

MARCH 15, 2026 8:10AM

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

WELCOME

Keller Hawkins

Please register your attendance via QR code.

You may give online at belmontumc.org/give, text BELMONT to 73256, scan the QR giving code, contact Sara Christi (bookkeeper@belmontumc.org) to set up a bank draft, or mail it to the church, Box 120098, Nashville, TN, 37212.

CENTERING PRAYER

Open our hearts, loving God,
that your Spirit may dwell in our hearts this day,
inspiring us with moments of praise, reflection, repentance,
hearing, and proclaiming your Good News.
Amen.

PRELUDE

Amanda Dembiec, piano

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!
I will praise the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praises to God all my life long.
Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord:
who made heaven and earth, and all that is in them;
who executes justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets the prisoner free and heals our sickness.
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous.
The Lord watches over the strangers and upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
The Lord will reign forever.
Praise the Lord!

(from Psalm 146)

†HYMN NO. 451

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

†PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving and merciful God,
you told us that when a foreigner lives among us that we should not mistreat them.
Holy God, we confess that we have mistreated the immigrants in our land.
Jesus told us blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.
We confess that we have clung to guns and war more than we have pursued peace.
You also said that when we gather the grapes of our vineyards, do not glean what is left,
but let it be given to the immigrant, the orphan, and the widow.
We confess, we have hoarded our resources and failed to care for our neighbors.
We are truly sorry for the ways that we have missed the mark,

and see repentance for our harmful actions and our inaction.

Forgive us, Creator and Sustainer.

Amen.¹

(silent reflection)

†ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Loving Savior, we are truly grateful for your words of promise:

“Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name; you are mine.”

By God’s grace, despite our sin and shortcomings, we are redeemed, claimed, forgiven, and loved.

May this good news change our lives!

Amen.

†PASSING THE PEACE

SCRIPTURE

Leviticus 19:33-34

CEB

†Matthew 14:12-23a

NRSVUE

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

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Protection and Care for the Vulnerable

Paul Purdue

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

God makes me lie down in green pastures, leads me beside still waters, and restores my soul.

Called by God, I seek to walk in the paths of righteousness.

Even though I may walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me;

your rod and your shepherd’s staff provide me with safety and comfort.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil and my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life,

and I will dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.

Amen.

(from Psalm 23)

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

...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.**

...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.

...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.**

BREAKING THE BREAD - SHARING THE CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**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.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

†You are invited to stand as you are able.

Liturgy written/selected Matthew Webb.

¹Adapted from a prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Memorials

JIM FIELDS

Donors:

Beverly Mintmire

Graham Inquirers-Harbison Fellowship-Rustin Class

JOE BOYD

Donors:

Pam Auble & Mike Engle

Jane Leonard

Patricia Moskal

JOYCE DEL PINO

Donors:

Pam Auble & Mike Engle

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/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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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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