



Bel Air United Methodist Church
3rd Sunday in Lent – March 3, 2024 – 9:15 AM

Prelude

Organist, Jeff Beyers

Welcome & Ministry Opportunities

Rev. L. Lynn Boyd

Bold Print- Congregational Response

Call to Worship:

Our hearts are glad, and our souls rejoice.

In this place we find hope and joy!

Let us worship the one who brings new life.

Opening Hymn * *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* (stanzas 1, 3, & 5)

UMH 139

Opening Prayer*

Gracious God, today and every day, we offer you our thanks and praise.

Strengthen our faith, that it may sustain us during difficult days and enable us to share your love with others.

Open our hearts to new life and new possibilities.

In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.

Sacrament of Baptism

Rev. Byron Brought

Hailey Ann Marie Mink,
daughter of James & Laura Mink

Bryton Aldon Beers & Charlie Carole Beers,
children of Casey & Ashley Beers

Casey Beers

Special Music

Sing to the Lord, by Haydn
Chancel Choir, directed by Dave Tramontana

Prayer of Confession and Silent Prayer

Dave Fisher

Words of Assurance

Jesus said to the disciples, "If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven." Beloved children of God, you are forgiven. May this forgiveness bring peace to your souls, your minds, and your body. Amen.

Passing the Peace of Christ

As forgiven people, with the hope and promise of a new life of grace, let us share the peace of Christ with one another. The peace of Christ be with you, **and also with you.**

Glory to God. Amen.

Scripture Reading *

John 20: 24-31

A Word of God that is still speaking, **thanks be to God.**

Hymn*

We Walk by Faith (stanzas 1,2,3,and 5)

TFWS 2196

Sermon

“Thomas”
The Third Day Series

Rev. L. Lynn Boyd

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.



Prayer of Dedication

Holy God, we give you thanks and praise.

We thank you for these gifts.

**As we offer them into your hands,
may they bring hope and peace to those in need.**

In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Doxology*

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Rev. L. Lynn Boyd

Holy are You and blessed is your son Jesus Christ. He came that we might see the path even in the dark of grief and feel his presence even in the depressions of life. He bids us follow his leading even when our strength is drained and hear his call though other voices sound loud. He comes to us on our journey toward Easter, lifting worry and sin so we might gaze upon his glory.

We give you thanks that he gathered his beloved but often confused friends into a common room and took the common elements of life and gave new, deeper meaning to them.

He took bread, lifted it in blessing. Broke it. Gave it to his friends. “This is my body, which is broken for you.”

He took the cup, lifted it in blessing. Gave it to his followers. “This is my life poured out for you and for many for forgiveness, for release from sin. Do this in memory of me.”

Therefore, in remembrance of God's yearning and seeking for us and Christ's teaching of the true way for us to follow, we offer ourselves as a testimony of praise and thanksgiving in union with Christ's love for us as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the bread of life and the cup of blessing which keeps us on the path to Easter and fills our hearts with courage and commitment.

By your spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final glory and gathers all to the heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in your Holy church, all honor and glory is your, Loving God, Caring Creator. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

UMH 895

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn*

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

UMH 133

Benediction *

Rev. L. Lynn Boyd

Organ Postlude

Jeff Beyers

(* Please stand if you are comfortable standing.)

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Prayer of Thanksgiving adapted in part. Larry J. Peacock "Water Words" 2003, Copyright 1994.

Lenten Sermon Series – *The Third Day*, by Tom Berlin

March 3 – Thomas

March 10 – Emmaus

March 17 – Paul

March 24 – Jesus

Short Film Fest & Chili Cook-off – TODAY from 10:30 am - 12:15 pm, presented by the Creation Care Team. Come celebrate nature and God's wonderful world through a time of fellowship, fun and learning. Enjoy chili provided by guest chefs during the intermission. Free and open to all.

Children's Choir – K-6th grade. Meets March 3, 10 & 17th from 10:15 -11:00 am. We will sing in worship on March 24th. Youth Choir, grades 7-12, will meet in April.

New Members' Orientation - starts NEXT Sunday, March 10, at 10:30 am in Room 202. If you haven't registered, please contact Lisa Wolf at wolf@baumc.com.

Lenten All-Church Family Worship at Mt. Carmel – 2 pm Sundays during Lent.

Lenten Bible Study – Soup and Study, Wednesdays from 5:45-7ish pm, in Room 202. We are following the book, *The Third Day*, by Tom Berlin.

Evensong – Join Pastor Deb every Thursday at 7 pm on Facebook LIVE during Lent.

Annual Stewardship Campaign is here! Time to embrace our M&Ms! Thank you to all those who have returned your pledge cards. It helps us a great deal to plan our ministries and missions, our M&Ms. Thank you for your kindness and faithful generosity. It's not too late to return yours. Drop it in the offering plate or bring it into the main office. Thank you.

Confirmation - All students in 7th-9th grade are invited to register for Confirmation. Classes begin March 24. Registration deadline is Feb 29. Sign-up here:

<https://belairumc.com/Confirmation24>

Scholarships - Bel Air United Methodist Church Involvement College Scholarship (for graduating high school seniors) and Pay It Forward Scholarship applications are available. The deadline for both is April 25 at 3pm. Scholarships can be found here:

<https://belairumc.org/college-scholarship-opportunities>

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

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation! All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work defend thee; surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee. Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, who with his love doth befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly forever adore him.

We Walk by Faith

We walk by faith, and not by sight: No gracious words we hear of him who spoke as none e'er spoke, but we believe him near.

We may not touch his hands and side, or follow where he trod; yet in his promise we rejoice, and cry, "My Lord and God!"

Help then, O Lord, our unbelief, and may our faith abound; to call on you when you are near, and seek where you are found.

We walk by faith, and not by sight: No gracious words we hear of him who spoke as none e'er spoke, but we believe him near.

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.

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, leaning on the everlasting arms; what a blessedness, what a peace is mine, leaning on the everlasting arms. Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, leaning on the everlasting arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day, leaning on the everlasting arms. Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, leaning on the everlasting arms? I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, leaning on the everlasting arms. Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms; leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.