



Bel Air United Methodist Church

2nd Sunday after the Epiphany – January 14, 2024 – 9:15 AM

Prelude

Jeff Beyers, Organist

Ministry Opportunities

An Invitation to All! (Based on Matt. 15:21-28; Isa. 56:1, 6-8; Rom. 11:1-2, 29-32)

Come and worship, all you who love and serve the Lord—
Outsiders and insiders,
Old and new,
The young, old and the in-between.
Come as you are,
For this is God's house—a house of prayer for all people,
And God welcomes each one who comes. **Amen.**
<re-worship.blogspot.com>

Opening Hymn*

Come, Christians Join to Sing

UMH 158

Opening Prayer (Unison, Diocese of Wollongong, Australia)

Lord, our God, Source of All Life, you reveal yourself in the depths of our being drawing us to share in your life and love. Bless each of us as we respond to your Spirit's invitation to open wide the doors to Christ. Make the doors of our hearts, our homes and our communities wide enough to receive all who need love and fellowship, but narrow enough to shut out all envy, prejudice and pride. Let us hasten to welcome the stranger, and so welcome your Son. We pray this in his name, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism

Haven Ophelia Foster,
Daughter of Joshua Foster & Hannah Schepers

Moment for Ministry

Pass It On

Angie Coughlin

Prayer of Confession (Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.)

Donna Becker

Forgive us for what we could have been but failed to be... O Eternal God, out of whose absolute power and infinite intelligence the whole universe has come into being, we humbly confess that we have not loved you with our hearts, souls and minds, and we have not loved our neighbors as Christ loved us. We have all too often lived by our

own selfish impulses rather than by the life of sacrificial love as revealed by Christ. We often give in order to receive. We love our friends and hate our enemies. We go the first mile but dare not travel the second. We forgive but dare not forget. And so, as we look within ourselves, we are confronted with the appalling fact that the history of our lives is the history of an eternal revolt against you. But you, O God, have mercy upon us. Forgive us for what we could have been but failed to be. Give us the intelligence to know your will. Give us the courage to do your will. Give us the devotion to love your will. In the name and Spirit of Jesus, we pray. **Amen.**

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance (Psalm 103: 8)

L: The LORD is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

P: Thanks be to God. Amen.

The Peace (Responsive)

Christ is our peace. He has reconciled us to God in one body by the cross.

We meet in his name and share his peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you. Amen.

Special Music

Chancel Choir
Directed by Dave Tramontana

Scripture Reading

Genesis 18:1-10

Hymn Response

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

UMH 351

Sermon

Hospitality Series – Abraham and Sarah

Rev. Byron E. Brought

Offering

This moment of reflection is an opportunity to consider your response to God. How will you demonstrate your love for God? How will you give of your time, your talents, and your treasures? Please consider giving electronically; ask us how. Thank you.



Communion & The Lord's Prayer

Hymn*

Blessed Assurance

UMH 369

Benediction & Sending Forth



Adopt A Child –Thank you to everyone who participated as a coordinator, a sponsor or donated money to the Adopt a Child program. We were able to give Christmas to 29 families with 94 children referred to us by the Department of Social Services. We could not have completed this program without your help. You are greatly appreciated!

Tiny Tot School Open House – January 18th from 9:30-11:00 am. A ministry of BAUMC, Tiny Tot School offers Christian preschool programs for children ages 3 through 5 years old. You are invited to visit our classrooms, take a tour, meet the teachers, and learn all about why Tiny Tot School is such a special place to grow and learn. All are welcome!

Creation Care Team – A big thanks to all of you who purchased tree ornaments from the Creation Care Team last month as part of our alternative Christmas gift project. You purchased all 58 of the team's handmade ornaments, which totaled a contribution of **\$932** to the Arbor Day Foundation. This amount will provide the planting of 466 trees for the organization's Trees in Celebration/Forest in Greatest Need program. This designation helps restore forests recently devastated by natural disasters including wildfires, floods and hurricanes. Your generous support is greatly appreciated!

Creation Care Winter Hike - Save the Date! Sunday, February 4th at 10:45 am - carpool from church or meet at location TBD. More information to come.

Annual Stewardship Campaign is here! Time to embrace our M&Ms! Each year we celebrate our M&Ms, our Ministries and Missions. Each year we give thanks to God that we can provide for our congregation, our community, and our world. Pledge cards will be mailed this month. We invite you to return them anytime this month. Thank you for your kindness and faithful generosity.

Hospitality Sermon Series – January 14th – February 11th, 2024

January 14 – Old Testament Hospitality – Abraham and Sarah – Genesis 18:1-10

January 21 – Rahab - Joshua 2

January 28 – New Testament Hospitality - Acts 4:32-35 & Hebrews 13

February 4 – Paul and Silas in Philippi – Acts 16:31-34

February 11 – Who Is Invited? – Parable of the Great Supper – Luke 14:15-24

Bel Air United Methodist Church, 21 Linwood Ave., Bel Air, MD 21014
410-838-5181 • <belairumc.org>

Come, Christians Join to Sing

Come, Christians join to sing: Alleluia! Amen! Loud praises to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen! Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice; praise in his gracious choice. Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen! Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen! He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend; his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!

Praise yet the Lord again: Alleluia! Amen! Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen! On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore, singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

Pass me not, O gentle Savior, hear my humble cry; while on others thou art calling, do not pass me by. Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry; while on others thou art calling, do not pass me by.

Let me at thy throne of mercy find a sweet relief, kneeling there in deep contrition; help my unbelief. Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry; while on others thou art calling, do not pass me by.

Trusting only in thy merit, would I seek thy face; heal my wounded, broken spirit, save me by thy grace. Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry; while on others thou art calling, do not pass me by.

Thou the spring of all my comfort, more than life to me, whom have I on earth beside thee? Whom in heaven but thee? Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry; while on others thou art calling, do not pass me by.

Blessed Assurance

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight; angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest, watching and waiting,
looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love. This is my story, this is my song,
praising my Savior all the day long; this is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the
day long.