



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

PRELUDE *Spring (from the Four Seasons)* Antonio Vivaldi

INTROIT (9:30) *Fruit of the Spirit*
Cherub and Sonshine Choir

The Fruit of the Spirit's not a coconut, the Fruit of the Spirit's not a coconut. If you want to be a coconut you might as well hear it: you can't be a Fruit of the Spirit ... because the Fruit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

The Fruit of the Spirit's not a banana

The Fruit of the Spirit's not a lemon ...

(11:00) *Prayer* Natalie Sleeth
Sonshine Choir

Our Father who in heaven dwells, most holy is your name,
Your Kingdom come, your will be done in heaven and earth the same.
Give us today our daily bread, our hunger so to feed,
and when we stray, forgive us, Lord, as we would for those in need.
Away from temptation, O lead us, we pray, and from
the world's evil, protect us, Lord, from day to day.
For you are God above all gods; your kingdom knows no end;
Your power and glory shall prevail forevermore, Amen.

***HYMN #89** *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Our youngest disciples have been learning the Fruits of the Spirit - naming tasting them, growing them in their own lives. This morning, we join them

People: The Spirit grows good fruit in faithful lives.

Leader: Love, sweet as strawberries. Joy that bursts like a pineapple. Peace, cool as a green apple.

People: We have seen these gifts in the lives that shaped ours.

Leader: Patience, bending like a banana. Kindness, shared like an orange.
Goodness, close as grapes on the vine.

People: For every life that grew the Spirit's fruit and shared it with us, we give thanks.

Leader: Faithfulness, steady as blueberries each summer. Gentleness, soft as a peach. Self-control, sweet and waiting, like watermelon in the sun.

People: These are the gifts we have received. These are the gifts we hope to give.

Leader: The wise ones know what the world too often forgets: that a life that bears this fruit is a life worth calling blessed.

All: Let us worship the God whose Spirit grows love in us, through us, and around us still.

***RESPONSE #2050** *Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth - vs. 1*

**Mothering God, you gave me birth in the bright morning of this world.
Creator, source of every breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Beth Torrey

MISSION MOMENT Liberia Helen Hicks

ANTHEM (9:30)

Prayers for Mothers
Disciple Choir

Butler & Burdette

God bless the mother who sings to her child, peaceful and calm, her words soft and mild.
God bless the mother awake in the night, rocking her child 'til morning light. Gather all
mothers in tender embrace. Grant them your courage, your wisdom and grace. Honor
their place in your sacred design, of healing the world, one child at a time.

God bless the mother forgiving and wise, sharing God's grace through the light in her
eyes. God bless the mother oppressed by her fears, carried by faith 'til hope reappears.
Gather all mothers in tender embrace. Grant them your courage, your wisdom and grace.
Honor their place in your sacred design, of healing the world, one child at a time.

(11:00)

Do You Know Your Shepherd's Voice?
Covenant Choir

Do you know your Shepherd's voice? Are you listening with your heart?
Have you stopped to hear him calling, felt the peace his words impart?
As the world shouts its orders that are easiest to hear,
won't you draw away and listen to your Shepherd standing near?
The Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures,
He leads me beside quiet waters, and He restores my soul!
Are you listening, are you listening? Do you know your Shepherd's voice?

PSALM READING (9:30)

The Twenty-Third Psalm - KJV

2nd & 3rd Grade
Sunday School

Students: The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

People: He makes me lie down in green pastures;

Students: He leads me beside still waters. He restores my soul.

People: He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Students: Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil;

People: For thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Students: Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;

People: Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Students: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;

People: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (11:00)

The Apostle's Creed
UMH 881

4th & 5th Grade
Sunday School

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord:
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

PASTORAL PRAYER

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, forever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY

For the Beauty of the Earth
Chancel Choir

arr. John Rutter

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night,
hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

For each perfect gift of thine to our world so freely given,
graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven:
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

***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 #140**

Great is Thy Faithfulness

SCRIPTURE

Timothy 1:3-5, Proverbs 31: 25-26, 28-31

MESSAGE

Call Her Blessed

Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue, Jr.

***HYMN #374**

Standing on the Promises

***BENEDICTION**

***POSTLUDE**

Tocatta on "Old Hundredth"

Robert Lau

*PLEASE STAND AS YOU ARE ABLE

*** SEATING FOR LATE ARRIVALS



*The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and
in loving memory of Jim O'Shea by Jane O'Shea.*

*The Mission Candle is lit to the glory of God in honor of all mothers—
those who nurture, lead, and love with grace - and in loving remembrance of
mothers who have entered into eternal rest. Their legacy lives on in us.*



FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Fair Trade Equal Exchange Sale for Mother's Day

Pick up Fair Trade chocolate, tea, and coffee in Fellowship Hall and treat the special women in your life, and yourself, while supporting organic farming around the world.

Blood Drive

Our next blood drive is tomorrow, Monday, May 11, from 12:30 to 6:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Help hope grow in urgent moments, in the steady hands of caregivers, and in the quiet relief of a family hearing good news. Sign up today at www.gatheredhereforgood.org.

Merry Mates

Last chance to RSVP for "Detroit's Culinary Scene" — An Evening with Melody Baetens on Friday, May 15 in Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a catered dinner from Plum Market and conversation exploring Detroit's vibrant restaurant and entertainment scene. Gathering begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner at 6:00 p.m., and the program at 6:45 p.m. RSVP by this evening to Carol and Jim Rillema at crillema@gmail.com or 248-851-6438.

Food & Supply Drive: Support the Hunger Ministry

Participate by picking up a donation bag with a list of needed items today and returning it next Sunday, May 17. As we continue supporting our neighbors in need, today is also Hunger Sunday. During the offering, contribute loose change or designate "Hunger" on your offering envelope or online gift to support local hunger relief through our Hunger Ministry.

Miracle Sunday is May 17

Our congregation will join United Methodist churches around the world in supporting the Endowment for Theological Education in Africa, Europe, and the Philippines, helping educate new clergy leaders in regions where the church is growing rapidly. For more information, visit www.gatheredhereforgood.org/steepnotes.

Hands on Mission

Join us next Sunday, May 17, in Fellowship Hall between worship services as we assemble 300 lunches for the NOAH Project Detroit. Bring the whole family — all ages are welcome to participate in this hands-on opportunity to serve our neighbors in need.

Summer Worship Begins May 24

Summer worship begins Sunday, May 24 at 10:00 a.m. with one service each Sunday through Labor Day weekend. An incorrect date was printed in the May edition of Steeple Notes listing May 31 as the start of the summer schedule. Thank you for noting this updated information as we look ahead to summer worship together.

Don't Miss VBS

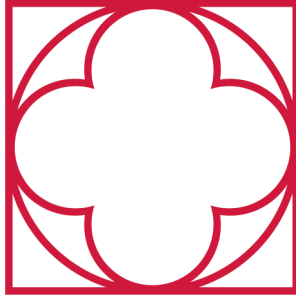
The best week of the summer! Rainforest Falls Vacation Bible School is a faith-filled adventure where truth rains down, joy grows wild, and God's love never runs dry. VBS takes place June 15–19 from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. for children Preschool through 5th grade. Adult and youth volunteers are also welcome to help throughout the week. Learn more about this exciting program, and sign up at www.gatheredhereforgood.org/vbs.

Name Badges Help Us Connect

You are encouraged to order your name badge if you do not already have one. This will help Rev. Chad Oyer and Rev. Elizabeth Hurd, our incoming pastors, learn our names. You may place your order at the Kiosk in Fellowship Hall.

Altar Flowers & Mission Candle Dedications

Honor or remember a loved one through a meaningful dedication on June 7, June 14, July 12, or July 26. To sponsor Altar Flowers or a Mission Candle, contact Dorothy Duensing at office@fumcbirmingham.org or call 248-646-1200.



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

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