



North Bethesda United Methodist Church

October 18, 2026

Prelude		Simon Charette
Welcome & Announcements		Suzanne Smedberg
*Call to Worship		Janet Replogle
	Love divine, all loves excelling— fill our hearts with passion and life. Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit— inspire our words, our motions, our art. Come, Almighty, to deliver— lead our hands and feet in the work of justice. Finish, then, thy new creation— speak beauty into chaos, and let harmony unfold.	
*Opening Prayer		Janet Replogle
*Opening Hymn	"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"	UMH 384
Word for All Ages		Suzanne Smedberg
Stewardship Witness		The Sithole Family
Anthem	"God Gave Us Music" (Dale Wood)	NBUMC Choir
Prayers of the People		Rich McManus
Scripture Readings	1 Samuel 2:1-10 Luke 1: 46-55	Janet Replogle
Hymn	"My Soul Gives Glory to My God"	UMH 198
Message		Rev. Lauren Lay
Offertory		
*Doxology	"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"	UMH 94

Holy God, we thank you for the gift of creativity, for the artists who challenge us to see the world with new eyes, to hear its cries for justice, and to feel its deep need for healing. May our offerings today reflect our shared vision for a world made whole, where love, equity, and peace prevail in your name. Amen.



*Closing Hymn

"Tell Out, My Soul"

UMH 200

*Blessing

Rev. Lauren Lay

Postlude

Simon Charette

*Indicates rising in body and/or spirit. "UMH" refers to the hardback *United Methodist Hymnal*.

The Call to Worship is by Crispina Page, and the Opening Prayer and Unison Prayer are by Rev. Holly Jackson.

Take Note!

- Today is the day to learn about **Francis Asbury** after worship in the Fellowship Hall! Join us for a presentation by Rev. Joye Jones about the most important person in the development and spread of Methodism in the American Colonies.
- Today is also the day for our **Youth Bible Study**, which will meet downstairs next to the Children's Sunday School room. Youth as well as people of all ages who would like to support and learn alongside our young people are invited to join us today and the third Sunday of every month (the first Sunday of the month, our Bible study is held at Faith UMC.) Contact Suzanne Smedberg (suzanne@faithworkshere.com) with questions.
- It's time to show our college students some love with a **care package**! Throughout October, you're invited to bring any of the following items to a basket in the Narthex: Homemade treats that ship well; Hand sanitizer; Pens/Highlighters; Cough Drops; Gum; Chapstick; Gift Cards; Tea/hot chocolate packets/instant drink mixes; Dorm-friendly foods. We'll sign cards and pack the boxes together during Coffee Hour after worship on November 1st.
- We are excited to host our next **Kina Mama ("Strong Women") fellowship breakfast** on October 24th at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Sisters of all ages are welcome! Save the date and be on the lookout for sign-up sheets in the coming weeks. A sign-up sheet for the **Men's Brunch** on November 15th is also available.
- Our **Fall Ministry Fair** is scheduled for next Sunday, October 25th, after worship. Our ministry teams and committees will set up tables in the Fellowship Hall and will be available to answer questions and so that we can learn about the many ways to serve in and through NBUMC.
- On Saturday, November 7th, we will gather at 8:30am at Epworth United Methodist Church in Gaithersburg for our annual **Church Conference**, which will be held together with the other churches in our geographical hub. At Church Conference, we celebrate the ministries of the past year, and all church members are eligible to vote on matters such as nominations for new Board members, clergy compensation, membership reports, and any candidates for ordained ministry arising from our congregation.
- November 1st is **All Saints Day**. If you have lost a loved one in the year since last All Saints Day and would like a candle lit and their name read aloud and printed in our bulletin, please email the person's name, date of passing, and a photo (if you have one) to Gwendolyn at office@northbethesdaumc.org by October 28th.
- A **liturgist training** session will be held on Nov. 8 following the worship service. If you would like to participate, please let Joye Jones know – joyefulj@verizon.net.

Staff Contacts

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