WELCOME Emma Bushong

## **CENTERING PRAYER**

When the storms of life are raging,

stand by me.

In the midst of tribulation,

stand by me.

When I've done the best I can and my friends misunderstand,

God who knows all about me, stand by me.1

**MUSIC FOR MEDITATION** 

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

arr. Mark Hayes

Jean Kohler, piano

INTROIT Amazing Day Rebecca Thompson

Music Makers

Thank you, God, for this amazing day. Thank you, God, for work and play; for friends and family, and animals, too, on this amazing day.

Look around us here, see God's Holy Spirit ev'rywhere.

There's happiness, gentleness, love, peace, joy, overflowing for all to see.

### **†CALL TO WORSHIP**

What beauty, what wonder—

we are woven together in the fabric of the cosmos!

Starstuff on our blue marble planet;

one celestial body are we.

Different gifts, different experiences,

the same Holy Love—

awakening our compassion, fortifying our connection,

shining hope through our lives.

Let us explore the mystery of this Holy Love in this place today!

We have come to worship!2

**†HYMN NO. 578** God of Love and God of Power UNSER HERRSCHER

### **†PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Lord, we confess that we doubt your capacity to work through us.

We hold on to fears that we are unworthy to speak your words,

so we stay silent even as your Spirit pulls at our tongues.

We struggle to fathom the wholeness of your claim over us,

so we ignore the light of your love as it emerges in the dark places of our lives.

We seek refuge in temporary towers, and are numb to the grasp of cruelty.

Forgive us.

Help us to trust you, to lean upon you, to speak your word to a weary world

# and accept the completeness of your loving claim on our lives.<sup>3</sup>

(silent reflection)

### **†ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Hear the good news:

Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

We know this love through Jesus Christ, and by this love, we know that we are forgiven!

Thanks be to God!3

# **†PASSING THE PEACE**

**†SCRIPTURE** 1 Corinthians 13 Ashlee Headrick

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

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM I Will Greatly Rejoice Allen Pote

Chapel Choir

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my song shall be full of his praise, for he loves me, he cares for me, He believes in me and I believe in him.

I will sing unto God and honor him this day.

God is my help in time of trouble, He is with me in time of fear; darkness surrounds me, evil thoughts confound me, yet, I know my God is near.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my song shall be full of his praise, for he loves me, he cares for me, He believes in me and I believe in him.

I will sing unto God and honor him this day. Rejoice! Alleluia! Amen!

SERMON Only Faith, Hope and Love Remain

Paul Purdue

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

John Collett, Matthew Webb; musical setting A, hymnal page 17 *Please register your attendance with the QR code.* 

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# 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.

## **BREAKING THE BREAD - SHARING THE CUP**

As we celebrate the gift of Holy Communion, everyone is invited.

Offering left at the Communion rail supports the O.N.E. Barnes Scholarship.

Where Charity and Love Prevail

Hymn No. 549

A Loving Heart

Timothy G. Bushong

Sanctuary Choir; Ned Henry, violin

A loving heart is kind and patient. It will not boast or envy be.

It will bear all things without complaint, for it endures, hopes, and believes.

Though I may speak with the sound of angels, and if I give all that I possess, without love I am as a sounding gong.

I have no gain but the gift of love. Love never ends, love is forever.

Though mortal flesh may soon be gone, and the stars fall from the heavens, love never ends; it will live on.

To live in faith is to live in God's pure light, and all who hope will not be denied.

But to love is to touch the face of God and taste of heaven here in this life.

Faith and hope and love abide, these three, and still the best of all is love.

#### 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 NO. 630** 

Become to Us the Living Bread

GELOBT SEI GOTT

### †BENEDICTION

Faithful ones,

let us go from here with conviction, with assurance, with hope!

For even when we can't see it and we struggle to feel it,

Love has always been with us,

the Kindom of God is alive within us,

and Justice will one day be our home.

May God be with us, today and always,

as we seek to live what we believe.

Amen.4

**MUSIC FOR MEDITATION** 

Rondo from *Abdelazer* Robbie Jones, organ

Henry Purcell

†You are invited to stand as you are able.

Sanctuary Choir Robbie Jones, organist Paul Purdue, Senior Pastor
Heather Harriss, Senior Associate Pastor
Matthew Webb, Director of Music Ministry
Emma Bushong, Director of Ministry with Young People
Amy Cooper, Director of Children's Ministries, Music, and Families
Katie Pattullo, Donna Harrison, Music Makers directors
Amanda Dembiec, Parker Bowland, accompanists
Erin Payne, Brittany Jordan, children's choir assistants

Liturgy written/selected by Matthew Webb.

<sup>1</sup>from the hymn "Stand By Me," by Charles Albert Tindley, 1905

<sup>2</sup>by Rev. Molly Bolton from enfleshed, Liturgy That Matters, adapted by Matthew Webb

<sup>3</sup>by Walter Canter for Presbyterian Outlook Weekly Liturgy, Feb. 2, 2025

<sup>4</sup>from enfleshed, Liturgy That Matters, August 2019

Memorials

NEILAND PENNINGTON

Donors:

Linda & Mike O'Neal

Covenant Class

BECKY SALAS

Donor:
Suzanne Bradford

CAROLYN THOMPSON

Donor:

Covenant Class

Looking for news and announcements? Our newsletter is now fully digital and features vibrant color photos, engaging graphics, and clickable links to additional resources and information. Additionally, this shift aligns with our commitment to environmental stewardship by significantly reducing our paper usage. Look for a newsletter QR code in the bulletin each week or email <a href="mailto:angie@belmontumc.org">angie@belmontumc.org</a> to subscribe and have the latest news and events delivered directly to your inbox!

#### 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**

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Sandy Sakarapanee, Pastor of Golden Triangle Fellow	shipnithet@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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