

GATHERING

Christy Perkey, pianist

WELCOME

Heather Harriss

God of Advent hope, we come to this place seeking your peace. May it be so. Amen.

PRELUDE

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE COLORS

Mark 1

†LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLE

Matthew 5:14-16

The prophets invite us to join God's blessed community.

Longing for peace, we strive to love our neighbors and ourselves.

The kin-dom brings peace in hearts, community, and the world.

**O Holy God of Bethlehem, help us to keep awake and be ready for your birth
in our world and in our hearts. Amen.**

†HYMN NO. 209

Blessed Be the God of Israel

MERLE'S TUNE

**Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free;
who visits and redeems us, and grants us liberty.
The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release;
God shall fulfill the promise to bring our people peace.**

**Now from the house of David a child of grace has given;
a Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven.
Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way,
the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.**

**On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise,
the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes,
to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace;
O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!**

NATIVITY SCENE

Luke 2

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie;
above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

POINSETTIA

Matthew 6

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 122

Isaiah 2:1-5

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Songs of Peace

Paul Purdue

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Please register your attendance in the pew pad or with the QR code on the back of the bulletin.

You may give online by visiting belmontumc.org/give, texting BELMONT to 73256, scanning the giving QR code, contacting Sara Christi (bookkeeper@belmontumc.org) to set up a bank draft, or mailing your offering 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

Our Father, * who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

*You are invited to pray the Lord's Prayer in your native tongue and address God, who is beyond gender, with names that speak to your heart: "Our Mother", "Our Creator", "Holy Parent", or other titles that honor God's love, presence, and goodness.

BREAKING THE BREAD – SHARING THE CUP

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

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.**

†THE EVERGREENS

Isaiah 60:13

**O Holy God of Bethlehem, help us to keep awake and be ready for your birth
in our world and in our hearts. Amen.**

†HANGING THE GREENS

How shall we prepare this house for the birth of Jesus?

With branches of cedar, the tree of excellence and strength.

How shall we prepare this house for the eternal Christ?

With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.

How shall we prepare this house for the prophet of Galilee?

With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death and resurrection.

How shall we prepare our hearts for this revelation of God?

By hearing again the words of the prophets and the promises of God.

For in the story of Jesus we see revealed the transforming power of God.

We are reminded anew of God's vision of wholeness, justice, and peace for all of creation.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

†You are invited to stand as you are able.

ADDITIONAL WORSHIP LEADER
Bruce Williams, reader

Liturgy selected by Gayle Sullivan.

*Wreaths used to adorn Belmont UMC's exterior doors
are given:*

In memory of:

Bill Barnes
Becky Lou Bowers

Gordon Brown
Charlie
Nick Crichton
Jim Folk
Virginia & Harry Phillips
Ethel & John Robinson
Aileen Rogers
Dorothy & Danforth Ross
Gil Shumaker & David Shumaker
Larry Taylor
Daly Thompson
Louise White
Nancy & Don Whitehouse

In honor of:

Paul Franklyn
Ann Hagler
Eleanor Kennedy
Seekers Class

By:

Brenda Barnes
Christy Thomas, Joseph Bowers,
Jessica Bowers, Catherine Sakarapanee
Carol Brown
Barnhizer family
Mary Crichton
Cathy Folk
Martha & Jim Robinson
Martha & Jim Robinson
Janet Stewart
Eleanor & John Kennedy
Shumaker family
Betty Jane Taylor
Carolyn Primm
Raholanda White & family
Donna, Grace, & Jordan Whitehouse

By:

Mary Beth Franklyn
Frank Moore
Susan Bradford
Kim & Reneé Cannon

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 27

For a digital version of this newsletter with color photos and live links, go to belmontumc.org/about/newsletter.

Joys and concerns

Memorials

DAVID SHUMAKER

Donor:

Susan Logan

BOB THOMAS

Donor:

Mary Ann Macmillan

JOE MONTGOMERY

Donor:

Ed Harris

Christmas Miracle Offering



COMMUNITY CARE
— FELLOWSHIP —

This year's Christmas Miracle Offering will support Community Care Fellowship (CCF), which works to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the unhoused in Nashville. Since its founding 40 years ago, it has grown to serve the needs of more than 2000 people in three sites near homeless encampments in Nashville: one in Madison, one in east Nashville near the James Cayce Homes, and one in West Nashville. CCF also runs the Dare to Dream Child Development Center.

To learn more about CCF's multi-level program, go to belmontumc.org/CCF. You can donate online at onrealm.org/BelmontUMC/give/Christmas or text "BELMONT CHRISTMAS" to 73256 to give using your mobile device. This number will never send unsolicited texts to you. To cancel further messages, text STOP. If you need assistance with text giving, text HELP. Standard text message and data rates may apply.

Advent Family Craft Night next Sunday

Make plans to attend Belmont UMC's annual Advent Family Craft Night on Sunday, December 4, at 5:30pm in the Community Center. As we advent (wait) for Christ, we will center ourselves by making beautiful crafts. Advent Family Craft Night is open to any age - kids, parents, caregivers, and grandparents are all welcome. Make crafts as you snap pictures and store up warm feelings about Christmas.

Pizza will be provided by the youth under the tent. Donations are requested to cover the cost, and proceeds will go toward the youth scholarship fund. If you are a crafty person and willing to volunteer to host a crafts table, contact Pastor Kate (kate@belmontumc.org).

Please note that there will not be childcare offered for this event as families are encouraged to attend together.

Save the date for these upcoming music events

Be sure to save the dates for these musical events hosted by Belmont UMC's music ministry: Sunday, December 11, at 6:00pm - Feast of Lights and Carol Service in the sanctuary; Thursday, December 15, at 7:00 - Belmont UMC's combined bell choirs concert in the sanctuary; and Sunday, December 18, at 2:30pm - Amanda Dembiec's piano concert in the sanctuary.

E. E. Cummings and the joyful poetry of Advent begins this week

This Wednesday, November 30, and on December 7 and 14, join us at 6:00pm in room 124 or via Zoom for a special Advent devotional. Biblical texts and the poetry of E. E. Cummings will call us to keep awake, watch, and wait for God to arrive on Christmas morning. All you'll need is your favorite Bible and Cummings' "Complete Poems" (all the poems referenced in the

devotional can also be found online). Week by week, simple candlelight services and weekly practices will help us read, reflect, sing, and prepare – all for the sake of deepening the joys of the season.

If you'd like to participate, please contact Pastor Heather (heather@belmontumc.org) to receive the guide and Zoom access information.

Baptism

Olivia Grace Ruhland, daughter of Maggie and Dennis Ruhland, sister of Connor, granddaughter of Anne and Rick Hoback, great-granddaughter of Anne Hooper, niece of Jane, Lowavia, John, and cousin of Shelby, Shayna, Hannah, Skyler, Stephanie, and Aurora, received the sacrament of Holy Baptism on November 20, 2022.

Zoom meeting requests

If your Sunday school class, committee, or other small group needs to set up a Zoom meeting, please contact Angie Slade (angie@belmontumc.org) to set up the meeting and send you the Zoom link to distribute to your group.

H.E.R.O. Navigator Program

Our fall H.E.R.O. program was a great success, and we were able to help 10 families and over 20 children. Many thanks to everyone who participated! Stay tuned for more H.E.R.O. service opportunities coming in the spring. To learn more about this program, go to mnps.org/students-families/services/HERO.



THIS WEEK AT BELMONT UMC

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27

- 8:10am Worship with Communion, chapel/Facebook live
- 8:45am Children's Chimes, 226
- 9:15am Adult, youth, and children's Sunday school, various rooms
- 10:30am Worship, sanctuary/Facebook live
- 1:30pm Carillon Ringers, 226
- 2:30pm Sunday CD group, Zoom
- 3:30pm Wesley Ringers rehearsal, 226
- 4:30pm Open Door Singers rehearsal, choir room
- 5:30pm United Methodist Youth, Community Center

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

- 5:00pm Outreach Team, Zoom

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

- 6:00pm Executive Committee, Zoom

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

- 10:00am Lectio Divina, Zoom
- 5:00pm Wednesday night meal, Community Center and tent
- 6:00pm The joyful poetry of Advent, Parker Hall
- 6:00pm Adult connection space, Iris Room
- 6:00pm Children's choirs, Faith Finders hall
- 6:00pm Gentle yoga, Zoom
- 6:00pm Youth Midweek, 3rd floor
- 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal, choir room

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

- 8:00am Women's Centering Prayer, 223/Zoom
- 1:00pm Celebration Ringers rehearsal, 226

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

- 5:00pm Room in the Inn, Community Center

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4

- 8:10am Worship with Communion, chapel/Facebook live
- 8:45am Children's Chimes, 226
- 9:15am Adult, youth, and children's Sunday school, various rooms
- 10:30am Worship, sanctuary/Facebook live
- 1:30pm Carillon Ringers, 226
- 2:30pm Sunday CD group, Zoom
- 3:30pm Wesley Ringers rehearsal, 226
- 4:30pm Open Door Singers rehearsal, choir room
- 5:30pm Advent Family Craft Night, Community Center

Want more news and announcements?

Email angie@belmontumc.org to sign up for our weekly "Upcoming Events" and "Belmont News" emails.

Our staff is always ready to assist you!

Go to belmontumc.org/staff for contact information.

PROGRAM STAFF

Paul Purdue, Senior Pastor paul@belmontumc.org
Heather Harriss, Pastor of Spiritual Care/Connection..... heather@belmontumc.org
Kate Fields, Pastor of Children’s Ministry/Discipleship..... kate@belmontumc.org
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Darren Mayberry Wright, Pastor of Youth/Young Adults darren@belmontumc.org
Ingrid McIntyre, Pastor in Residence for Community Engagement ingrid@belmontumc.org
Sandy Sakarapanee, Pastor of Golden Triangle Fellowship..... nithet@hotmail.com
Bruce Williams, Technical Coordinator..... bruce@belmontumc.org

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.

Please scan here to give:



Please register your attendance here:



**Want to get involved?
Scan to learn more:**

