

**Singing the Hymns of Our Faith  
"Dwelling in Beulah Land"**

Most, if not all of us Methodists grew up on the Charles Austin's hymn "Dwelling in Beulah Land." It is said that it was the most sung hymn in The Cokesbury Hymnal. The hymn is based on Isaiah 62:1-5. Verse 4 uses two names from which the title and message of the hymn are drawn. The words are *Hephzibah* and *Beulah*. "You shall no longer be termed Forsaken, nor shall your land any more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called *Hephzibah*, and your land *Beulah*; for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married to God in covenant love." (Isaiah 62:4). *Hephzibah* means "My delight is in you" and *Beulah* means "You and your people are bound to God."

**Pray and Sing:** God promises that you are his delight and that God binds himself to you and your nation in covenant love. Spend time praying and singing the hymn, Ask: how am I a delight to God? What can I do to help my nation be bound to God in love? Memorize and repeat verse 4 several times a day. A recording of both versions with lyrics can be found on the Fork Chapel website at [www.forkchapelumc.org](http://www.forkchapelumc.org).

***"Dwelling in Beulah Land"***

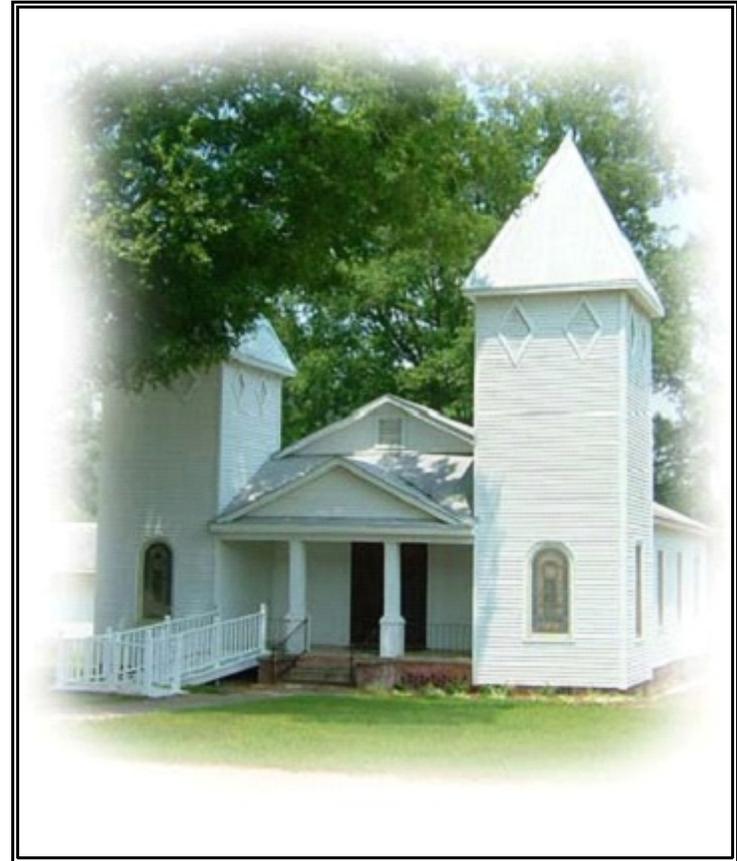
1. Far away the noise of strife upon my ear is falling; Then I know the sins of earth beset on every hand; Doubt and fear and things of earth in vain to me are calling; None of these shall move me from Beulah Land.

Refrain I'm living on the mountain, underneath a cloudless sky, I'm drinking at the fountain that never shall run dry; Oh, yes! I'm feasting on the manna from a bountiful supply, For I am dwelling in Beulah Land.

2. Far below the storm of doubt upon the world is beating, Sons of men in battle long the enemy withstand; Safe am I within the castle of God's Word retreating; Nothing then can reach me—'tis Beulah Land. [Refrain]

3. Let the stormy breezes blow, their cry cannot alarm me; I am safely sheltered here, protected by God's hand; Here the sun is always shining, here there's naught can harm me; I am safe forever in Beulah Land [Refrain]

4. Viewing here the works of God, I sink in contemplation; Hearing now His blessed voice, I see the way He planned; Dwelling in the Spirit, here I learn of full salvation; Gladly I will tarry in Beulah Land. [Refrain]



**FORK CHAPEL  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

***1401 Farmington Road  
Madison, Georgia 30650***

**Visit our Website:  
[www.forkchapelumc.org](http://www.forkchapelumc.org)**

**Rev. Dr. Anthony N. Gavalas, Pastor  
155 International Drive, Apt. 407  
Athens, Georgia 30605  
864-426-2019 – [angavalas@umcsc.org](mailto:angavalas@umcsc.org)**

January 18, 2019

Epiphany 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday

**THE SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY  
With Baptismal Renewal and the Lord's Supper**

Prelude

Greeting: Church Concerns

Opening Prayer

\*Hymn Sing

Prayers of the People - Leroy Rice, Liturgist

**Scripture:** 2 Chronicles 7:14 (The Message Translation)  
*If my people, my God-defined people, humbling themselves, praying, seeking my presence, and turning their backs on their wicked lives, I'll be there ready for them: I'll listen from heaven, forgive their sins, and restore their land to health. From now on I'm alert day and night listening for their prayers.*

**Prayers**

Liberating God,  
Justice is so far from us today. Held prisoner by division among the leaders of our nation, your people are crying out for freedom: freedom to work with integrity, freedom to earn a living, freedom to provide for themselves and their families. **Where are you in this tug of war, God? We need to know you are present and active, that you will not remain silent, that justice will shine like the light of a new day!**

Comforting God,  
Grief is increasingly near to us today. Feeling the depths of emptiness, your people are feeling forsaken. We cannot find the words to speak hope. We cannot find the words to speak life. We cannot find the words to speak joy. **Instead, we are buried in our hopelessness, our lifelessness, our lack of joy. We need to know that you have bound yourself to us, that you love us deeply and are present with us in our pain.**

Eternal God,  
the present is too overwhelming to look to the future. Your people are distressed. We cannot see the brilliance of the new thing you are promising among us for the tarnished dreams of yesterday. **Open our eyes to see your righteousness. Open our hearts to receive your covenant in love. Restore to us the celebration of living in your delight, that we may reflect your glory to the world.**

**Confession**

We cannot claim ignorance of our sins, for we know how we have not lived as God's people. But God refuses to forsake us, waiting to forgive us and call us as God's children. Please join me as we pray, saying  
**God our Redeemer, we confess that our lives do not reflect your glory. We have been fickle and unfaithful, but your steadfast love never fails. We try to save the best for ourselves, but you freely pour out your gifts for all. Forgive us, God of grace. Empower us, by your Holy Spirit to be faithful followers of your way and use our gifts for the common good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. (silent prayer)**

Pastor's Prayer with the Lord's Prayer

Declaration of Pardon

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The Offering with Doxology

Special Music: Alice Marchman (Zandy's niece)

Scripture: Isaiah 62:1-5

+Pew Bible, OT 692

Sermon

**"From Azubah to Hephzibah"  
"From Shemamah to Beulah"**

+Dr. Gavalas

\*Hymn: "Dwelling in Beulah Land" (words back of Bulletin)

Charge and Blessing

Dismissal Chorus

**"God be with you till we meet again; by his counsels guide, uphold you; with his sheep securely fold you, God be with you till we meet again."**

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**Welcome to All Who Worship with Us Today**

*We welcome you to worship today. No matter who you are, or what your lifestyle may be, whether you are high on the "hog" or low down in the pits, we welcome you with open hands, open hearts, and open minds. We invite you to join with us in church membership. If you desire to join with us, please meet the pastor at the altar during the last hymn.*

**Unshakeable Hope - Small Group Study - Wednesday. 7:00p.m.**

Want to know more about the Devil, come Wednesday night and find out. Lay Servant Ron Hess will lead the study.

**Green County Food Pantry - February Food Items**  
Spaghetti Sauce and Pasta - Bring to Church by Feb. 17