

Order of Service

Third Sunday of Advent
Color: Purple

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Get ready, people of God! This day is a day of preparation.

O Lord, open our hearts and make us ready to receive you.

Repentance, changing our attitudes, our lives, is the beginning of our preparation.

Lord, give us courage and confidence.

May God fill us with joy and peace as we become witnesses to God's love.

Lord, help us to be faithful servants all of our days. Amen.

*PRAISE & WORSHIP Youth Praise Team

OPENING PRAYER

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray:

God of timeless grace, you fill us with joyful expectation.

Make us ready for the message that prepares the way,

that with uprightness of heart and holy joy

we may eagerly await the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ,

who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN "Away in a Manger" #218

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH The Apostles' Creed #881

*GREETING GUESTS & ONE ANOTHER
WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Lord has done great things for us, and we are overjoyed.

Let those who plant with tears reap the harvest with joyful shouts.

God of Joy, you enter the wilderness of our world

and proclaim that there is a way to reach home again.

God of Joy, you break through clouds of despair

and sorrow to bring good news to your people.

We, God's people, sing songs of joy with the prophet,

"I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God.

On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle, knowing that joy is our true home.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel."

MINISTRY OF MUSIC Youth Choir

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament: Malachi 3:1-4 (CEB)

New Testament: Luke 1:68-79 (CEB)

MINISTRY OF DANCE

ALTAR CALL & PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Children's Church for ages 4-7 dismissed to children's classroom.
Please register children in the Welcome Center.*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC Youth Choir

Sermon:

Dr. Dedric A. Cowser

*AN INVITATION TO FOLLOW JESUS & CHURCH MEMBERSHIP

*INVITATIONAL HYMN "Go! Tell it on the Mountain" #251

GOD'S TITHES & OUR OFFERINGS**

*THE DOXOLOGY

*OUR VISION STATEMENT & CLOSING SONG

Leader: My friends, New Beginnings United Methodist Church is...
**Congregation: Transforming lives through mission, ministry and worship
as a prophetic witness for Jesus Christ in the world.**

*BENEDICTION

Church Staff:

Regina Warren, Church Secretary

JonTomas Johnson, Minister of Music & Lead Musician

Nathaniel Wills, Organist

Antonio Anderson, Percussionist

****SECURE ELETRONIC GIVING OPTIONS Online: www.newbeginningsbham.org/give
Text-To-Give: From your smartphone, text the amount you wish to give to (205) 791-5441**

Ministry Opportunities

~ Christmas Musical ~

Sunday, December 23rd, 10:30 a.m.

Featuring the New Beginnings Music Department

2018 CHRISTMAS OFFERING: Everyone is invited to a "Birthday Party with Jesus" on Sunday, December 23rd, following the worship service. Each member is asked to give **\$30, \$40, or \$50** above their regular giving to the church in honor of Jesus. Christmas Offering envelopes are available in the pews and you may give your gift at the party or any time before Christmas.

Hands-On Mission Project Today: The Missions Team is asking all who can to please remain after morning worship service to help decorate and pack Christmas bags for Northside Nursing Home, our Breakfast Ministry, and our sick and homebound members.

Sunday School Review & Prayer Meeting: Wednesday, December 19th, 6:00 p.m. Join us as we study this Sunday's Lesson: **Love God for the gift of Jesus- Luke 1:26-31, Luke 2: 22, 25-35**

Staff-Parish Relations Team Meeting: Wednesday, December 19th, 6:00 p.m.

Calling all Middle School & High School Students! Students 6th through 12th grade are invited to join Pastor Cowser on the 3rd Sundays after church (12:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.), beginning in January and ending in May for lunch, learning, and fun. This will be a time to learn more about our faith and fellowship with one another. Please complete the sign-up form in the Welcome Center and return it to the church office by Sunday, December 30th. Once students have completed these sessions, they will be invited to become full professing members of New Beginnings. Those who have not yet been baptized may make a decision to do so at that time. For more information, please contact Pastor Cowser or the church office.

Coins for the Cause Results: Alabama (\$20.63) and Auburn (\$32.75) for a total of \$53.38. Thanks to your generosity our Students Ministries will be able to use the funds as they represent our church and minister to the children and families at the Ronald McDonald House this season.

Koinonia Group Luncheon: Sunday January 6th the Koinonia team will have lunch catered by GaBriella's Cafe. The price per person will be determined by the number of people participating, see the church office for more information.

Leadership Summit 2019: All church leaders and team members are requested to attend our leadership gathering Saturday, January 26, 2019, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. Pastor Cowser will cast vision for 2019 and give us information that will be vital to our ministry together. Please RSVP for lunch in the Welcome Center.

**The Church Office will be closed December 24-27 for the Christmas Holiday;
And December 31-January 1 for the New Year's Holiday.**

Additional Announcements: www.newbeginningsbham.org/calendar
To Receive the E-Newsletter Text "NBUMC" to 2282



New Beginnings United Methodist Church

Birmingham, Alabama • A Place of Possibilities and Transformation



OUR VISION STATEMENT

**"Transforming lives through mission, ministry and worship
as a prophetic witness for Jesus Christ in the world."**

2133 32nd Avenue North, Birmingham, Alabama 35207
(205) 328-3937 • office@newbeginningsbham.org
www.newbeginningsbham.org

The Reverend Dr. Dedric A. Cowser
Senior Pastor

3rd Sunday of Advent | Sunday, December 16, 2018 | 10:30 a.m.