



Cheltenham United Methodist Church

THE LITTLE CHURCH WITH THE BIG HEART

Sunday, December 28, 2025

10am

Expect *the* Unexpected

Worship with via Zoom

<https://bit.ly/CUMCSundayServices>

Via Facebook

www.facebook.com/CheltenhamUMC

To Call In:

Dial +1 (301) 715-8592

Meeting ID: 861 6676 4909#

Password: 001873



Scan it to access the church's webpage

**Sunday, December 28, 2025
(1st Sunday after Christmas Day)**

GATHERING

WELCOME

CONGREGATIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNIVERSARIES AND BIRTHDAYS (January)

- Birthday
 - 6 Ronda Rawlings 13 Christopher Flade, Justin Rawlings
 - 14 Taylor Rawlings 15 Carolyn Werner, William Van Blarcum
 - 17 Joanne Van Blarcum 27 Cameron Easter, Earl Barrett
 - 28 Ethan Rawlings, Gwendolyn Myers

GREETING

Let your praise of God sound to the heavens!
We shout the good news of God's mighty love!
Let all the stars, the sun, the moon sing praise to God!
The Universe that God created sings its praise!
Praise the Lord!
Hallelujah! AMEN.

PRAYER

**God of hope and light, your good news shone brilliantly across the heavens
on the wondrous night of Jesus' birth—proclaimed by angels, rejoiced in by shepherds,
and observed even by the animals.
You grant us fresh opportunity and a vivid reminder of your enduring love.
Be present with us in this worship, we pray.
Direct our minds, our daily paths, our inner beings. Renew and mend us.
We ask in Jesus' name. Amen.**

+HYMN

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

UMH 140

Words: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923

Music: William M. Runyan, 1923

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Tune: FAITHFULNESS

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with thee.
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail not;
as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain

*Great is thy faithfulness!
Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
all I have needed thy hand hath provided.
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!*

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
join with all nature in manifold witness
to thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love.

Refrain

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

Refrain

+PASSING OF THE PEACE

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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 forever. Amen.**

+HYMN

“He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought”

UMH 128

Words: Joseph H. Gilmore, 1862 (Ps. 23)

Music: William B. Bradbury, 1864

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Tune: HE LEADETH ME

He leadeth me: O blessed thought!
O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where'er I be,
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

*He leadeth me, he leadeth me,
by his own hand he leadeth me;
his faithful follower I would be,
for by his hand he leadeth me.*

Sometimes mid scenes of deepest gloom,
sometimes where Eden's bowers bloom,
by waters still, o'er troubled sea,
still 'tis his hand that leadeth me.

Refrain

Lord, I would place my hand in thine,
nor ever murmur nor repine;
content, whatever lot I see,
since 'tis my God that leadeth me.

Refrain

And when my task on earth is done,
when by thy grace the victory's won,
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,
since God through Jordan leadeth me.

Refrain

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON
NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 63:7-9
Hebrews 2:10-18

SERMON

"The Memory of Mercy"

Rev. Daein Park

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

+OFFERTORY

"There Is None Like You"

+DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

GOING FORTH

+HYMN

"We'll Understand It Better By and By"

UMH 525

Words: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906 (1 Cor.13:12)
Music: Charles Albert Tindley, ca. 1906; arr. by F. A. Clark, 1906
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Tune: BY AND BY

We are tossed and driven
on the restless sea of time;
somber skies and howling tempests
oft succeed a bright sunshine;
in that land of perfect day,
when the mists have rolled away,
we will understand it better by and by.

Refrain

*By and by, when the morning comes,
when the saints of God are gathered home,
we'll tell the story how we've overcome,
for we'll understand it better by and by.*

We are tossed and driven
on the restless sea of time;
somber skies and howling tempests
oft succeed a bright sunshine;
in that land of perfect day,
when the mists have rolled away,
we will understand it better by and by.

Refrain

Trials dark on every hand,
and we cannot understand
all the ways that God will lead us
to that blessed promised land;
but he guides us with his eye,
and we'll follow till we die,
for we'll understand it better by and by.

Refrain

Temptations, hidden snare
often take us unawares,
and our hearts are made to bleed
for a thoughtless word or deed;
and we wonder why the test
when we try to do our best,
but we'll understand it better by and by.

Refrain

+BENEDICTION

Upcoming Events

Monday, December 29, 2025

Monday Methodists 9am

Knitting Circle 10am

Wednesday, December 31, 2025

Pastor's Office Hours 2-4pm

Monday, January 12, 2026

Planning Meeting & Church Council 12noon

**If you need to connect with the pastor for a meeting, you can send an email to cumcpastorpark@gmail.com or give him a call at 202-802-4302*

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Isaiah 63:7-9 NRSV • ⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us and the great favor to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. ⁸ For he said, “Surely they are my people, children who will not act deceitfully,” and he became their savior ⁹ in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and pity it was he who redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Hebrews 2:10-18 NRSV • ¹⁰ It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. ¹¹ For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, ¹² saying, “I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you.” ¹³ And again, “I will put my trust in him.” And again, “Here am I and the children whom God has given me.”

¹⁴ Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. ¹⁶ For it is clear that he did not come to help angels but the descendants of Abraham. ¹⁷ Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. ¹⁸ Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.