



Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

December 18, 2016
10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome to BMPC

NEW HERE? We are pleased that you have joined us as we gather to worship God and continue our Advent journey toward Christmas. Our programs are open to all and you are invited to participate according to your interests. Questions? Stop at our information alcove to the left of the main exit or contact DonnaBarrickman@bmpc.org, ext. 8809, during the week.

TO ASSIST YOU DURING WORSHIP: Large print bulletins and hearing assistance devices are available; ask an usher. Children's bulletins with crayons may be found near the main entrance.

TODAY'S SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH:

Childcare: 7:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Ed. Bldg. Rm. 102

Children age 2 to PreK: 10:00 a.m. classes, Ed. Bldg.

Grades K- 5: 10:15 a.m., classes, Ed. Bldg.

(10:00-10:15 a.m. families worship together in the Sanctuary)

If this is your first Sunday, please accompany your child to the Ed. Bldg.

Grades 6 - 12: 10:00 a.m., Youth Gathering, Gym;

10:15 a.m., Grade Groups & Confirmation, Ministries Center

GETTING CONNECTED. Please fill out the Fellowship Register as indicated during worship to let us know that you were here, to provide or update your contact information, and to identify yourself to others in your row so that you may greet each other after worship. To keep informed about our activities, subscribe to BMPC eNews by adding your email address to the Fellowship Register. Visit our homepage, www.bmpc.org, for links to ministry-specific newsletters and our Facebook and Instagram pages.

JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP. Stop by the Ministries Center Court for a cup of coffee between 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. and for refreshments and fellowship after the 10:00 a.m. worship service. Families with young children are invited to gather for refreshments in the Education Building Lobby after Sunday School.



"I am the resurrection and the life."

Marjorie Starr Frazier ~ December 11, 2016

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Rorate Caeli – Choral orné
Prelude on *Cranham*

Jeanne Demessieux
Pamela Decker

WELCOME

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

ADVENT INTROIT

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts.
Shine through the dark - ness. Christ, be our
light! Shine in your church gath - ered to - day.

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CALL TO WORSHIP

The Bickhart Family

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

One: Ask for a sign of the Lord your God. Let it be as high as the heaven!

All: You may be weary, but your God is not.

One: Look, the young woman is with child, and she shall bear a son.

All: His name shall be Emmanuel, God with us.

One: His name shall be Emmanuel, God with us.

All: Come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

One: We hear the promise of the prophets that a day is coming when God will send a sign. We hear the promise, but sometimes we forget that Emmanuel is God with us, now and forever. We light this candle to help us see that God's promise is here. We light these candles so that we might walk in the light of the Lord.

† **HYMN 348**

Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending

HELMSLEY

**CALL TO CONFESSION
AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(in unison)*

O Lord in whom we trust,
We confess that our fears have caused us to choose paths
that lead us away from your promises.
You have come to make your home in us,
sending your Son, Emmanuel,
and still we turn away in fear.
Forgive our lack of faith and soften our resistance,
that we may welcome your holy presence
and live in its light, hopefully and joyously.

A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† **GLORIA PATRI**

Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly Ghost, to thee,
hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing and un - wea - ried prais - es be.
Hon - or, glo - ry, and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal vic - to - ry,
ev - er - more and ev - er - more! A - men.

*Music Harm. © 1943, 1961, 1985 Church Pension Fund.
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PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT AND
THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Rachel Pedersen
Elder Peter Haldy with Nina Bertrand

One: Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture this child by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of His church?

All: We do.

SENDING HYMN 188 Jesus Loves Me! (verse 1) JESUS LOVES ME
During the Sending Hymn, children depart for their Sunday School classes.

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 7:10-16 (*p. 636 in pew Bible*) Rebecca Kirkpatrick

ANTHEM Pengyou, Ting! arr. Carolyn Jennings
Sanctuary Choir (singing in Chinese)

Listen, friend, to this good news: Jesus came to earth for you, came from heav'n where he was Lord, came to save us all.

SECOND LESSON Matthew 1:18-25 (*p. 1 in pew Bible*) Agnes W. Norfleet

SERMON *The Light of Emmanuel, God with Us* Agnes W. Norfleet
Fourth in Advent Series *Christ, Be Our Light!*

† **HYMN** 144 In the Bleak Midwinter CRANHAM

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*in unison*) Richard Wohlschlaeger

Jesus came as a child
born of a woman as is every child,
yet born of God's power as was no other child.
He lived as a Jew among Jews.
He announced to his people
the coming of God's rule of justice and peace on earth.
We believe that the coming of Jesus
was itself the coming of God's promised rule.
Through his life, death, and resurrection
he initiates the relationship between God and the human race
that God always intended.

~ from *A Declaration of Faith*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY ANTHEM

What Child
Sanctuary Choir

Paul W. Lohman

What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping? Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping? This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary! Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding? Good Christian, fear; for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary! So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king to own him. The King of kings salvation brings; Let loving hearts enthrone him. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!

*Please fill in the Fellowship Register at the end of your pew;
pass it down your row and back again.*

† **DOXOLOGY** (*in unison*) (*Hymnal 606*)
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. Amen.

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

† **HYMN 119** Hark! The Herald Angels Sing MENDELSSOHN

† **BENEDICTION WITH CHORAL RESPONSE** Agnes W. Norfleet

POSTLUDE Paeon on *Divinum Mysterium* John Cook

Worship Notes

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Lore Kephart

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Margot Jean Bassett, daughter of Jennifer and Trevor Bassett

GREETING AND HOSTING

Members of the Personnel Committee

PLAYING THE CARILLON

Rob Mygatt

ADVENT SERMON SERIES

The sermon series during Advent, *Christ, Be Our Light!*, explores the themes of readings from both the Prophet Isaiah and the Gospel of Matthew: the light of hope, peace, holiness and Emmanuel, God with us. As we light the candles of the Advent wreath each week, we pray also that the light of God will grow in us and emanate from us.

BULLETIN COVER

Detail from Presentation in the Temple
© 2015, John August Swanson | Eyekons

Special Events During Advent

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY. Today, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m., Arnold's Family Fun Center, Oaks. Join Pastor Kellen for a joyful night of laser tag and go-karts. \$15/person includes dinner.

A WEE CHRISTMAS. Tues., Dec. 20, 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Designed for children ages 2 - 5 and their families, this special retelling of the Christmas story allows our youngest members to hear and participate in the story of Jesus' birth. Guests are welcome! MaryRichards@bmpc.org, ext. 8811.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE. Wed., Dec. 21, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary. This special service acknowledges the darkness we experience even during this festive season. Scripture readings, the singing of carols, a brief meditation by the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet, and a time of prayer to lift our yearnings for healing and wholeness are intended to lead us from the darkness into light. BeckyHoy@bmpc.org, ext. 8806.

CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH ALUMNI RECEPTION. Sat., Dec. 24, 9:30 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Worship on Christmas Eve is made even more special by seeing friends who grew up at BMPC and are back for the holidays. We welcome all former youth after the 8:30 p.m. and before the 11:00 p.m. worship services. AmyBauer@bmpc.org, ext. 8821.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE. 4:30 p.m., Sanctuary. Family Service with Nativity Tableau (infant and toddler childcare available without reservations in the Ed. Bldg.). Carol sing preceding at 4:15 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION SERVICE. 8:30 p.m., Sanctuary. Candlelight Service with Communion and Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet (childcare available without reservations in the Ed. Bldg.). Prelude begins at 8:00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS. 11:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols with Sermon by the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet. Prelude begins at 10:40 p.m.

One combined Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary on Christmas and New Year's Day.

Today

LAST DAY: ADVENT GIFT MARKET. 11:00 a.m. - noon, Ministries Center Court. As a community, let us celebrate God's gifts to us by sharing with others. Order at the AGM table today after worship or online at www.bmpc.org > Outreach > Advent Gift Market. Deadline for online orders: Wed., Dec. 21. Marian Chitester, mmcthistle@verizon.net.

FULLERTON BIBLE STUDY: GOSPEL OF MARK. 11:15 a.m., Fullerton Room. The Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray walks us through this Gospel that gives us the essence of Jesus' life and ministry. CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE. 11:15 a.m., Witherspoon Parlor. The idea of religious freedom runs counter to most of history. What are the origins, present contours, and global prospects for a robust and just practice of religious freedom? Led by Dr. Jon Pahl, LTSP. CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

Announcements

2017 STEWARDSHIP. As we prepare for all that Christmas brings to our homes, let us not forget our church home. It is not too late to pledge for 2017! We need your financial support in order to advance and foster the mission of BMPC through its programming, staff, education, activities and worship. In the pew envelopes, by mail or online you may share your gifts. SarahMiciek@bmpc.org, ext. 8817.

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING. Gifts to the Christmas Joy Offering, one of four Special Offerings of the PC(USA), provide assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need, and develop our future leaders at Presbyterian-related racial ethnic schools and colleges. Envelopes are in the pews or note "Christmas Joy" on the memo line of your check or at <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/christmasjoy.html>

WALKING THE LABYRINTH DURING ADVENT. The Story Path Labyrinth is in our Chapel during Advent for prayer and meditation. The labyrinth is open on Sundays from 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. A weekly written reflection is available. info@middletoncenter.org, 610-525-0766.

ART EXHIBIT. On view through Sun., Jan. 1, in our Conference Room and Witherspoon Parlor. The colorful and varied works of art by traditionalist Mary French to the more illusional art of Maria Schneider represent different techniques and materials and are available for purchase as holiday gifts. StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org, ext. 8836.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS BOOKS. The Rev. Rachel Pedersen has suggested several children's books that are available for purchase at the Book Center in the Court of the Ministries Center. During the week, the key is available at the Reception Desk. Kat MacMurray, KatRMac2@gmail.com.

Caring & Sharing

FROZEN TURKEY AND HAM COLLECTION. Bring frozen turkeys and hams for the holiday season to the freezers in the Ministries Center for our Hunger Committee to deliver to families in need. CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

OUR BROTHER'S PLACE. Sat., Dec. 31, 10:15 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.; meet at Our Brother's Place, 907 Hamilton St., Philadelphia. Volunteers are needed to serve lunch at this homeless shelter. Pam Haynes-Walsh, haynes-walsh@comcast.net, 610-667-0972.

VOLUNTEER FOR A REFUGEE SUPPORT TEAM. Volunteers may sign up to support a local refugee family. Teams include: housing, furnishings, food/shopping, medical, transportation, employment, education, finance, clothing, and friendship. A member of the BMPC Refugee Action Committee is available during Café in the Court to help choose the best team for your interests and skills. Sign up to volunteer via email: florence.zeller@gmail.com.

This Week's Calendar

For more information, visit our website at www.bmpc.org, call the church office, or contact communications@bmpc.org.

Today, December 18, 2016

- 7:45 a.m. Childcare, Ed. Bldg. Rm. 102
8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**
8:45 a.m. Sunday Morning Discussion Group, Conference Room
Filling the Well (for women), Ed. Bldg. Rm. 104
Art @ 9, Ed. Bldg. Rm. 201
10:00 a.m. **Worship with Baptism and Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary**
Sunday School for ages 2 - 4, Ed. Bldg.
Grades K - 5 begin worship in the Sanctuary
Youth Gathering (Grades 6 - 12), Gymnasium
10:15 a.m. Sunday School for Grades K - 5, Ed. Bldg.
Youth Grade Groups and Confirmation, Ministries Center
11:00 a.m. Cafe in the Court, Ministries Center
Fellowship for Families, Ed. Bldg.
Advent Gift Market Sales, Ministries Center Court
11:15 a.m. Religious Freedom: Past, Present, and Future, Witherspoon Parlor
Fullerton Bible Study: Gospel of Mark, Fullerton Room
Tintinnabulators, Fine Arts Center
4:00 p.m. Youth Christmas Party, Arnold's Fun Center

Monday, December 19, 2016

- 9:30 a.m. Dance Fit, Gymnasium

Tuesday, December 20, 2016

- 9:00 a.m. RePose Yoga, Gymnasium
- 10:30 a.m. Tai Chi, Gymnasium
- 11:00 a.m. Carol Jean Wright Kollevoll Memorial Service and Reception, Chapel
- 11:30 a.m. Parkinson's Disease Support Group Luncheon, Congregational Hall
- 1:00 p.m. Dance for Parkinson's Disease, Gymnasium
- 3:00 p.m. A Wee Christmas, Sanctuary
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 19 Committee Meeting, Conference Room

Wednesday, December 21, 2016

- 9:00 a.m. Walk for Life: Walk More, Live Better!, meet at BMPC's Back Parking Lot
- 9:30 a.m. Dance Fit, Gymnasium
- 10:00 a.m. Women's Coffee Cup Bible Study, Gloucester Room
- 11:00 a.m. Marjorie Starr Frazier Memorial Service, Chapel
- 4:45 p.m. Christmas Eve Dress Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Congregational Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Longest Night Service with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary
- 8:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir, Fine Arts Center

Thursday, December 22, 2016

- 10:00 a.m. Artists' Gathering, Gloucester Room
- 11:00 a.m. William H. Wilson Interment & Memorial Service, Sanctuary

Friday, December 23, 2016

No activities scheduled for today.

Saturday, December 24, 2016

- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
- 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service, Sanctuary
- 8:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship with Communion, Sanctuary
- 9:30 p.m. Youth Alumni Reunion, Witherspoon Parlor
- 11:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Service of Lessons & Carols, Sanctuary

Sunday, December 25, 2016

- 10:00 a.m. Single Worship Service with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary
The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.
Holiday Worship Together - No Sunday School

Worship Staff

Agnes W. Norfleet, Pastor

Rebecca Kirkpatrick, Associate Pastor for Adult Education and Mission

Rachel Pedersen, Associate Pastor for Children and Family Ministry

Kellen A. Smith, Associate Pastor for Youth, Their Families and College Ministries

Richard Wohlschlaeger, Interim Associate Pastor for Senior Adults & Pastoral Care

Jeffrey Brillhart, Director of Music and Fine Arts

Edward L. Landin, Assistant Director of Music

Contact Information

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

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(Phone) 610-525-2821

www.bmpc.org (for program information, calendar, and staff directory)

[Facebook.com/BrynMawrPC](https://www.facebook.com/BrynMawrPC) • [Instagram.com/Bryn Mawr PC](https://www.instagram.com/BrynMawrPC)

24/7 Answering Service for Pastoral Emergencies: 610-525-2821

Main Line Adult Day Center: 610-527-4220

The Middleton Center: 610-525-0766 • info@middletoncenter.org

The Weekday School (Preschool): 610-525-2821, ext. 8840