

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thanks to those who helped with VBS – On Track with Jesus August 18
Just Be Kind! If you're missing a sign in your yard, you can get one at the church office.

Proceeds go to local mission through United Methodist Women.

Sunday School for all ages – September 12. Join us for breakfast at 9:15 a.m.

[Preregister your kids here.](#)

Summer Lunch Box - Volunteer to feed kids in our neighborhood during the summer.

Join us at Emmanuel UMC, Cumberland, Thursdays at 8 a.m.

Create beautiful embroidery with other creators! Meetings once a month. Only \$35 / month for lessons. Contact Dot Leasure for more details.

Check out our [NEW Facebook page](#) at LaVale United!

Questions? Call the church office (301) 722-6800.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Please rise) - Psalm 34:15-22

34:15 The eyes of the LORD are on the righteous, and his ears are open to their cry.

34:16 The face of the LORD is against evildoers, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

34:17 When the righteous cry for help, the LORD hears, and rescues them from all their troubles.

34:18 The LORD is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit.

34:19 Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the LORD rescues them from them all.

34:20 He keeps all their bones; not one of them will be broken.

34:21 Evil brings death to the wicked, and those who hate the righteous will be condemned.

34:22 The LORD redeems the life of his servants; none of those who take refuge in him will be condemned.

PRELUDE/LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

OPENING PRAYER

God, we give you praise today -- an unrestricted praise. Together, O God, we will act up and act out our thanksgiving and gratitude to you. We will show you, Lord God, that we appreciate your love, your grace, and your mercy. For we are not worthy, but you keep on doing great things for us. How dare we come into your house without a sacrifice of praise on our lips? -- You are a great big God and you deserve a great big praise!

Lord, we will be active participants in worship this day, and we desire to lift you up forever more. Remove the tape of fear and anxiety from our mouths so that we can give you shouts of praise. Cut the rope of restraint from our wrists so that we can lift our hands in your sanctuary. Take the shackles of weariness off our feet so that we can dance. Clear the wax from our ears so that we can hear your voice more clearly.

Dissolve the cataracts from our eyes so that we might see the infinite miracles that you have performed all around us. Awaken our taste buds so that we are able to taste and see that you are good. Strip from us the clothes of complacency -- tradition and religion -- so that we might experience your true presence in a real and intimate way.

Let your Holy Spirit fill this place like a cloud. Let your Shekinah Glory arrest our individual situations and circumstances so that we be not distracted from your power. We want to concentrate entirely on you, Lord. Saturate our minds, bodies, hearts, and souls so that we will never ever be the same again.

We belong to you. Move as you please.

In Jesus' Name We Pray,

Amen!

*OPENING HYMN (Please Rise) Lift High the Cross (Crucifer)

Chorus

Lift high the cross the love of Christ proclaim

Till all the world adore His sacred name

Verse 1

Come brethren follow where our Savior trod

Our King victorious Christ the Son of God

Verse 4

So shall our song of triumph ever be

Praise to the Crucified for victory

CCLI Song # 5169

George William Kitchin | Michael Robert Newbolt | Sydney Hugo Nicholson

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SCRIPTURE READING - Ephesians 6:10-20

6:10 Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power.

6:11 Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

6:12 For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places.

6:13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm.

6:14 Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness.

6:15 As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace.

6:16 With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one.

6:17 Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

6:18 Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints.

6:19 Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,
6:20 for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

SERMON – Accessorizing your Christian Look

PRAYER OF CONFESSION/WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Spirit of God, we confess that we put on airs more often than we put on the armor of God. We are guilty of girding ourselves with lies instead of the truth. We try to protect ourselves with arrogance, superstition, and self-reliance instead of righteousness, faith, and your gift of salvation. Our footsteps do not follow your path of peace. And we are quick to use your Word to attack one another, instead of striking out against the sins we personally commit. Forgive us, Holy God. Gift us with the wisdom and strength to change our ways, so that we may live as your faithful ambassadors of the Good News.

OFFERING/OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of power and might: Through the ages, you have reminded us through prophets and apostles that we are called to battle – not with one another, but against the powers of darkness and evil. It is this battle that sends children to bed with empty bellies, while others have so much food it damages their health. It is the battle that imprisons those whose only crime is poverty, while those with more than they could ever spend lose sleep scheming how to get more. As we make our gifts to you this day, may we remember on which side we're on. In the precious, loving name of Christ, we pray. Amen. (Ephesians 6:10-20)

*CLOSING HYMN (Please Rise) – Lord Be Glorified

Verse 1

In my life Lord
Be glorified be glorified
In my life Lord
Be glorified today

Verse 2

In my song Lord
Be glorified be glorified
In my song Lord
Be glorified today

Verse 4

In our home Lord
Be glorified be glorified
In our home Lord
Be glorified today

CCLI Song # 26368

Bob Kilpatrick

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*BENEDICTION (Please Rise)

Go out, and make known the mystery of the gospel. Keep alert and pray at all times.

Draw strength from God's power and so stand firm against all that would corrupt you.

And may God arm you with truth and righteousness; May Christ Jesus give you words

of Spirit and life; and may the Holy Spirit draw you near to God's presence.....and

bless you with honor and grace.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,....In the name of Christ. Amen.

*POSTLUDE

*DISMISSAL