

WELCOME

Emma Bushong

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

PRELUDE

*O Come, Emmanuel*

arr. Craft  
Carillon Ringers

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 11:1-12

†LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLES

As we light this second advent candle, we remember the words of the prophet Isaiah:

"A shoot will grow up from the stump of Jesse; a branch will sprout up from the roots.

The Lord's spirit will rest upon them, a spirit of wisdom and understanding,  
a spirit of planning and strength, a spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord."

**Come, Lord Jesus, kindle in our hearts your songs of hope. Amen.**

†HYMN NO. 211

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

VENI EMMANUEL

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.**

***Refrain:* Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

**O come, Thou Wisdom from on high, and order all things far and nigh;  
to us the path of knowledge show and cause us in her ways to go. *R***

**O come, O come, great Lord of might, who to Thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times once gave the law in cloud and majesty and awe. *R***

**O come, Thou Root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of Thy people be;  
before Thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on Thy mercy call. *R***

†PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

*He Came Down*

trad. Cameroon; trans./arr. Bell

Joyful Noise Singers, God's Flock; Sarah Greenwood, soloist; Anne Trudel, pianist

He came down that we may have love. Hallelujah, forevermore.

Why did he come?

He came down that we may have light... peace... joy...

CHRISMON TREE

Deuteronomy 6

**O Holy God of Bethlehem,**

**help us to keep awake and be ready for your birth in our world and in our hearts.**

**Amen.**

SCRIPTURE

Romans 15:4-7

Keller Hawkins

†Matthew 3:1-3

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

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

**Songs of Hope**

Paul Purdue

ANTHEM

*The Work of Christmas*

Dan Forrest

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home,  
when the shepherds are back with their flock, the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost, to heal the broken,  
to feed the hungry, to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations; to bring peace among people, to make music from the heart.

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home,

when the shepherds are back with their flock, the work of Christmas begins.

~by Howard Thurman

## CHRISTMAS MIRACLE OFFERING

Steve Bryant; Ryan LaSeur, CCF

### OFFERING

*A Shoot Shall Come Forth*

Richard Horn

*Please register your attendance with the QR code.*

You may give online by visiting [belmontumc.org/give](http://belmontumc.org/give), texting BELMONT to 73256, scanning the giving QR code, contacting Sara Christi to set up a bank draft ([bookkeeper@belmontumc.org](mailto:bookkeeper@belmontumc.org)), or mailing your offering to the church, Box 120098, Nashville, TN, 37212.

### †DOXOLOGY

HYFRYDOL

**Longing for a hope to live by, yearning for a peace that's fair.  
Wanting joy that ends all outcry, wanting love to banish fear.  
We bring gifts to set before you, trusting that your advent brings  
life in all abundant fullness, hope that soars on eagle's wings.**

### THE GREAT THANKGIVING

Kate Fields

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 with names that speak to your heart: "Our Creator", "Holy Parent", or other titles that honor God's love, presence, and goodness.

## BREAKING THE BREAD - SHARING THE CUP

*As we celebrate the gift of Holy Communion, everyone is invited.  
Communion offering supports the Christmas Miracle Offering.*

*Love Came Down at Christmas  
I Wonder as I Wander  
O Day of Peace*

Hymn No. 242  
arr. Arnold Sherman  
Hymn No. 729

## 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.

†HYMN

*Light Dawns on a Weary World*<sup>1</sup>

TEMPLE OF PEACE

1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to  
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find  
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea - tures, once for -

see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a  
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a  
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a

wea - ry world: the prom - ised day of jus - tice comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised feast of plen - ty comes.  
wea - ry world: the prom - ised green of E - den comes.

*Refrain*  
The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;  
the hills and moun - tains shall break forth with sing - ing!  
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,  
as all the world in won - der ech - oes sha - lom.

†BENEDICTION

**“Since love is lord of heaven and earth, how can we keep from singing?”**

**May hope be our story and our song now and in the year to come.**

**Amen. \***

†You are invited to stand as you are able.

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Fannie H. Walters  
and Wanda Lenk Walters by Rosemary and Bud Walters.

**ADDITIONAL WORSHIP LEADERS**

Robbie Jones, organist

Sanctuary Choir

Gayle Sullivan, Director of Music Ministry

Jennifer Bagwell, Janet Stewart, directors of Joyful Noise/God's Flock

Brittany Jordan, assistant

Liturgy selected by Paul Purdue.

<sup>1</sup>Text: Mary Louise Bringle; music: William P. Rowan. Text © 2002 Gia Publications, Inc. Music © 2000 William P. Rowan, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-729458. All rights reserved.

\*written by Kate Fields

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**NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 4**

*For a digital version of this newsletter with color photos and live links, go to [belmontumc.org/about/newsletter](http://belmontumc.org/about/newsletter).*

**Joys and concerns**

***Congratulations to***

Mary and Tim Bryant, Marcie Smeck Bryant and Steve Bryant, Marie Claire Bryant, Katie, Will, and Margot Hunt on the birth of their son, grandson, nephew, and cousin, Robert Allen Bryant.

**Christmas Miracle Offering impacts our city's homelessness**

Community Care Fellowship (CCF), Belmont UMC's Christmas Miracle recipient, was started 41 years ago by Rev. Rock Hardaway and Ken and Carol Powers of McKendree United Methodist Church to help the unhoused in Nashville. For many years in Nashville, it was known to some as 'Ken and Carol's' program.

Through the years it has grown into a multi-level program that addresses the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of the people it serves. On one level, its Resource Hubs provide stabilizing services such as food, clothing, showers, laundry, hygiene, pastoral counseling, mental health services, and case management. On another level, CCF provides temporary housing in its mobile

housing units at different churches in Nashville and from there, help in procuring permanent housing. In addition, CCF operates the *Dare to Dream* Development Center that provides care and education for children as well as education and counseling for parents.

Your donation will go toward the maintenance of CCF's Resource Hubs and the expansion of its preschool program, the *Dare to Dream* Development Center. You can donate online at [onrealm.org/BelmontUMC/give/Christmas](http://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.

### **Join us this evening for Advent Family Craft Night**

Make plans to attend Belmont UMC's annual Advent Family Craft Night this evening at 5:30pm in the Community Center. This event is open to any age - kids, parents, caregivers, grandparents - are all welcome.

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

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

### **Last Midweek meal for 2022 will be December 7**

After December, Gairdt Edwards and Barley to Rise will no longer be catering. We are so thankful for Gairdt and his team for providing Belmont UMC with nutritious and delicious meals, as well as a feeling of hospitality that has made all feel deeply welcomed and valued.

Our last Midweek meal will be Wednesday, December 7. Make plans to join us and express gratitude to Gairdt as he begins a new chapter in his life.

On Wednesday, December 14, we invite you to bring a meal and gather in the Community Center, then stay for the program.

### **Feast of Lights is next Sunday**

Next Sunday, December 11, Belmont UMC's Music Ministry invites you to share in the joy of Christmas through its traditional musical celebration, the Feast of Lights, at 6:00pm in the sanctuary. The sounds of Christmas and sights of candlelight will transport all who witness them into a space of reverence. Make plans to join together with family and friends in this joyful celebration that is sure to inspire your heart and soul.

### ***Longest Night:***

#### **A simple worship service for those who grieve**

The season of Advent can be a time of sadness and grief. On Wednesday, December 21, at 6:00pm join us in Parker Hall for a simple worship service. Together we will offer our prayers to God for people we love and for our hurting world. For more information, contact Pastor Heather ([heather@belmontumc.org](mailto:heather@belmontumc.org)).

### **Save the date for Charge Conference**

Our annual end of year Charge Conference will be held on Sunday, December 18, at 12:00pm in the Community Center. Go to [belmontumc.org/charge-conference](http://belmontumc.org/charge-conference) for details.

### **Youth Winter Retreat registration is now open!**

This winter, Belmont UMC youth will pack up their hoodies and head out to Lakeshore Camp for a weekend away. They will leave on Saturday, February 18, and return on Monday, February 20 (President's Day).

Go to [belmontumc.org/youth-winter-retreat](http://belmontumc.org/youth-winter-retreat) to register and secure the early bird price. The price will increase after December 31. If financial assistance would be beneficial to your family or you have any questions, please reach out to Emma Bushong ([emma@belmontumc.org](mailto:emma@belmontumc.org)).

## Advent at Belmont UMC

Make plans to join us for these Advent and Christmas events. For additional information go to [belmontumc.org/advent](http://belmontumc.org/advent).

### Wednesdays, December 7 and 14

- E. E. Cummings and the joyful poetry of Advent, 6:00pm in room 124 and on Zoom

### Sunday, December 4 - Second Sunday of Advent

- *Songs of Hope* sermon series at 8:10am in the chapel and 10:30am in the sanctuary, Facebook live, and YouTube
- Advent Family Craft Night, 5:30pm in the Community Center

### Sunday, December 11 - Third Sunday of Advent

- *Songs of Hope* sermon series at 8:10am in the chapel and 10:30am in the sanctuary, Facebook live, and YouTube
- Feast of Lights, 6:00pm in the sanctuary (childcare will be available, 5:30-8:00 pm)

### Thursday, December 15

- Combined handbell choirs concert, 7:00pm in the sanctuary

### Sunday, December 18 - Fourth Sunday of Advent

- *Songs of Hope* sermon series at 8:10am in the chapel and 10:30am in the sanctuary, Facebook live, and YouTube
- Amanda Dembiec's piano concert, 2:30pm in the sanctuary
- Youth Christmas party, 5:00pm at the Geise home

### Wednesday, December 21

- Longest Night worship service, 6:00pm in Parker Hall

### Saturday, December 24 - Christmas Eve

- Christmas Eve worship service, 5:00pm in the sanctuary (childcare for children 3 years and younger will be available, 4:45-6:15pm)

### Sunday, December 25 - Christmas Day

- *Songs of Hope* sermon series at 10:30am in the sanctuary (no 8:10am service in the chapel; no childcare), Facebook live, and YouTube

## THIS WEEK AT BELMONT UMC

### 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 with Communion, 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

### MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

- 1:30pm UWF Phoebe Circle @ the Shumaker home
- 6:00pm Trust Fund, Zoom

### TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

- 6:00pm Board of Trustees, Zoom

### WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

- 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/sanctuary
- 6:00pm Gentle yoga, Zoom
- 6:00pm Youth Midweek, 3rd floor
- 7:00pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal, choir room

**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8**

8:00am Women’s Centering Prayer, 223/Zoom

1:00pm Celebration Ringers rehearsal, 226

6:30pm Advocacy Team, Zoom

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10**

8:45am Feast of Lights rehearsals, sanctuary and chapel

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11**

8:10am Worship with Communion, chapel/Facebook live

9:15am Adult, youth, and children’s Sunday school, various rooms

10:30am Worship, sanctuary/Facebook live

6:00pm Feast of Lights, sanctuary

**Want more news and announcements?**

Email [angie@belmontumc.org](mailto: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](http://belmontumc.org/staff) for contact information.

**PROGRAM STAFF**

Paul Purdue, Senior Pastor ..... [paul@belmontumc.org](mailto:paul@belmontumc.org)  
 Heather Harriss, Pastor of Spiritual Care/Connection..... [heather@belmontumc.org](mailto:heather@belmontumc.org)  
 Kate Fields, Pastor of Children’s Ministry/Discipleship..... [kate@belmontumc.org](mailto:kate@belmontumc.org)  
 Gayle Sullivan, Director of Music Ministries ..... [sullivan@belmontumc.org](mailto:sullivan@belmontumc.org)  
 Amy Cooper, Director of Children’s Music Ministry ..... [amy@belmontumc.org](mailto:amy@belmontumc.org)  
 Emma Bushong, Director of Ministry with Young People ..... [emma@belmontumc.org](mailto:emma@belmontumc.org)  
 Ingrid McIntyre, Pastor in Residence for Community Engagement ..... [ingrid@belmontumc.org](mailto:ingrid@belmontumc.org)  
 Sandy Sakarapanee, Pastor of Golden Triangle Fellowship..... [nithet@hotmail.com](mailto:nithet@hotmail.com)  
 Bruce Williams, Technical Coordinator.....[bruce@belmontumc.org](mailto: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.*

**Scan to give here:**



**Scan to register your attendance:**



**Want to get involved?**

**Scan to learn more:**

