



# BIRMINGHAM FIRST

A UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

*...gathered here for good.™*

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SEPTEMBER 21, 2025

9:30AM & 11:00AM

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**Prelude**

*Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Lowe/Leavitt

**\*Hymn #89**

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

**\*Call to Worship**

Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue, Jr.

Leader: We have lifted our voices in joy, bringing our whole selves - our celebrations and our sorrows - to this hour of worship.

**People: We come with hearts that know both gladness and grief, seeking wholeness in God's presence.**

Leader: When weariness and wounds weigh heavy upon us, we ask: "Is there no balm? Is there no physician?"

**People: As we gather, we open ourselves to the healing that flows when we remember our unity in God's love.**

Leader: In this sacred gathering, may we find the balm we seek -

**People: The perfect love that casts out fear and makes us whole.**

**\*Response #375**

*There Is a Balm in Gilead*

vs. 1 & refrain

**Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain.**

**But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.**

**There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;**

**There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin sick soul.**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Anthem**

*A Lord-Built House*  
Chancel Choir

Roger Lentz

**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.**

## **Offering Invitation**

### **Offertory**

*Passacaglia of Praise*  
Chancel Choir

Craig Courtney

### **\*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 #117**

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*

vs. 1 - 3, 6

### **Scripture**

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

### **Message**

*Any Balm in Gilead?*

Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue, Jr.

### **\*Hymn #140**

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

### **\*Benediction**

### **Postlude**

*Fanfare*

William Mathias



*The Altar Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Deborah Garabedian by Diane, David, Susan, Dawson, Taylor, Danielle and Lexandra Garabedian and Gery, Diane and Skyler Miettunen.*

*The Mission Candle is lit to the glory of God and in honor of all those who serve in the mission field. We give thanks for their willingness to be the hands and feet of Christ.*



### **Hands On Mission Today**

After worship, choose from three meaningful ways to serve! Meet in Fellowship Hall to create greeting cards for hospital patients and NOAH lunch recipients. You can also head to Berkley First (2820 12 Mile Rd.) to help with landscaping and refresh the little pantries in front of the building. Or, join a team at Micah 6 in Pontiac (32 Newberry St.) to clear lots, pick up trash, and support neighborhood revitalization. Bring water and gloves. Children are welcome with an accompanying adult. Let's be the hands and feet of Christ - serving wherever help is needed.

### **Discover First**

Interested in learning more about Birmingham and Berkley First? Join us for Discover First on Sunday, September 28 at 6:00 p.m. at Birmingham First. This one-session class is a relaxed way to explore our church, meet clergy and ministry leaders, and take your next steps—including the opportunity to become a member. We'll start by grabbing dinner from the Sunday Night Dinner line and heading to the Martin Room. Email Mary Feldmaier to RSVP at [mfeldmaier@fumcbirmingham.org](mailto:mfeldmaier@fumcbirmingham.org).

### **Sunday Social RSVP**

Join us for the Sunday Social! We'll gather in Thomas Parlor on Sunday, September 28 from 12:15 to 1:30 p.m. for a delicious lunch and fellowship. The cost is \$20.00 per person. RSVP by Wednesday, September 24 to [mfeldmaier@fumcbirmingham.org](mailto:mfeldmaier@fumcbirmingham.org), or call Mary at 248-342-1929.

### **Blood Drive Results**

What an incredible blood drive - our best turnout since February! With 39 units collected, we surpassed our goal of 33 and impacted 109 lives in our local community. Thank you to all 41 donors (including 2 double red cell donors) who made this possible. The next blood drive is December 2.

### **Sunday Night Dinner**

You're invited to Sunday Night Dinner at 6:00 p.m. - a casual time to gather and connect. Tonight we're serving lasagna and sides. Come hungry and bring a friend!

### **Don't Miss a Thing!**

Stay up to date with all that's happening at Birmingham and Berkley First. Visit our Church Bulletin Board anytime at [www.gatheredhereforgood.org/bulletinboard](http://www.gatheredhereforgood.org/bulletinboard).

# Get Our Church App

Available on Phone & Tablet



App Store

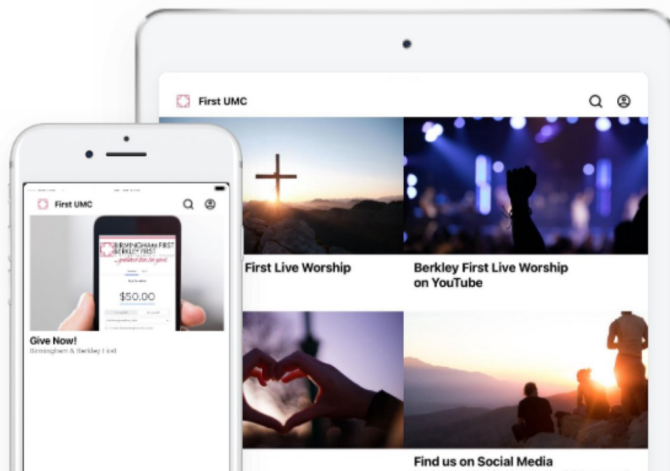


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Search Birmingham & Berkley First, go to [Lnk.bio/birminghamfirst](https://lnk.bio/birminghamfirst),  
or scan the QR Code.



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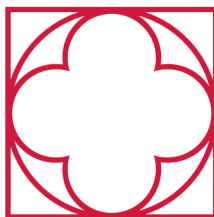
Our new website makes it simple to find everything in one place—worship times, upcoming events, ministries, mission opportunities, giving, and ways to get connected. Whether you attend in Birmingham, in Berkley, or online, this website is built to serve our whole church family and make it easier than ever to stay engaged.

Be sure to check out the site and bookmark it on your computer so it's always just a click away—[www.gatheredhereforgood.org](http://www.gatheredhereforgood.org).



**WE'RE GLAD YOU'RE HERE!**

Embracing the example of Jesus, we welcome you here  
with hearts that know no boundaries of age, race, gender, ethnicity, sexual  
orientation, ability, or economic circumstance.



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

**Rev. Sarah Alexander, Rev. Rachael M. Dunlap, Rev. Zack L. Dunlap,**

Associate Pastors

**Casey Proch,** Executive Director of Worship, Music & Operations

**Doris Hall,** Organist

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

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



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.

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