

WELCOME

Emma Bushong

Holy God, help us to be present in worship this day even as you are present. Amen.

PRELUDE

Flourish for an Occasion

William Harris
Gayle Sullivan, organist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Heleluyan

arr. Ulrich

†HYMN NO. 545

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

**The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord,
she is His new creation by water and the Word.
From heaven He came and sought her to be His holy bride;
with His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.**

**Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;
her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth;
one holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.**

**Though with a scornful wonder we see her sore oppressed,
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.**

**Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
she waits the consummation of peace evermore;
till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blessed,
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.**

**Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won.
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with Thee.**

†PASSING THE PEACE

ANTHEM

Jubilate Deo

John Sanders

**O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: serve the Lord with gladness,
and come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise:
be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting:
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE MINISTRY OF GAYLE ANDREWS SULLIVAN

(adapted from Administrative Board Resolution)

Linda Johnson: Gayle Andrews Sullivan began her ministry with Belmont United Methodist Church on January 2, 1990, nearly 34 years ago. During this time, Gayle has planned, prepared, and led thousands of worship services with

varied musical selections for voices and instruments that have enriched the experience of musicians, celebrants, congregants, and visitors.

May God's grace continue to bless Gayle's life.

Pam Auble: Week by week, Gayle has pursued and consistently achieved a harmony between the music ministries and every other aspect of liturgy and worship, helping each to complement and support the others. Gayle has planned and directed thousands of hours of rehearsal with Belmont UMC vocal and instrumental ensembles providing opportunities for musicians of all ages and all musical backgrounds to grow together in their musicianship and faith together.

Hannah Parker: Gayle has heeded the call to "Go Make of All Disciples" by leading tours and community concerts throughout the United States and Canada, touching countless lives of both musicians and those fortunate enough to be present for the concerts offered by various Belmont UMC ensembles outside of our church walls.

We celebrate her faithfulness and her love for our congregation.

Jeff Sheehan: Gayle courageously maintained Belmont UMC's musical traditions and communities through the COVID-19 pandemic by advocating best practices for bringing musicians back together safely, continuing to make music an integral part of weekly worship and annual celebrations during the most challenging days of the pandemic, and reinvigorating in-person worship after pandemic restrictions eased.

We celebrate Gayle's creativity, fortitude, and steadfast commitment.

Parker Bowland: Gayle is a tremendous musician in her own right, demonstrating inspiring dexterity in playing each of the 4,078 pipes in Belmont UMC's magnificent pipe organ, 88 keys on our grand piano, and up to 37 bells by herself in a solo handbell piece.

Amy Cooper: In addition to guiding Belmont UMC's music program, Gayle has been a vital member of Belmont's ministry staff and contributed to the church's ministry in countless ways. She engaged in this holy work with her whole heart, her whole soul, and her whole mind, demonstrating daily her love of God and her love for the hundreds of children, youth, and adults who have been blessed to participate in Belmont's music ministry.

We celebrate Gayle's generous spirit.

James Bagwell: Gayle has taught us to treasure the feeling of God with us that hangs in the moments between the final note of a musical offering and the next act of worship.

We celebrate Gayle Andrews Sullivan for her outstanding ministry, express profound appreciation for her impact on the lives of this church, its members, and our broader community, and pray that God will continue to bless our beloved friend in all the days that follow.

SCRIPTURE

Colossians 1:1-7

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

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Come with a Grateful Heart

Becki Slagle Mayo

Chapel Choir; Amanda Dembiec, pianist; Kim Sheehan, flutist

Refrain: Come to God with a grateful heart, ready to serve and ready to praise.

Come to God with a grateful heart, ready to serve and ready to praise, ready to serve and ready to praise!

God made everything, all creatures great and small.

God loves ev'ryone and God is Lord of all! Come on, children! *R*

God so loved the world, God sent God's only Son.

Jesus came to share God's love for ev'ryone! Come on, children! *R*

Praise the Lord!

SERMON

Serving and Giving

Paul Purdue

SERMON RESPONSE

Set Me as a Seal

Richard Nance

Sanctuary Choir; Emily Bowland, clarinetist

Set me as a seal upon your heart, as a seal upon your arm, for love is strong as strong as death.

Many waters cannot quench love. Neither can the floods drown it.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Come to Me All Who Labor

John Purifoy

Open Door Singers; Bill Cooper, accompanist

Come to me all who labor and are heavy laden down and I'll give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you and learn from me now, for I'm gentle and low in heart.
Here, you'll find rest, you'll find rest for your weary soul, for my yoke is easy and my burden's light, come to me.
Come all who labor, let me take your load, I am life, I am rest for your soul.
Here you'll find rest, you'll find rest for your weary soul, for my yoke is easy and my burden's light, come to me.

OFFERING

Resounding Joy

Kevin McChesney

Carillon Ringers, Celebration Ringers

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 (back of bulletin), contacting Sara Christi (bookkeeper@belmontumc.org) to set up a bank draft, or mailing your offering to the church, Box 120098, Nashville, TN, 37212.

†DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

†HYMN NO. 68

When in Our Music God Is Glorified

ENGELBERG

When in our music God is glorified, and adoration leaves no room for pride,
it is as though the whole creation cried: Alleluia!
How often, making music, we have found a new dimension in the world of sound,
as worship moved us to a more profound Alleluia!
And did not Jesus sing a psalm that night when utmost evil strove against the light?
Then let us sing, for whom He won the fight: Alleluia!
Let every instrument be used for praise! Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise!
And may God give us faith to sing always: Alleluia!

†BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

Lord, we thank you for Gayle, and we welcome Matt.
We know that all ministry belongs to You, and we are each instruments of your ministry.
We pray that the world might better learn your songs.
Lord, send us forth rejoicing! Amen.

RECESSIONAL

Allegro from Symphony I

William Boyce
Robbie Jones, organist

†You are invited to stand as you are able.

Altar flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of Edna Thomas by Judy and Tommy Lewis and family.
The rosebud on the altar table celebrates the birth of Sophia Wade Kelley, daughter of Haleigh and Robert Kelley and granddaughter of Amy Smith. Sophia was born January 17, 2024.

ADDITIONAL WORSHIP LEADERS

Robbie Jones, organist
Sanctuary Choir
Gayle Sullivan, Director of Music Ministries
Amy Cooper, Director of Children’s Music

PROGRAM STAFF

Paul Purdue, Senior Pastorpaul@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..... amy@belmontumc.org
Emma Bushong, Director of Ministry with Young People emma@belmontumc.org
Sandy Sakarapanee, Pastor of Golden Triangle Fellowship..... nithet@hotmail.com

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.

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