



Bel Air United Methodist Church

6th Sunday after the Epiphany – February 16, 2025 – 9:15 AM

Gathering Music & Announcements

Organist, Jeff Beyers

Introit

Chancel Choir

Welcome

Rev. L. Lynn Boyd

Bold Print- Congregational Response

Call to Worship

Come, all who seek the WAY of Jesus-
A path of love, transformation, and justice.

We come with open hearts, ready to be changed.

We come with hands ready to serve.

Jesus invites us to follow his Way, together in community.
Let us walk this path of hope and grace.

With joy, we worship, we follow, and we are transformed. Amen!

Hymn*

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

UMH 400

Come, thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace; streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise. Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above. Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come; and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home. Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God; he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be! Let thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee. Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts above.

Opening Prayer *

We come before you with open hearts, ready to follow the WAY of Jesus. Fill us with your love and grace and guide us on this journey of transformation. Help us to walk in faith, live with courage, and serve with compassion. Bless our time together in worship, and may it draw us closer to you and to each other. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Moment for Ministry Racial Justice Ministry Bev Talbot

Moment for Ministry Stop the Bleed Dave Panowitz and Doug Struve

Baptism William Matthew Buecker,
Son of Matthew & Abby Buecker Rev. Byron Brought

Chancel Choir Directed by Dave Tramontana

Prayer of Confession Mike Moody

Gracious God,
We come before you with humble hearts, acknowledging the times we have
wandered from your Way. We confess that we have not always walked in love, nor
have been faithful to your call for justice and compassion. We have often chosen
comfort over challenge, silence over action, and division over unity. Forgive us,
Lord, for the ways we have fallen short. Heal our hearts and renew our spirits.
Empower us to follow the path of Jesus more faithfully, with courage and integrity,
and to love one another as you have loved us. In your mercy, restore us, and guide us
back to your way and will. In Jesus' name's we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance
Hear the good news: God's love is steadfast and unchanging. Though we fall short, God's
grace is greater than our failures. In Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and made new. You
are beloved, embraced by God's mercy, and called to walk in the freedom of his love.

Passing the Peace of Christ
The peace of Christ, our joy and hope, be with you! **And also, with you!**
Go in peace, knowing that you are forgiven and set free to live the Way of Jesus.
Thanks be to God! Amen!

Scripture Reading John 14: 6(a)

The Word of God that still speaks. **Praise be to God!**

Hymn *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* UMH 557
Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love; the fellowship of kindred minds is like
to that above.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers; our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share each other's woes, our mutual burdens bear; and often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain; but we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

Sermon

“The Way: Living the Path of Jesus”
Freeing Jesus Sermon Series

Rev. Lynn Boyd

Offering

Doxology *

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

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.

Prayer of Dedication *

Gracious God, we thank you for your abundant blessings and for the opportunity to give. As we offer these gifts, we dedicate them to your work of justice, love, and care for all of creation-people and animals alike. May our giving reflect the compassion of Jesus, and may these offerings be used to bring healing, peace, and transformation to our world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Communion and The Lord's Prayer

All are welcome to receive communion.

Pastoral Prayer

Hymn

Here I Am, Lord

UMH 593

I, the Lord of sea and sky, have made my people cry. All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save. I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send? Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain. I have wept for love of them. They turn away. I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone. I will speak my words to them, Whom shall I send? Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in

the night. I will go Lord if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a feast for them. My hand will save. Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? Here I am Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard you calling in the night. I will go Lord if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

Benediction *

Rev. Lynn Boyd

May your lives reflect God's love for all.

We will share God's love with all.

Be agents of healing and hope.

We will bring healing and hope.

May God's grace, love, and peace be with you.

God's grace, love, and peace be with us. Amen.

Organ Postlude

Jeff Beyers

(*) Please stand if you are comfortable standing.



Welcome Fellowship – We're glad that you're here. You're invited to a fellowship in room 202 immediately after worship today.

Sermon Series – Our sermon series is based on the book, *Freeing Jesus*, by Diana Butler Bass. Each week during the series, we're going to focus on a different way that we experience Jesus. Throughout, you're invited to think about your own experience and understandings of Jesus.

- ❖ **February 16 – Jesus Our Way**
- ❖ **February 23 – Jesus Our Presence**

GPS – God, Play, Service - It's a time midweek, once a month, to remember our love for God and our love for others. We meet at 6:30 pm in Room 101. Next meeting is Wednesday, March 12th. Everyone welcome!

Children's Choir – Our children's choir (Grades K-5) meets on Sundays in Room 103 (the choir room) from 10:30-11:15 am.

Chancel Choir – Wednesday evenings at 7 pm and Sundays at 8:10 am in Room 103. You do not need to attend both to sing. We welcome all skill levels.

C4 Kids – Sunday School on Sundays at 9:15 am.

C4 Kids Indoor Camping – February 21-22 from 6:30 pm – 8:30 am in McComas Hall. For pre-school through elementary. Bring your tents and sleeping bags/blow-up mattresses. We will have crafts, games, food, a campfire, and bedtime liturgy. A parent must stay with kids, because Ms. Deb will not be driving kids home in the middle of the night. We wake up to pancakes and sausage!

Youth Group – Meets TODAY from 4:30 – 6 pm.

Divorce Care – Spring Session – Wednesdays, February 5-April 30 from 6:30-8:30 pm in Room 115. To register, go to divorcecare.org

Grief Share – Spring Session – Tuesdays, February 25-May 20 from 1:30-3 pm in the Parlor and 6:30-8:30 pm in Room 115. Register at griefshare.org

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner – Tuesday, March 4th from 5 – 7 pm

Come enjoy pancakes and sausage before the 40-day fast of Lent begins. All proceeds go toward the music ministry.

Ash Wednesday – Wednesday, March 5th

- ❖ 11:00 am - Manna House Service
- ❖ 12-1 pm - Drive-Thru Ashes at the Linwood Entrance
- ❖ 7:15-8:00 pm – McComas Service – Faith Under Fire Playing



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