



Bel Air United Methodist Church

24th Sunday after Pentecost – November 12, 2023 – 9:15 AM

Prelude

Organist, Jeff Beyers

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship (Responsive; Psalm 46:1-3)

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in times of trouble.

Therefor we will not fear, though the earth should change. Though the mountains shake in the work of the sea; though its waters roar... we know that God is with us. Amen.

Hymn*

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

UMH 110

Opening Prayer (Unison; Rev. B.J. Beu)

We sing your praises, O God, for your steadfast love endures forever. When we are hungry or thirsty, you hear our cries and you deliver us. When our souls faint within us, you come to our aid and revive us. Bless us with humility. Help us to see the welfare of others before our own glory. May your love be our foundation that, when our steps falter, you will pick us up again. Through our faith, let us seek to be in deeper relationship with you, and deeper relationship with our neighbors. Amen.

Anthem

Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus

Chancel Choir

Directed by Dave Tramontana

Moment for Ministry

Toy Workshop

Kathy Frawley

Act of Remembrance (Church of Scotland)

Let us remember the bravery, devotion to duty and self-sacrifice of men and women of all armed forces and peace-keeping operations.

Let us remember the commitment and endurance of those involved in conflict situations around the world.

Let us remember those wounded or held captive.

Let us remember those who care for the wounded.

Let us remember those who return from conflict but whose lives still bear the scars,

Who have lost sight or limbs or reason,

Who have lost faith in their God or hope for humanity.

Let us remember those who were or are seen as enemies.

May our common humanity heal all division and hate.

Let us remember the innocent victims caught in the crossfire of conflict,

Whose homes and hearts are also bereft.

Let us remember the refugees fleeing from war,

Who desperately yearn for safety and peace.

Let us remember the many who have perished in war from our own schools, communities and families.

Let us remember all men and women lost in war on land and sea,

Whose deaths have brought grief and sorrow for loved ones,

Who rest in graves at home or in destinations far away,

But who are not forgotten.

Let us remember the continuing grace of God, whose love holds all souls in life and death.

Amen.

Moment of Silence & Prayer

Almighty and Eternal God, from whose love in Christ we cannot be parted, either by death or life: hear our prayers and thanksgiving for all who we remember this day. Fulfil in them the purpose of your love; and bring us all with them, to your eternal joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer of Confession & Silent Prayer

Donna Becker

Dear LORD, it's not easy to humble ourselves before others. It's not easy to wait for your guidance and trust that all will be well if we let you take the lead. We fear the times when others might ridicule us. We fear the potential loss of power and prestige. Forgive us when we act out of anger or fear. Forgive us when we act by ourselves with no thought of you in our lives. Heal us that we might live as Christ's truth – that we are made great when we serve others, and when we humble ourselves before you. **Amen.**

Words of Assurance (Psalm 89: 1-2)

I will sing of your steadfast love, O LORD, forever;

With my mouth I'll proclaim your faithfulness to every generation.

I declare that your steadfast love is established forever, and your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens. **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

The Peace (Responsive)

Let us rejoice in God's steadfast love. In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ you are forgiven. Glory to God; Amen.

Scripture Reading

Joshua 24: 14-18

Donna Becker

Hymn*

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

UMH 127

Sermon

The Promised Gift

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.



Prayer of Dedication* (Unison)

Let your favor, O LORD, be upon these gifts, that your work may prosper in this church, in these neighborhoods, and in the wider world around us. Amen.

Communion & The Lord's Prayer**Pastoral Prayer****Hymns***

*Great is the Lord
How Majestic Is Your Name*

TFWS 2022

TFWS 2023

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.

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.

Soup Sale TODAY – Buy some delicious homemade soups to support our Habitat for Humanity and Volunteers In Mission (VIM) project. We're building a home in Havre de Grace, and this is one way to help. All veterans will receive \$5 off any soup.

Advent Time – The whole church family is invited next Sunday, November 19th at 4:00 pm in Rooms 101 & 103. We will make advent wreaths and have devotional time over pizza!

BAUMC Pictorial Directory – You still have time to sign-up! Additional Date Added: **November 15th** from 1:00 pm – 7pm. You must have an appointment! Please sign-up at <https://belairumc.com/ChurchDirectoryAppt>

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 – There will be a lot of children right here in Harford County that may not have a very Merry Christmas. You can change that! 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: elainezig1@yahoo.com

Furniture Ministry Update – Our furniture ministry partners with Fresh Start (Formerly Found in Faith). The storage facility is located at 1050 Hardees Drive, Unit B, Aberdeen, MD 21001. Furniture donations

are always welcome. Go to <FreshStartMD.org> for details. Evelyn McSorley is our congregational liaison.

The Homestead Update – The Homestead house and property is SOLD as of October 31. BAUMC still owns the properties for sale in the back of The Homestead, but the old house is now sold. Thank you to the Board of Trustees in facilitating this sale. Special thanks to Doug McCorkle, John Caspero, Dominic Corson, Diane Sengstacke, and Alice Archer, for their vital roles.

Thanksgiving Services – Come celebrate Thanksgiving with us next Sunday, November 19, in the sanctuary at 9:15 or in McComas Hall at 10:15 am.



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

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing; our helper he amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great, and armed with cruel hate, on earth is not his equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing, were not the right man on our side, the man of God's choosing. Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus it is he; Lord Sabbath, his name, from age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to triumph through us. The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him; his rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure; one little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth; the Spirit and the gifts are ours, thru him who with us sideth. Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also; the body they may kill; God's truth abideth still; his kingdom is forever.

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land. I am weak, but thou art mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me till I want no more; (want no more) feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain, whence the healing stream doth flow; let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through. Strong deliverer, strong deliverer, be thou still my strength and shield; (strength and shield) be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside; death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side. Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee; (give to thee) I will ever give to thee.

Great is the Lord

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just; by his power we trust in his love. Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true; by his mercy he proves he is love. Great is the Lord and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise. Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the Lord.

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just; by the power we trust in his love. Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true; by his mercy he proves he is love. Great is the Lord and worthy of glory! Great is the Lord and worthy of praise. Great is the Lord; now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice: Great is the Lord!

Great is the Lord, he is holy and just; by his power we trust in love. Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true; by his mercy he proves he is love. Great are you, Lord, and worthy of Glory! Great are you, Lord, and worthy of praise. Great are you, Lord; I lift up my voice, I lift up my voice: Great are you, Lord!

How Majestic Is Your Name

O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth. O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth. O Lord, we praise your name. O Lord, we magnify your name: Prince of Peace, mighty God; O Lord God Almighty.