

FIRST UNITED METHODIST
CHURCH OF BELMONT



SERVICE OF WORSHIP

Baptism of the Lord Sunday – January 8, 2017 – 8:30 a.m.



.....
*United in the Spirit, First United Methodist Church of Belmont exists
to be more like Jesus Christ for our community and beyond*
.....

REV. GEORGE RAGSDALE, PASTOR
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PRAISE AND PRAYER

*SONG

"Blessed Be Your Name"

1. *In the land that is plentiful
Where Your streams of abundance flow
Blessed be Your name*

2. *Blessed be Your name
When I'm found in the desert place
Though I walk through the wilderness
Blessed be Your name*

*Ev'ry blessing You pour out I'll
Turn back to praise
When the darkness closes in Lord
Still I will say*

Chorus

*Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your name
Blessed be the name of the Lord
Blessed be Your glorious name*

3. *Blessed be Your name
When the sun's shining down on me
When the world's all as it should be
Blessed be Your name*

4. *Blessed be Your name
On the road marked with suffering
Though there's pain in the offering
Blessed be Your name*

Chorus

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*WELCOME

Song

"No Longer Slaves"

1. *You unravel me with a melody
You surround me with a song
Of deliverance from my enemies
Till all my fears are gone*

Chorus

*I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God
I'm no longer a slave to fear
I am a child of God*

2. *From my Mother's womb
You have chosen me
Love has called my name
I've been born again into Your family
Your blood flows through my veins*

Bridge

*You split the sea so I could walk right through it
My fears were drowned in perfect love
You rescued me so I could stand and sing
I am a child of God*

Chorus

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*PRAYER

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

*GOSPEL LESSON (NT Pg. 3)

Matthew 3:14 - 4:11

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

Rev. George Ragsdale

RESPONSE TO GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

After each petition we enter into the prayer together with these words:

Lord, in your mercy,

Hear our prayer

THE RENEWAL OF BAPTISM

*As you come forward to receive Communion,
8you are invited to touch the water and remember your baptism.
Each household is invited to take a shower tag from the basket.*

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in baptism you promise forgiveness and new life, making us your beloved sons and daughters, part of the body of Christ. We confess that we remain preoccupied with false selves, separated from you and from our sisters and brothers in Christ. We cling to destructive habits, hold grudges, and show reluctance to welcome one another; we allow the past to hold us hostage. In your loving kindness, have mercy on us, and set us free. As we gather at your font and table together, fill us with courage to do what you give us to do, to say what you give us to say, and to become who you have called us to become, in Jesus' Name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

***In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!
Glory to God. Amen.***

As a forgiven and reconciled child of God, you are invited to give your offerings and gifts to God by placing them in the offering plate when you come forward to receive communion.

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

TAKING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.***

Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

... as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

... now and for ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Music During Communion

"Let the River Run"

Simon

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Fill us with your grace that we might become the unique people you created us to be in you. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GOING FORTH AS WITNESSES TO THE WORLD

*BENEDICTION

*SONG

"In Christ Alone"

1. *In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light my strength my song
This Cornerstone this solid Ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love what depths of peace
When fears are stilled when strivings cease
My Comforter my All in All
Here in the love of Christ I stand*

2. *In Christ alone who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live*

3. *There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious Day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ*

4. *No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand*

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*POSTLUDE

**Those who are able please stand*

WELCOME! We're glad you chose to worship with us this morning. We invite you to check out the opportunities we have for children, youth and adults of all ages and stages of life. We offer ministries and a community of faith that will help challenge and encourage you as together we seek to grow as faithful followers of Jesus Christ, serving God and our neighbor in all that we do.

VISITORS: Stop by our welcome table in the narthex as you leave today to receive a small gift and more information about our church. We would love to know more about you, so please sign the attendance pad as it is passed down your pew and share your contact information so that we can be in touch with you.

THANK YOU AND GODSPEED, SARA! As you know, Sara Clark announced in December that she is stepping down as Director of Youth Ministries as her husband begins a new job. Her last Sunday with us is next Sunday, January 15. Join us after our eleven o'clock service in Carpenter Hall for a reception to honor Sara and her faithful service among us. Also, a love offering is being collected to show our appreciation to Sara. Make your contributions payable to First UMC, marked "love offering" in the memo line. And, rest assured, our youth ministry is continuing! Our Sunday night youth leaders and staff are working to ensure our ministry continues to grow and thrive until Sara's successor is in place. You can read more about our search process in the January edition of "Triangles" (available online at www.fumcbelmont.org).

RINGERS NEEDED: FUMC's adult handbell choir, BELLissimo, is looking for a couple ringers. Space in this group rarely opens up! We ring together weekly, 6:00-7:00 p.m. on Wednesday nights and on the 3rd Sunday of each month. We also do Christmas and spring concerts, as well as bell festivals and retreats as we are able. Contact Renee Painter (renee@fumcbelmont.org) for more information.

PLEASE JOIN US IN THE DISCIPLE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS as we start a new Adam Hamilton study on Sunday, January 15. Together we will read and discuss *Revival: Faith as Wesley Lived It*. Email Brandon Martin at bmartin@stalwartsystems.com if you are interested or have questions.

CALLING YOUTH WHO LOVE CHILDREN- Any youth who would like to help in the nursery on occasion (1 time every two months) please email Kristen@fumcbelmont.org to be added to the schedule. If you are an adult and are interested in ministering to the youngest members of our congregation by offering love and care, email Kristen@fumcbelmont.org.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, January 8

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School Breakfast
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. Leadership Retreat
4:00 p.m. Knitting Group
5:00 p.m. Youth Bell Choir
5:00 p.m. Parent/Youth Meeting
5:30 p.m. Youth Choir
6:00 p.m. Youth Group

Monday, January 9

6:30 p.m. Christian Believers

Tuesday, January 10

6:30 p.m. Disciple I

Wednesday, January 11

6:00 p.m. Adult Bell Practice
6:30 p.m. Children's Council Meeting
7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 15

8:30 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Sunday School Breakfast
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Worship
4:00 p.m. Knitting Group
5:00 p.m. Youth Bell Choir
5:30 p.m. Youth Choir
6:00 p.m. Youth Group

Note: The church office will be closed on Monday, January 16 for the observance of Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday.

PLEASE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

- Pam Martin
- Debbie Ballard (mother of Chelsea & Josh Elmore)
- Kaylan Cuthbertson (friend of Renee Painter)
- Mark & Deb Baxa
- Sharon Armeen (sister in-law of Joe & Valerie Armeen)
- Fred Walton (Maggie Moore)
- Helen Dellinger (Teri Wilson)
- Alisa Wort (step-sister to Bill & Cindy Jenkins)
- Meriwether Maynard and her family on the passing of her sister, Mary Courtney Carmichael

If you have an emergency or have a confidential prayer request, please contact George at the church office (704-825-2106) or his cell (704-249-0645). The names above will remain on the prayer list for one month unless otherwise notified.

PLEASE NOTE: Copies of the 2017 Budget and our 2017 Committee on Lay Leadership are available in the narthex.

OUR STAFF

Rev. George Ragsdale ~ Pastor
Kristen Surratt ~ Director of Discipleship Ministries
Renee Painter ~ Director of Music
Janice Pennington ~ Business Manager
Sara Clark ~ Youth Director
Linda Smith ~ CDC Director
Carole Bertino ~ Administrative Assistant