



Bel Air United Methodist Church

21st Sunday after Pentecost – October 22, 2023 – 9:15 AM

Prelude

Organist, Jeff Beyers

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive; Psalm 99:1-3)

The LORD is king; let the people tremble.

He sits enthroned above the angels. Let the earth quake!

The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over us all.

Let us praise God's great and awesome name. God, our Mighty King, is Holy!

Hymn*

O Worship the King

UMH 73

Opening Prayer (Unison; Rev. Magrey DeVega)

Holy and Loving God, you ask us questions that invite us to seriously consider our faith and our relationship with you. You ask us questions that draw us closer to you and the life you desire for us. Thank you! We pray for wisdom as we seek answers. We pray for courage as we seek to live the lives to which you call us. Thank you for this time of worship and fellowship with this family of believers. Let us welcome one another in Christian love. In the name of your Son Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Anthem

Welcome Song

Children's Choir

Directed by Kristen Brought

Sacrament of Baptism

Maria Roseann Sofia

Daughter of Seth & Emily Sofia

Hymn Response

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

UMH 605

Moment for Ministry

Update on the Homestead

John Caspero

Prayer for Peace in the Holy Land (Rabbi Shella Weinberg)

Two peoples, one land. Three faiths, one root. One earth, one mother, one sky, one beginning, one future, one destiny, one broken heart, one God. We pray to you, O LORD. Grant us a visit of unity. May we see the many in one and the one in the many. May you, Life of All the Worlds, Source of All Amazing Differences, help us to see clearly. Guide us gently and firmly toward each other, and toward peace. **Amen.**

Silent Prayer

Prayer of Confession & Silent Prayer

Dave Fisher

Words of Assurance (Psalm 86:15-16)

You, O LORD, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

Turn to us and be gracious to us, that we might have your strength. Amen.

The Peace (Responsive; Philippians 4:7)

May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you. Amen.**

Anthem

Grace (Carolyn Hamlin)
Directed by Dave Tramontana

Handbell Choir

Gospel Reading

John 1:35-42

Dave Fisher

Sermon

“What Are You Looking For?”

Rev. Byron E. Brought

Offering Our Gifts

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.



Doxology*

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

Prayer of Dedication* (Unison, Mary J. Scifres)

God of steadfast love, we thank you for the abundant gifts in our lives: love and grace, friends and family, and clothing and belongings. Thank you for the signs of your loving presence in the world: wondrous works and awesome deeds. Receive these offerings as we rejoice in this opportunity to help bring about your presence here on earth. Amen.

Communion & The Lord's Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn*

Soldiers of Christ, Arise

UMH 513

Benediction & Organ Postlude*



Communion Is Open to All – Pre-packaged Gluten-Free communion elements are available upon request. Please ask an usher and they will provide it for you.

Fall Preaching Series – Questions Jesus Asked – Magrey R. Devega

- ❖ Sept. 10th – Who Do You Say That I Am? – Luke 9:18-27
- ❖ Sept. 17th – Why Are You Afraid? – Matthew 8:23-27
- ❖ Sept. 24th – Why Are You Anxious? – Luke 12:25-31
- ❖ Oct. 1st – What Do You Live For? – Mark 8:34-38
- ❖ Oct. 8th – Whom Will You Love? – Luke 6: 27-36
- ❖ Oct. 15th – Laity Sunday – Jim Piccione
- ❖ **Oct. 22nd – What Are You Looking For? – John 1:35-38**

Food & Fellowship Thank You! Thank you to our Hospitality Team led by Alice Archer. Join us in Room 202 and the Welcome Center every Sunday from 10:00 -11:00 am.

A Service of Remembrance for Rev. Charles W. Lightner – TODAY at 11 am.

Join us in the sanctuary. Rev. Lightner served as lead pastor here at BAUMC for 20 years. He was well-loved and was a great storyteller. Everyone is invited to come and share stories about him as we celebrate his life and ministry here.

Children's Choir and Youth Choir – No Children's Choir today or on 11/12. All youth, grades 7-12, are invited to join Kristen Brought to rehearse some special music for Advent/Christmas. Rehearsals will begin on Sunday, November 5, from 8:30-9:00 am. Location to be determined. Please invite your friends.

Children's Christian Center (CCC) Board – The CCC Board is looking for help. It would be ideal if someone knows how to work with money. If you can help, please be in touch with the CCC Board members or with Pastor Byron.

All Saints Sunday, November 5th – We will celebrate and remember all our loved ones who have gone before us. On November 5th, please bring pictures of your loved ones who have passed and before the service, place them on the tables in the Sanctuary or McComas Hall, for display. There will also be candles that you can light in remembrance.

College Boxes – Please help support our college students as they prepare for finals! We will be collecting donations of packaged snacks and treats, now through Thanksgiving, in a bin next to the information desk. To remind our college students that they are loved, we will be making care packages to send to them in time for final exams.

Toy Workshop – Toy collection begins on November 1st. Please clean out your closets, toy boxes and drawers. We need items for baby baskets, baskets for Moms, Dads, teen boys and teen girls. Also, gently used toys, dolls, books, etc. Have a question? Email: elainezig@yahoo.com

BAUMC Pictorial Directory – It is time for the NEW Pictorial Directory! Additional Date Added: November 16th from 1:00 pm – 7pm. You must have an appointment! Please sign-up at <https://belairumc.com/ChurchDirectoryAppt>

All-Church Family Hike – Sunday, November 5th – Cromwell Valley Park

The Creation Care Team would like to invite you to the next hike. Please consider a carpool from church by 10:45 am, or meet at Cromwell Valley Park at 11:15 am
Willow Grove Nature Center entrance, 2002 Cromwell Bridge Road, Parkville, MD 21234

Church Conference - The Church Conference is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24th, 6:30 pm. This year it will be entirely virtual using Zoom. If you would like to attend the Church Conference virtually, please contact the church office at 410-838-5181 by no later than tomorrow at noon.

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

O Worship the King

O worship the King, all glorious above, O gratefully sing God's power and God's love; our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

O tell of God's might, O sing of God's grace, whose robe is the light, whose canopy space, whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form, and dark is God's path on the wings of the storm.

The earth with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, thy power hath founded of old; hath stablished it fast by a changeless decree, and round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care, what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air, it shines in the light; it streams from the hills, it descends to the plain, and sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail, in thee do we trust, nor find thee to fail; thy mercies how tender, how firm to the end, our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend.

Wash, O God, Our Sons and Daughters

Wash, O God, our sons and daughters, where your cleansing waters flow. Number them among your people; bless as Christ blessed long ago. Weave them garments bright and sparkling; compass them with love and light. Fill, anoint them; send your Spirit, holy dove and heart's delight.

We who bring them long for nurture; by your milk may we be fed. Let us join your feast, partaking cup of blessing, living bread. God, renew us, guide our footsteps; free from sin and all its snares, one with Christ in living, dying, by your Spirit, children, heirs.

O how deep your holy wisdom! Unimagined, all your ways! To your name be glory, honor! With our lives we worship, praise! We your people stand before you, water washed and Spirit born. By your grace, our lives we offer. Recreate us; God, transform!

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Soldiers of Christ, Arise

Soldiers of Christ, arise, and put your armor on, strong in the strength which God supplies thru his eternal Son; strong in the Lord of Hosts, and in his mighty power, who in the strength of Jesus trusts is more than conqueror.

Stand in his great might, with all his strength endued, but take to arm you for the fight the panoply of God; that having all things done, and all your conflicts passed, ye may o'er come thru Christ alone and stand entire at last.

Pray without ceasing, pray, (your Captain gives the word) his summons cheerfully obey and call upon the Lord; to God your every want in instant prayer display, pray always, pray and never faint, pray, without ceasing pray.

From strength to strength go on, wrestle and fight and pray, tread all the powers of darkness down and win the well fought day. Still let the Spirit cry in all his soldiers, "Come!" till Christ the Lord descends from high and takes the conquerors home.