



**BIRMINGHAM FIRST**  
A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
*...gathered here for good!™*

PRELUDE

\*HYMN #92

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God does not always come in thunder.

**People: Sometimes God comes to the door, in the heat of an ordinary day.**

Leader: Not in spectacle, not in proof —

**People: but in a shared meal, a kept promise, an unexpected laugh.**

Leader: What we are looking for is closer than we think.

**People: It is already here, in the small and the ordinary.**

Leader: So set down what you carried in. Set down the fear.

**People: We came to remember what is real — that we are loved.**

Leader: Come, let us worship the God of big love and small moments.

**All: Here, in this hour, we are paying attention.**

\*RESPONSE #3152

*Welcome - vs.1*

Let's walk to- geth - er for a - while and  
 Let's talk to- geth - er of a time when  
 Let's dream to- geth - er of the day when

ask where we be - gin to build a world where  
 we will share a feast, where pride and po - wer  
 earth and heav'n are one, a ci - ty built of

love can grow and hope can en - ter in, to  
 kneel to serve the lone - ly and the least, and  
 love and light, the new Je - ru - sa - lem, where our

be the hands of heal - ing and to plant the seeds of peace.  
 joy will set the ta - ble as we join our hands to pray.  
 mourn - ing turns to danc - ing, ev - ery crea - ture lifts its voice!

*refrain*  
 Sing - ing wel - come, wel - come to this place, you're in -  
 vit - ed to come and know God's grace, all are wel - come, the  
 love of God to share, 'cause all of us are wel - come here,  
 all are wel - come in this place.

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue, Jr.

**MISSION MOMENT**

Micah 6

Steve Read

**ANTHEM**

*This Is The Day*  
Chancel Choir

Dan Forrest

This is the day the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it. The Lord is my strength, the Lord is my song, He has become my salvation. You are my God, I will exalt you. This is the day the Lord has made, we will rejoice and be glad in it.

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**OFFERTORY INVITATION**

**OFFERTORY**

*Beautiful In His Time*  
Chancel Choir

Dan Forrest

He hath made all things beautiful in His time, and I know that what God doeth, it shall be forever and ever. To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven. And I know that whatsoever God doeth, it shall be forever. He hath made all things beautiful in His time.

**\*DOXOLOGY #94**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ whose power uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*HYMN #707**

*Hymn of Promise*

**SCRIPTURE**

Genesis 18:1–15; 21:1–7

**MESSAGE**

*Big Love, Small Moments*

Rev. Sarah Alexander

**\*HYMN #557**

*Blest Be the Tie That Binds*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

**\*PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE**

**WE WELCOME AND THANK TODAY'S GUEST ORGANIST,  
JOSEPH DANIEL-HOSTE**



*The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and  
in loving memory of Jackie Rossi by her friend, Faye Baker-Miller.*

*The Mission Candle is lit to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
Dick's mother, Thelma Snyder, and Carole's mother, Demis Dwight,  
by Dick and Carole Dills.*



## **FOR OUR COMMUNITY**

### **Summer Building Hours**

Summer building hours are now in effect through Labor Day. The main building will be open Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. For building access on Fridays during the summer, contact the church office to schedule an appointment by emailing [office@fumcbirmingham.org](mailto:office@fumcbirmingham.org) or by calling 248-646-1200.

### **Today is Hunger Sunday**

Contribute your loose change during the offering or use an offering envelope to designate the "Hunger" line for checks and bills. You can also give online at [www.gatheredhereforgood.org/waystogive](http://www.gatheredhereforgood.org/waystogive) or mail a check to the church with "Hunger" noted in the memo line. Your gift supports our Hunger Ministry, helping local agencies provide vital hunger relief in our community.

### **VBS Week in the CLC**

Vacation Bible School is taking place this week, and our building has been transformed into a rainforest adventure for hundreds of children and volunteers. As part of the VBS setup, the Christian Life Center (CLC) is closed to the public through Friday, June 19. If your group normally meets in the CLC, please contact the church office or your group leader for updated room locations and meeting information. Thank you for your patience, flexibility, and cooperation as we welcome children and families to this exciting week of ministry.

### **Celebrating Our Clergy and Their Ministries**

As we prepare for upcoming pastoral transitions, we invite you to join us in celebrating and giving thanks for the faithful ministry of our clergy and their families. Rev. Sarah Alexander's celebration will take place today in Fellowship Hall after worship. Rev. Rachael and Rev. Zack Dunlap's celebration will be on Sunday, June 21 from 4:00-6:00 p.m. at Berkley First.

### **Invitation to a Boayue Family Celebration**

Rev. Dr. Charles and Elizabeth Boayue invite church members to the 90th Birthday Celebration for Charles' mother, Fannia W. Boayue on Saturday, June 20 from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at 1019 Chesterfield Avenue, Birmingham. There will be an assortment of Liberian food available to share. Please RSVP your attendance at [cboayue@fumcbirmingham.org](mailto:cboayue@fumcbirmingham.org) by June 18th.

### **Mark Your Calendar!**

Plan to attend the Bon Voyage Concert of the 2026 England Choir Tour, to be held next Sunday, June 21 at 2pm in the Sanctuary. Show your support for our Youth Choirs as they travel "across the pond" to sing, learn and share their faith. We look forward to seeing you there!

### **Harvest Produce Table**

Help support local hunger ministries this summer by volunteering at the Harvest Produce Table in Fellowship Hall on Sundays. Donate flowers or garden produce, shop for fresh items, or sign up to help staff the table. All proceeds benefit local food banks and soup kitchens. If you would like to volunteer, please visit our website at [www.gatheredhereforgood.org](http://www.gatheredhereforgood.org).

### **Art as Liberation, Art as Reflection**

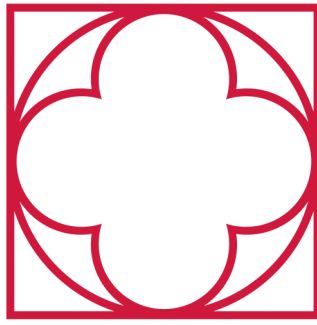
This special exhibit features artwork donated by incarcerated artists in Michigan through the University of Michigan Prison Creative Arts Project (PCAP). Through creativity and artistic expression, these works offer reflection, humanity, and insight into lived experiences often unseen. The exhibit will be on display at Berkley First June 21–24 and Birmingham First June 25–28. We invite the congregation and community to visit and engage with this meaningful collection of art and storytelling.

### **Blood Drive – July 7**

Join us on Tuesday, July 7, 2026, from 12:30–6:30 p.m. and help save lives through the gift of blood donation. Our goal is to collect at least 41 units of blood, with 75 appointment slots available. Every appointment represents a patient who may be facing surgery, cancer treatment, trauma, or a medical emergency. Filling the schedule is critical to maintaining a reliable blood supply for local hospitals, helping prevent delays in care, and ensuring patients in our community receive lifesaving treatment when they need it most. Please consider making an appointment and helping us reach our goal. Sign up by going to [www.gatheredhereforgood.org](http://www.gatheredhereforgood.org).

### **Men's Retreat – Save the Date**

Mark your calendars for this year's Men's Retreat at the Colombiere Center, taking place Thursday, October 22 through Saturday, October 24. Registration will open later in June, with additional details coming soon. We invite all men to set aside this time for fellowship, reflection, and spiritual renewal. Stay tuned for more information



**Rev. Dr. Charles S. G. Boayue, Jr.**, Senior Pastor

**Rev. Sarah B. Alexander**, Associate Pastor

**Rev. Rachael M. Dunlap**, Associate Pastor

**Casey Proch**, Executive Director

Worship, Music & Operations

**Doris Hall**, Organist

**Rev. Gary Haller, Bishop Laurie Haller,**

**Rev. Dr. John E. Harnish, & Rev. Dr. William A. Ritter,**

Pastors Emeriti

#### **BULLETIN COVER**

This week's stained-glass window symbolizes one of the Eight Acts of Mercy: visitation, represented by a basket of fruit and flowers. The image reflects the simple yet meaningful act of visiting another person, a small act of kindness that brings joy. God often reveals divine love not through pageantry, spectacle, power, or perfection, but through ordinary moments: shared meals, laughter, waiting, community, tenderness, and intentional presence. The small moments of life are often where God's grace, joy, and peace reside.

(located in the East wall, South Sanctuary window, upper left tracery)

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1589 W. Maple Road • Birmingham, MI 48009  
248-646-1200 • [office@fumcbirmingham.org](mailto:office@fumcbirmingham.org)



For more information about Birmingham First, or to make an online donation, please visit our website at [www.gatheredhereforgood.org](http://www.gatheredhereforgood.org), or scan the QR code with your cell phone's camera.