

WELCOME

Emma Bushong

Holy Spirit, who inspired Moses, Mary Magdalene, and Matthew, inspire us as we walk through Lent.
Amen.

PRELUDE

Chorale Prelude on St. ELIZABETH

A. D. Miller
Robbie Jones, organist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ave Verum

William Byrd
Roxbury Latin Glee Club

Hail, true Body, born of the Virgin Mary, truly suffered, sacrificed on the cross for humankind,
from whose pierced side water and blood flowed:
Be for us a foretaste [of the Heavenly banquet] in the trial of death!
O sweet Jesus, O holy Jesus, O Jesus, son of Mary, have mercy on me. Amen.

†GREETING

We gather together to worship God, the Shepherd of our souls.
The one who has created us, who sustains us, who redeems us,
who walks beside us in good times and bad, and who calls us to follow.
This is our God!
Let's worship God together!¹

†HYMN NO. 545

The Church's One Foundation ²

AURELIA

1. The church's one founda - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
2. E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth;
3. Though with a scorn - ful won - der we see her sore op - pressed,
4. Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war,
5. Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
by schis - ms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.

From heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up, "How long?"
till, with the vi - sion glo - rious, her long - ing eyes are blest,
O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

WORDS: Samuel J. Stone, 1872

†PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

Beati Mortui

Felix Mendelssohn

Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth:
Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 23

†Matthew 18:21-35

This is the word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Describing God through Parables

Paul Purdue

SERMON RESPONSE

Sanctus

Franz Schubert

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He that comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Keller Hawkins

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.**

OFFERING

By the Lakeside

Michael Helman

Please register your attendance in the pew pad or with the QR code.

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

Luke 8: 22-25

One day he got into a boat with his disciples, and he said to them,
‘Let us go across to the other side of the lake.’
So they put out, and while they were sailing he fell asleep.
A gale swept down on the lake, and the boat was filling with water, and they were in danger.
They went to him and woke him up, shouting, ‘Master, Master, we are perishing!’
And he woke up and rebuked the wind and the raging waves; they ceased, and there was a calm.
He said to them, ‘Where is your faith?’
They were afraid and amazed, and said to one another,
‘Who then is this, that he commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him?’

†DOXOLOGY

OLD 100TH

**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.**

1. "Take up thy cross," the Sav - ior said, "if thou wouldst
 2. Take up thy cross, let not its weight fill thy weak
 3. Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame, nor let thy
 4. Take up thy cross and fol - low Christ, nor think till

my dis - ci - ple be; de - ny thy - self, the
 spir - it with a - larm; his strength shall bear thy
 fool - ish pride re - bel; thy Lord for thee the
 death to lay it down; for on - ly those who

world for - sake, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."
 spir - it up, and brace thy heart and nerve thine arm.
 cross en - dured, to save thy soul from death and hell.
 bear the cross may hope to wear the glo - rious crown.

†BENEDICTION

You have been forgiven, now go into a world that needs your forgiving, healing touch.
 Bring peace and hope to others, sharing God's love with them.
 Amen.⁴

CHORAL BLESSING

Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho

trad. Spiritual, arr. Howard Helvey
 Roxbury Glee Club; Justin Yamaguchi & Eric Zhu, piano

POSTLUDE

The Beauty of Holiness

Christopher Tambling

†You are invited to stand as you are able.

ADDITIONAL WORSHIP LEADERS

Robbie Jones, organist

Sanctuary Choir

Gayle Sullivan, Director of Music Ministries

Liturgy selected by Emma Bushong.

¹ Christine Longhurst

² Words: Samuel J. Stone; music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-729458. All rights reserved.

³ Words: Charles W. Everest; music: William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-729458. All rights reserved.

⁴ Nancy C. Townley

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MARCH 19

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

Speak out against the asylum ban with Tennessee Justice for Our Neighbors

On February 23, the Biden administration announced plans for an asylum ban at the US-Mexico border. This policy is illegal and inhumane. Under U.S. law, asylum seekers have the right to seek protection regardless of how they arrived here. The proposed policy would deny that right to all but a few, forcing many to remain in countries where their lives are still in danger. The public has only 30 days to submit comments to the administration before they finalize the policy.

Today, from 9:00-10:30am, join Tennessee Justice for Our Neighbors (TNJFON) and other community partners in the foyer to submit public comments, write to legislators, and create art protesting the asylum ban. TNJFON will also be here on Wednesday, March 22, from 5:00-7:00pm in the Community Center pre-event area. To learn more about the asylum ban and find other ways to get involved, go to qrco.de/NoAsylumBanTN.

Helen Ryde at Belmont UMC today

Belmonters for Inclusion is sponsoring a meeting with Helen Ryde today after worship. Helen, an organizer with Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN), will share an update on RMN talk about what's going on with the United Methodist Church in the Southeast Jurisdiction. We will gather in room 124 at 11:45am. All are welcome!

Midweek meal for March 22

Our Midweek meal on Wednesday, March 22, will be provided by Pizza Perfect. The menu will be baked chicken alfredo ziti, baked chicken ziti, Caesar salad, and cookies. Reservations are due by 12:00pm on Tuesday, March 21, and payment is required via credit card upon registration in Realm. Prices are \$12 for youth and adults, and \$9 for children 12 and under. Go to belmontumc.org/midweek to make your reservation. Our programs that evening will be the continuation of *Observing Lent with the Wesleys* (6:00pm in Parker Hall) led by Gayle Sullivan and Pat Ward, and *Parenting with Mental Health in Mind* (6:00pm in room 124).

Congregational meeting next Sunday

Next Sunday, March 26, everyone is invited to a special "State of Our Church" presentation in the sanctuary immediately following the 10:30am worship service. This gathering will only take about 30 minutes and will review the many ways we are supporting Belmont UMC through our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Louis Jordan, John Pearce, Kim Sheehan, and Pastor Paul will present valuable information and reflections on our present state, as well as future challenges. Please plan to attend.

Photo backdrops available first 4 Sundays in April

When is the last time your family got dressed up or a picture? When's the last time you got a picture of yourself that wasn't a selfie? On Sundays April 2, 9, 16, and 23, from 9:00-10:15am, you will have the opportunity to accomplish all three! On Palm Sunday, Easter Sunday, and the following two Sundays, Belmont UMC will provide backdrops for individuals, couples, groups, and families to use for getting their picture taken. On Easter Sunday, back drops will be in the Community Center; on the other Sundays they will be in the Iris Room. Volunteers will be on hand to take a picture for you and, as a bonus and with your permission, church staff will also add your photo to Realm, our online directory. They'll also be happy to take a photo on your personal phone for you. Wear your favorite outfit, casual or dressy, Easter bonnet or ball cap, and let us take your picture!

Parenting with Mental Health in Mind

Belmont UMC's Children's and Youth Ministries are teaming up to provide a parent workshop on Parenting with Mental Health in Mind. This will be a one-time workshop this Wednesday, March 22, from 6:00-7:00pm in room 124. Go to belmontumc.org/parenting to learn more.

NOAH listening campaign

Since 2014, Belmont UMC (along with 68 other congregations) has been working together in Nashville Organized for Action and Hope (NOAH) to bring about meaningful changes in our city. Our priorities have been affordable housing, criminal justice, education, integrated voter engagement, economic equity, and jobs. Belmonsters have a chance to shape priorities and be a real part of making Nashville the city that we want it to be. Belmont UMC members who are active with NOAH will be holding listening sessions with individuals and groups who want to share their hopes and dreams for our city and its people.

If you or your group would like to participate, please reach out to Pastor Ingrid (ingrid@belmontumc.org) by Sunday, April 2. We look forward to listening, learning, and working together for our community. To learn more about NOAH, go to noahn.org.

Join us for a hike!

On Saturday, April 15, Belmonsters will gather at 10:30am at Harpeth River State Park to participate in a private hike to Mound Bottom led by a park guide. This hike is a follow up to information we began exploring when Cherokee activist Albert Bender joined us for our *Stories of the Land* program.

This event is free, but registration is required by Wednesday, April 12. For details or to sign up, go to belmontumc.org/hike.

Confirmation Retreat sign-ups open

In preparation for this year's Confirmation Sunday, 7th and 8th graders will head to Lakeshore for a retreat March 31-April 1. Faith Friends are invited to join us Friday evening at 5:00pm in the Community Center, or on Saturday for our day of activities at Lakeshore.

Registration is open on Realm. The cost for students is \$75; Saturday-only registration for Faith Friends is \$20. Financial assistance is available. For more information, contact Emma Bushong (emma@belmontumc.org).

Palm Sunday parade

Sunday, April 2, is Palm Sunday, and Belmont UMC's children will welcome Jesus with a parade. They will let Hillsboro Village and the congregation know that Jesus is coming through singing and waving palm branches.

Children's choirs will gather at 10:00am on the second floor to robe and warm up, and then we will gather under the tent outside at 10:20am to receive palm branches. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us! For details, go to belmontumc.org/palm-sunday-parade.

Baptisms and new members

Remi Jane Balfour, daughter of Michelle and Adam Balfour, sister of Stella, Felix, and Lachlan, received the sacrament of Holy Baptism on March 12, 2023. Remi was born March 5, 2021.

Mary Katherine Carle, daughter of Kat and Christian Carle, received the sacrament of Holy Baptism on March 12, 2023. Mary Katherine was born September 19, 2021.

Belmont UMC welcomes new members Kat and Christian Carle who joined Belmont UMC on March 12, 2023.

THIS WEEK AT BELMONT UMC

SUNDAY, MARCH 19

8:10am	Worship with Communion, chapel/Facebook live
8:45am	Children's Chimes, 226
9:00am	TNJFON asylum ban letter-writing, foyer
9:15am	Matthew book club with Pastor Paul, Iris Room
9:15am	Adult, youth, and children's Sunday school, various rooms
11:30am	Worship, sanctuary/Facebook live
11:45am	Belmonsters for Inclusion gathering with Helen Ryde, 124
1:30pm	Carillon Ringers rehearsal, 226
3:30pm	Wesley Ringer rehearsal, 226
4:30pm	Open Door Singers rehearsal, choir room

5:30pm United Methodist Youth, Community Center

MONDAY, MARCH 20

2:00pm ENCORE Ministry Team, 120

6:00pm Finance Committee, Zoom

TUESDAY, MARCH 21

6:00pm Staff Parish Relations Committee, Zoom

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22

10:00am Lectio Divina, Zoom

4:00pm Connect group, 120

5:00pm Wednesday night meal, Community Center

5:00pm TNJFON asylum ban letter-writing, Community Center pre-event area

6:00pm Parenting with Mental Health in Mind, 124

6:00pm Observing Lent with the Wesleys, Parker Hall

6:00pm Adult connection space, Iris Room

6:00pm Gentle yoga, Zoom

6:00pm Youth midweek, 3rd floor

6:00pm Children's Choirs, Faith Finders hall

7:00pm Sanctuary Choir rehearsal, choir room

THURSDAY, MARCH 23

8:00am Centering Prayer, 223/Zoom

1:00pm Celebration Ringers rehearsal, 226

SUNDAY, MARCH 26

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

8:45am Children's Chimes, 226

9:15am Matthew book club with Pastor Paul, Iris Room

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

10:30am Worship, sanctuary/Facebook live

11:30am State of Our Church congregational meeting, sanctuary

12:00pm Belmonters for Inclusion, 124

12:30pm Pre-teen pizza and bowling @ Donelson Strike and Spare

1:30pm Carillon Ringers rehearsal, 226

3:30pm Wesley Ringer rehearsal, 226

4:30pm Open Door Singers rehearsal, choir room

5:30pm United Methodist Youth, 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
Gayle Sullivan, Director of Music Ministries sullivan@belmontumc.org
Amy Cooper, Director of Children’s Music Ministry amy@belmontumc.org
Emma Bushong, Director of Ministry with Young People emma@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@belmonrtumc.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:**

