

Forgive us when sleepiness takes its toll, when our discussions become battles,
when our judgment and self-judgement outweigh our faith.
Let us put on the light of Christ and live as you have called us in respect,
in mutual dialogue, and in healthy living.
Help us so that everything we do reflects Christ’s light.
Amen.²
(silent reflection)

†ASSURANCE OF GRACE
May the light of Christ shine forth in our lives, as a beacon of justice, mercy, and goodness.
Friends, hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God!

†PASSING THE PEACE

SERVICE OF CONFIRMATION
Praveen Bhave
Family members and Faith Friends,
will you continue to support and encourage these young people in their Christian life? **We will.**
Members of the congregation, do you, as Christ's body, the church,
reaffirm both your rejection of sin and your commitment to Christ? **We do.**
Will you nurture one another in the Christian faith and life and include Praveen now before you
in your care?
**With God's help we will proclaim the good news and live according to the example of Christ. We will
surround Praveen with a community of love and forgiveness, that he may grow in his trust of God
and be found faithful in his service to others. We will pray for him, that he may be a true disciple
who walks in the way that leads to life.**
Let us join together in professing the Christian faith as contained in the Hebrew Scriptures
and the New Testament:
Do you believe in God?
I believe in God Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
Do you believe in Jesus Christ?
**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit born of the
Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the
dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of God, and
will come again to judge the living and the dead.**
Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?
**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us pray.
Eternal God, when nothing existed but chaos, you swept across the dark waters and brought forth light. In the
days of Noah, you saved those on the ark through water. After the flood you set in the clouds a rainbow.
When you saw your people as slaves in Egypt, you led them to freedom through the sea. Their children you
brought through the Jordan to the land which you promised.
Sing to the Lord, all the earth. Tell of God's mercy each day.
In the fullness of time you sent Jesus, nurtured in the water of a womb. He was baptized by John and anointed
by your spirit. He called his disciples to share in the baptism of his death and resurrection and to make
disciples of all nations.
Declare God’s works to the nations, God’s glory among all the people.
Pour out your Holy Spirit, to bless this gift of water and he who receives it, to wash away his sin and clothe him
in righteousness throughout his life, that, dying and being raised with Christ, he may share in Christ’s final
victory.
**All praise to you, Eternal God, Through your Son Jesus Christ,
who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns forever. Amen.**
Members of the household of God, I commend Praveen to your love and care. Do all in your power to increase
his faith, confirm his hope, and perfect him in love.

We give thanks for all that God has already given you and we welcome you in Christian love. As members
together with you in the body of Christ and in this congregation of The United Methodist Church,
we renew our covenant faithfully to participate in the ministries of the church by our prayers, our
presence, our gifts, our service, and our witness, that in everything God may be glorified through
Jesus Christ. Amen.

†GOSPEL READING John 1:1-14
This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON Incarnate Hope: God Is with Us Heather Harriss

HOLY COMMUNION
Please register your attendance in the pew pad or QR code.
You may give online at belmontumc.org/give, text BELMONT to 73256, scan the QR giving code (back of
bulletin), contact Sara Christi (bookkeeper@belmontumc.org) to set up a bank draft, or mail it to the church,
Box 120098, Nashville, TN, 37212.

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.

The celebrant gives thanks, remembering God’s acts of salvation, and concludes:
And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
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 he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

The celebrant continues the thanksgiving.
The institution of the Lord’s Supper is recalled, and the celebrant concludes:
And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

The celebrant invokes the present work of the Holy Spirit and then praises the Trinity, concluding:
All honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever.
Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER Hymnal page 895

BREAKING THE BREAD - SHARING THE CUP
As we celebrate the gift of Holy Communion, everyone is invited. Offering may be placed on the Communion rail.
A gluten-free option is available; please ask your server.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING
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.

†BENEDICTION
May the love of God, Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit, be with you now and always.
Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God! Amen!

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

†You are invited to stand as you are able.

The rosebud on the altar table celebrates the birth of Emerson Arthur Jordan, son of Alison and Michael Jordan, brother of Samuel and Arwen, grandson of Mary Kay and Louis Jordan, and nephew and cousin of Brittany, Andrew, Sophia, and Elijah Jordan. Emerson was born November 19, 2025.

Liturgy written/selected by Matthew Webb.
¹adapted from *Toda La Tierra* Advent Worship Series by Dr. Lisa Hancock, 2025
²adapted from fightthebees.com/advent-calls
³A Brief Statement of Faith and A New Creed from the United Church of Canada

<i>Wreaths used to adorn Belmont UMC's exterior doors are given:</i>	
<i>In memory of:</i>	<i>By:</i>
Jim Bradford	Susan Bradford
Gordon Brown	Carol Brown
John Haeuptle	Judy Isenhour
Mary & Gerald Henson	Linda Henson & Richard Fulk
Shelton Luton	Shumaker family
Nola Dean McCormick	Courtney & Mike Worden
Blanche Luton Shumaker McHugh	Shumaker family
Gladys "Granny Mac" McIntyre	Ingrid & Abraham McIntyre
Anna Pierce	Laura Spangler
Steven Pierce	Laura Spangler
Dylan Pitman	Carol & Richard Pitman
Virginia & Jack Shifflett;	
Olive & Oscar Luchs	Sue & Arvin Luchs
David Shumaker	Shumaker family
Gil Shumaker	Shumaker family
Ross Stevenson, Arthur Stevenson,	
Verna Stevenson, & Andy McFalls	Kim & Mark Tutaj, Lynne Stevenson
Mary & Al Tellinghuisen	Pat & Joel Tellinghuisen
Daly Thompson	Carolyn Primm
Mary Elizabeth Thrower	Mary Beth Franklyn
Norma D. Webb	Wanda G. Webb
<i>In honor of:</i>	<i>By:</i>
Dixie Crase	Amy, Bill, William, & EA Cooper
Jeanie Wright Rutland	Patty & Dave McIntyre

We believe every person is of sacred worth and created in God's image. We commit to Jesus' example of inclusive love, care, and intentional hospitality with persons of every race, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, faith story, physical or mental ability, economic status, or political perspective.

Scan to give here:



Scan to register attendance here:



Want to get involved? Scan to learn more:



BELMONT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A community of Christ-followers growing in love of God and neighbor

NOVEMBER 30, 2025 8:10AM
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WELCOME

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Matthew Webb, piano

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved, once again, we embark on the Advent path that points us to the coming of Jesus.
We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.
We remember the signs and the wonders that heralded the arrival of the baby Jesus, God Incarnate.
We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.
We tell the stories once again as we learn how to discern the signs and the wonders, watching for glimpses of God's here-and-not-yet kingdom among us.
We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.
Come, let us worship God who shines a light to guide us on the path to peace and flourishing for all creation.
Come, let us worship as we journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.¹

†HYMN NO. 211 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (stanzas 1, 2, 6, 7) VENI EMMANUEL

†LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE

The prophet Isaiah calls to us from the past to imagine the future when God's reign will be fully realized and recognized throughout creation. When that time comes, God will discern between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation will not lift up sword against nation; neither will they learn war anymore.
Today, we choose to live in hope, believing that the time of God's reign has come and is coming among us.
We light this candle of hope as a sign of our promise to follow the Light as we answer God's call to transform our hope into reality today and in the days to come.



Text: Latin hymn, 9th c.; trans. John Mason Neale Music: Sarum plainsong, Mode IV, 9th c.

†PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, you call us to wake from sleep, to become aware of our surroundings.
The dawn of a new time of preparation is upon us.

