umcb.org or **440-234-3525 x101**. Thank you!



Spring is here and your UMW is ready to celebrate!

Plants...J and J plant coupons for available for \$18. Plan your garden and pick out your own plants!

Popcorn...A bag of popcorn (Depot Delight, Garlic Parmesan or Lemon Pound Cake) is just \$6.

All proceeds benefit our many mission projects. To purchase coupons or popcorn, please see /contact **Carol McCleery** at **440-234-9078** or mcmanistee7250@gmail.com. Thank you for your support and generosity!



Thursday Night Bible Study

Thursdays, 6:30 PM, via Zoom

We are learning about Jeremiah. Come join us! Everyone is welcome. We enjoy our Zoom program in the warmth of our homes. We will learn about the unique relationship between Jeremiah and the Lord, and how we can deepen our relationship with the Lord. For more information, please contact **Mary Lynn Swartz** at marylynn482@gmail.com or **440-409-5931**.



Messy Church Carnival

TODAY!, 4 - 6 PM, Wesley Hall

It's our last Messy Church of the school year! Join us, and bring your friends for our annual carnival and celebration of Pentecost! If you'd like to help or have questions, please contact **Pastor Carrie** at **440-234-3525 x105** or cantczak@umcb.org.



May Loose Change Offering Supports The Work of Hanson House

HansonHouse Traumatic Brain Injury Clubhouse is the first program in Ohio based upon the true Clubhouse model of community re-entry for people with traumatic brain injury. At the present time we reach approximately 200+ people in Northern Ohio, with some kind of service, while intensively engaging a smaller group with weekly services, right here at our church. We are grateful for their ministry, and appreciate your continued support of this group. You can support this 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".



Equal Exchange

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

As the temperatures warm, try making delicious iced teas and coffees using Equal Exchange products. When you do, you are providing a fair wage for those who work hard to grow this beneficial food item and in a way that does not harm God's creation.



Youth Service Rally

Sunday, June 4, 3 PM, Around Berea

Join us Sunday, June 4 at 3 PM for our annual service rally! We'll be all around town sharing acts of kindness and then meeting back to share our stories and dinner. Extra adult drivers are needed - please let **Pastor Carrie** know if you can help out at **440-234-3525 x105** or cantczak@umcb.org.



Register now for Reflecting Rainbow Vacation Bible School

June 26-30, 9:30 AM -12:30 PM, Volunteers register at <https://forms.gle/q1hSOHfBdoKfKff68>

Children's registrations have reached maximum capacity! To be added to the wait list, please contact Pastor Carrie at 440-234-3525 x105 or cantczak@umcb.org.

Welcome to Reflecting Rainbow VBS, where we will discover we are a part of God's continuing story! Inspired by the t.v. show Reading Rainbow, we will explore God's story, our own stories, and share the joy of reading all kinds of books! This is a cooperative VBS between local Berea Congregations - we're excited to be working with each other again for the second year in bringing faith and fun to our community!

Morning Prayer

Holy God, I give you thanks
that Christ ascends in the core of my being
as new life arises within me.
Open the eyes of my heart this day
to seek and to serve you in all whom I meet. Amen.

Evening Prayer

I turn from the harm I have done this day,
and I seek forgiveness by the grace of your love.
Clothe me with power this night, O God,
that my life may rest hidden in you. Amen.

Happening at The UMCB this week:

Sunday, May 21

Ascension Sunday

Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

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

Adult Formation

First Floor

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Messy Church Carnival

4 PM / Front Lawn, First Floor / [Contact Pastor Carrie](#)

Monday, May 22

Morning Prayer

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

Survivors Fellowship

11 AM / Parlor / Aladdin's

Read & Grow Book Discussion

6:30 PM / Parlor / Contact Betsy Meikle

at meiklebetsyj@gmail.com

Mission Meeting

7 PM / Room 13

Women's Bible Study

7 PM / Women's Bible Study /

Contact Katie Flynn at kathryn.flinn@gmail.com

Tuesday, May 23

Tuesday Morning Walk

Tuesdays / 7 AM / Wallace Lake Parking Lot /

[Contact Pastor Nathan](#)

Morning Prayer

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

Wednesday, May 24

Morning Prayer

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

The Wednesday Group

9:30 AM / The UMCB Parking Lot

Women's Bible Study

7 PM / Offsite /

contact Linda Short at 9short28@gmail.com

Thursday, May 25

Morning Prayer

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

Thursday Evening Bible Study

6:30 PM / Zoom / Contact Mary Lynn Swartz at

marylynn482@gmail.com

Choir Rehearsal

7 PM / Parlor / Contact [Courtney Popp](#)

or [Margaret Proctor](#)

LGBTQ Caregivers Support Group

7 PM / Gathering Place

Friday, May 26

Morning Prayer

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

Saturday, May 27

Sunday, May 28

The Day of Pentecost

You are invited to wear red/orange

to help us celebrate Pentecost.

Traditional Worship

9 AM / Sanctuary or Online at

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

Adult Formation

First Floor

Modern Worship

11 AM / Wesley Hall

Monday, May 29

Memorial Day - Offices Closed

Morning Prayer

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

Survivors Fellowship

11 AM / Parlor / Oriole Cafe

Women's Bible Study

7 PM / Women's Bible Study /

Contact Katie Flynn at kathryn.flinn@gmail.com