

MARCH 16, 2025 10:30 AM

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

WELCOME

Heather Harriss

CENTERING PRAYER

This Lenten season, tune us to your wisdom, Oh God.

Unroot within us individualism. Plant us in love for the Wonderful Whole.

Turn our faces towards radical solidarity. Bolster our spiritual fortitude.

Connect us to pleasure and play. Join our hearts together this day in this place. Amen.¹

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

Sweet Hour of Prayer

arr. Dale Wood

Matthew Webb, organ

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Come as you are.

If you have deep faith or your faith has run dry,

if you know every scripture or none at all,

if you have calloused hands and live your faith through good works,

or if you kneel at God's feet, with a million hungry questions,

come as you are.

This is God's house.

None are turned away.

All are welcome here.²

†HYMN NO. 152

I Sing the Almighty Power of God

FOREST GREEN

†PRAYER OF CONFESSION

John Collett

God of Grace, we long to do the "right" thing.

We long to make the "right" choice.

We long to stand on the "right" side of the dividing line.

In our earnestness, we sometimes miss the sacred right in front of us.

In our earnestness, we sometimes miss opportunities to show love.

Show us how to hold our heart's desire for perfection loosely.

Show us how to lead with grace and love, over anything else.

For even more than our desire to be right, we desire to be close to you. Show us the way. Amen.²

(silent reflection)

†ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Faithful friends, God knows our hearts.

When we mean well and lose our way, God knows.

When we try to do the right thing and miss the point, God knows.

When we long to be close to God and doubt our worth, God knows.

We are seen. We are loved. We are forgiven. We have been sent to serve.

This is the good news of the gospel!

Nothing can separate us from God's love.

Thanks be to God!²

†PASSING THE PEACE

†PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Loving God, when our anxiety hovers close, when fear clings to our bones,
when our stress rises like the tide, see us.

Speak to us. Call us by name.

See us in the kitchen, in the classroom, in the hospital waiting room.

Speak to us in the quiet, in the crowd, in the inky black of night.

Call us beloved. Call us by name. Call us your child.

Whatever you do, speak to us, for we cannot live on bread alone. Amen.²

†GOSPEL READING

Luke 10: 38-42

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

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Inscription of Praise

Z. Randall Stroope

Sanctuary Choir

I believe in the sun even when it is not shining, and I believe in love even when there's no one there.

And I believe in God even when God is silent, I believe through any trial there is always a way.

But sometimes in this suffering and hopeless despair, my heart cries for shelter, to know someone's there.

But a voice rises within me saying hold on my child, I'll give you strength, I'll give you hope, just stay a little while.

May there someday be sunshine, may there someday be happiness, may there someday be love, may there someday be peace.

SERMON

Everything Between Faith and Works

Paul Purdue

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Matthew Webb

We believe in a Christ who teaches, sees, affirms, and celebrates all of who we are.

**We believe in a Christ who invites us to use our gifts for good
and celebrates every step we take in that direction.**

We believe in a Christ who understands our anxieties and is gentle with our concerns.

And we believe in a Christ who looks at us with undiluted love.

The world will try to rank, rate, and declare winners, but we know love has no limit.

So with God's help, may we nurture our faith and do good work. Amen.²

†HYMN

Ministry and Presence

EIN' FESTE BURG

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

Please register your attendance 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.

OFFERTORY

Hymn of Peace

Mary McDonald

*Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side; leave to your God to order and provide.**In ev'ry change God faithful will remain.**Be still, my soul: the hour is hast'ning on when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone.**Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past. Be still, my soul: all blessed shall meet at last.**Be still, my soul: begin the song of praise; acknowledge Him in all thy words and ways.**So shall He view you with a well-pleased eye.***†DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD 100TH**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;****praise God, above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.****Amen.****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.****†HYMN NO. 142**

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

†BENEDICTION

Go in the footsteps of Jesus, devoted to the work of love.

Go in the mystery of the Spirit, surprised by the unfoldings of freedom.

Go protected by God—our hope and our guide.

Amen.¹**MUSIC FOR MEDITATION**

The God of Abraham Praise

arr. Michael Burkhardt

†You are invited to stand as you are able.

The sparse arrangement of twigs and branches represents the barrenness of the forty days of Lent,
the season of preparation for Easter.

LEADERS IN WORSHIP

Robbie Jones, organist

Sanctuary Choir

Paul Purdue, Senior Pastor

Heather Harriss, Senior Associate Pastor

Matthew Webb, Director of Music Ministry

John Collett, retired Belmont UMC pastor

Liturgy selected by Matthew Webb.

¹Molly Bolton for *enfleshed: Liturgy That Matters, March 16, 2025*

²Sarah Are Speed for A Sanctified Art, *Everything in Between: Words for Worship, March 16, 2025*

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 angie@belmontumc.org 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

Paul Purdue, Senior Pastorpaul@belmontumc.org
Heather Harriss, Senior Associate Pastorheather@belmontumc.org
Matthew Webb, Director of Music Ministries matt@belmontumc.org
Amy Cooper, Director of Children’s Ministries, Music, and Families ...amy@belmontumc.org
Emma Bushong, Director of Ministry with Young People.....emma@belmontumc.org
Sandy Sakarapane, 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.

Scan to give here:



Scan to register your attendance:



Want to get involved?

Scan to learn more:

