

For a  
child  
is born to us  
a son is given to us  
AND THE GOVERNMENT  
WILL REST ON HIS SHOULDERS  
THESE WILL BE HIS ROYAL TITLES

*Wonderful*  
Counselor

*Mighty God*

EVERLASTING FATHER  
PRINCE OF PEACE

***Bryn Mawr  
Presbyterian Church***

December 31, 2017  
10:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
1st Sunday after Christmas

# WELCOME TO BMPC

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

### **Childcare (infant - age 5)**

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
Education Building, Rm. 102

### **10:00 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary**

### **Holiday Worship Together**

Grades K - 12  
10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

### **Café in the Court**

11:00 a.m., Ministries Center Court

**NEW HERE?** We give thanks that you are joining us as we worship God this morning. We invite you to stop by and say hello at our information alcove to the left of the main entrance after the service. All of our programs, ministries, and opportunities for mission are open to everyone. Come join us!

**JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP.** Stop by the Ministries Center Court for a cup of coffee and fellowship after the 10:00 a.m. worship service.

**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.

Subscribe to our BMPC eNews by adding your email address to the Fellowship Register. For additional information about today's schedule, see the calendar at the back of this bulletin.

[www.BMPC.org](http://www.BMPC.org)

# GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

**PRELUDE**

Little Partita on a Polish Carol

Carson Cooman

**WELCOME**

Mary Steege

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Light looked down and saw darkness.

**All: "I will go there," said Light.**

One: Peace looked down and saw war.

**All: "I will go there," said Peace.**

One: Love looked down and saw hatred.

**All: I will go there," said Love.**

One: So he, the Lord of Light,

**All: The Prince of Peace,**

One: The King of Love,

**All: Came down and crept in beside us.**

† **HYMN 147**

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*in unison*)

Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives:

The fear that stifles us,

The prejudice that blinds us,

The ignorance that hobbles us,

The doubt that plagues us.

Help us, we pray:

To find courage in unlikely places,

To see the world with new and gracious eyes;

To move to those places where love is needed;

And to have faith that you are with us.

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

*A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.*

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

† **GLORIA PATRI** (*in unison*)

Hymn 581

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

*Children are invited to come forward for the Children's Moment.*

# PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Franklyn C. Pottorff

## SENDING HYMN     Go now, Children, with Our Blessing

*During the Sending Hymn, children return to their pews.*



Go now, children with our blessing, to love and serve the Lord. May God  
Bless you, May God guard you, May the light of God shine upon you, and may  
God be gracious to you. May the presence of God be with you. May the  
presence of God be with you, and give you peace.

## FIRST LESSON

Psalm 148 (p. 582 in pew Bible)

Franklyn C. Pottorff

## ANTHEM

As the Dark Awaits the Dawn  
Sanctuary Choir

Christopher Aspaas

As the dark awaits the dawn, so we await your light. O Star of promise, scatter night, loving bright, till shades of fear are gone. As the blue expectant hour before the silvering skies, we long to see your day arise, whole and wise, O lucent Morning Star. As the moon reflects the sun until the night's decrease, may we your healing light release, living peace, unto your holy dawn. Shine your future on this place, enlighten every guest, that through us stream your holiness, bright and blest; come dawn, O Sun of grace. We await your light.

## SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:22-40 (p. 59 in pew Bible)

Mary Steege

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

*Go Now in Peace*

Mary Steege

## RESPONSE TO THE WORD

### † AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(in unison)*

Franklyn C. Pottorff

We believe in God, the creator and giver of life,  
 who brought all creation to birth, who mothers us and fathers us,  
 protecting, nurturing, and cherishing us.

We believe in Jesus Christ: God born among us as a fragile baby,  
 embodying both love and the need for love, and calling us to rest in God  
 as trustingly as a tiny child.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, breathed into us at our birth,  
 always drawing us on to be born again, encouraging, exhorting, comforting,  
 nourishing our growth and inspiring our living.

We believe in the reconciliation of the world to God, through Christ.  
 Hunted at birth and humiliated at death,  
 Christ entered our fearful darkness so that we might enter his glorious light  
 and share the life of his resurrection.

And we believe that each new child is a glimpse of the face of God,  
 a sign of the life to come, and a call to live in peace  
 and celebrate living together. Glory to God in the highest,  
 and peace to God's people on earth. Amen.

~ *Christmas Affirmation* by Nathan Nettleton

### 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

Pat-a-pan  
Sanctuary Choir

David Conte

Willie, bring your little drum; Robin, bring your flute and come; and be merry while you play, tu-re-lu-re-lu, pat-a-pat-a-pan, come be merry while you play, on this joyful Christmas day! When the men of olden days to the King of Kings gave praise, on the fife and drum did play, tu-re-lu-re-lu, pat-a-pat-a-pan, on the fife and drum did play, on this joyful Christmas day! God and man today become more in tune than fife and drum, so be merry while you play, tu-re-lu-re-lu, pat-a-pat-a-pan, so be merry while you play, sing and dance this Christmas day!

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

### † DOXOLOGY

Hymn 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

Franklyn C. Pottorff

### † HYMN 116

The Snow Lay on the Ground

VENITE ADOREMUS

### † BENEDICTION WITH CHORAL RESPONSE

Mary Steege

### POSTLUDE

Sortie on “Tempus Adest Floridum”

Edward Landin

## ***Worship Notes***

### **SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

Given to the glory of God

### **GREETING TODAY**

Members of our Usher Team

### **PLAYING THE CARILLON**

Rob Mygatt

### **BULLETIN COVER**

*Isaiah 9:6* by Timothy R. Botts

## Announcements

**GATHER US IN: STEWARDSHIP 2018.** We are so fortunate to be part of a congregation whose gifts are benevolent and generous. Thank you for making all we do at BMPC possible! To date, we have reached nearly 85% of our stewardship goal! If you have yet to pledge, please consider doing so by placing your completed pledge card in the offering plate, mailing it to the church or pledging or donating online: [www.bmpc.org/pledge](http://www.bmpc.org/pledge). SarahMiciek@bmpc.org.

**BACK PILLOWS.** Participants in our Children and Family Ministry and Youth Ministry programs have made pillows for our senior members and for those who need an extra cushion in the pews. These pillows are available as you enter the Sanctuary and Chapel.

**YOUTH SUMMER TRIPS 2018.** High School Mission Trip to Mexico for rising ninth graders to graduated seniors, July 22-28, \$1,300. Space is limited; register now. Middle School Mission Trip to New York City for rising sixth to rising eighth graders, July 8-12, \$299. Camp Kirkwood for rising sixth to rising 12th graders, \$399 before March 1; \$499 after. Register online at [www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org) > Calendar > Open Registrations. Scholarship assistance is available for all trips and events. AmyBauer@bmpc.org.

**GRAPHIC NOTATION: VISUALIZING THE MUSIC OF J.S. BACH.** Through today. Philadelphia artist Melinda Steffy interprets the music of J.S. Bach as color patterns, blending music theory, color theory, mathematical structures, and meticulous handiwork to create vibrant works of art. In addition to selections from the *Well-Tempered Clavier*, *Cello Suite in G Major*, and more, her exhibit features new works commissioned by BMPC based on Bach's *Christmas Oratorio*.

**BOOK CENTER IN MINISTRIES CENTER.** Select Christmas books for children and special keepsakes (made in Germany) for the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. Book Center is open following worship and on weekdays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Kat MacMurray, [katrmac2@icloud.com](mailto:katrmac2@icloud.com).

## This Week

**HORIZONS BIBLE STUDY.** Wed., Jan. 3, 10:30 a.m., Rosemont Presbyterian Village Ballroom. The Rev. Mary Steege leads our study of *Cloud of Witnesses: The Community of Christ in Hebrews* by Melissa Bane Sevier, Chapter 5. For book and information, contact Joyce Malott, [okf405@gmail.com](mailto:okf405@gmail.com).

## Next Sunday

**AN ALTAR IN THE WORLD.** Sundays, Jan. 7-28, 11:15 a.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Patricia Danzon, spiritual director at the Middleton Center, leads discussions of the book, *An Altar in the World*, by Barbara Brown Taylor. [CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org](mailto:CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org).



## Upcoming

**HIGH SCHOOL SNOW RETREAT.** Jan. 13-15, Camp Kirkwood, Poconos. Join us for a weekend away at Camp Kirkwood where you may enjoy hiking, snowtubing, discussion groups, Sunday morning worship and time to explore the surrounding area. Cost: \$275. Register online by January 5 at [www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org) > Calendar > Open Registrations. Scholarship assistance is available for all trips and events. [AmyBauer@bmpc.org](mailto:AmyBauer@bmpc.org).

**EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY SPIRITUALITY-SMALL GROUP.** Begins Tues., Jan. 16, 10:00 a.m., Fullerton Room. It's impossible to become spiritually mature while remaining emotionally immature. Be part of a spiritual and emotional growth small group based on Peter Scazzero's book, *Emotionally Healthy Spirituality*. Invest in your spiritual, emotional and relationship health in this eight-week offering led by the Rev. Mary Steege. Register and order books: [MarySteege@bmpc.org](mailto:MarySteege@bmpc.org).

**URBAN SUBURBAN BOOK GROUP.** Tues., Jan. 16, 7:00 p.m., Overbrook Presbyterian Church. Discussion of *Waiting* by Ha Jinn. Edelene Carroll, [carrollvirgo@verizon.net](mailto:carrollvirgo@verizon.net).

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE BOOK DISCUSSION.** Wed., Jan. 17, 7:00 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Discussion of Michael Bloomberg and Carl Pope's book, *Climate of Hope: How Cities, Businesses and Citizens Can Save the Planet*. Books are available in the Book Center for \$14. Courtenay Willcox, [mcwillcox@gmail.com](mailto:mcwillcox@gmail.com).

## Save the Date

**THEOLOGY FOR BEGINNERS.** Thurs., Jan. 25, 7:00 p.m., Gloucester Room. A review of the basics of the most essential theological topics and how and why they matter to us led by the Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick. Anita Ayengar, [aciyengar@gmail.com](mailto:aciyengar@gmail.com).

**TWO-PIANO RECITAL.** Sun., Jan. 28, 2:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Back by popular demand, Jeffrey Brillhart and Laura Ward return to the Sanctuary to play a recital that previously brought raves. Suggested offering: \$10.00. [StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org](mailto:StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org).

## Caring & Sharing

**HELP FIGHT HUNGER.** Contribute to emergency food cupboards, homeless shelters, and hunger relief organizations by using the white Hunger envelopes in the pews or noting "Hunger" on the memo line of your check. [CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org](mailto:CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org).

# *This Week's Calendar*

*For more information, visit our website at [www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org), call the church office, or contact [communications@bmpc.org](mailto:communications@bmpc.org).*

## Today, December 31 - New Year's Eve

- 9:00 a.m. Childcare, Ed. Bldg., Rm. 102  
9:25 a.m. Lectio Divina, Middleton Center  
10:00 a.m. **Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary**  
Holiday Worship Together for PreK-Grade 12, Sanctuary  
11:00 a.m. Cafe in the Court, Ministries Center  
12:15 a.m. Carillon Lessons, Fine Arts Center

## Monday, January 1

**Church Office Closed:** *For pastoral emergencies, call 610-525-2821.*

## Tuesday, January 2

- 9:00 a.m. RePose Yoga, Gymnasium  
5:30 p.m. Upward Basketball Practice, Gymnasium  
7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 19 Committee Meeting, Conference Room

## Wednesday, January 3

- 10:30 a.m. Horizons Bible Study, Rosemont Presbyterian Village Ballroom  
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Congregational Hall  
7:00 p.m. Worldwide Ministries Committee Meeting, Fullerton Room

### **Thursday, January 4**

- 10:00 a.m. Artists' Gathering, Gloucester Room
- 11:00 a.m. Senior Exercise Class, Gymnasium
- 6:00 p.m. Refugee Support Committee Meeting, Gloucester Room
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 19, Gymnasium  
Sanctuary Choir, Fine Arts Center

### **Friday, January 5**

- 11:00 a.m. Jean Taylor Memorial Service, Chapel

### **Saturday, January 6**

- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
- 11:00 a.m. Arthur H. Rainey Memorial Service, Chapel

### **Sunday, January 7**

- 8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**
- 10:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion and Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary**  
The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.  
Sunday School for age 2 - Grade 3.  
Worship Together Sunday for Grades 4-12.

## ***Worship Staff***

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**Agnes W. Norfleet**, Pastor

**Rebecca Kirkpatrick**, Associate Pastor for Adult Education & Mission

**Rachel Pedersen**, Associate Pastor for Children & Family Ministry

**Franklyn C. Pottorff**, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life & Stewardship

**David B. Smith**, Interim Director, Youth Ministry

**Mary Steege**, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care & Senior Adults

**Jeffrey Brillhart**, Director of Music & Fine Arts

**Edward L. Landin**, Assistant Director of Music

## ***Contact Information***

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**Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church**

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610-525-2821

[www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org)

[Facebook.com/BrynMawrPres](https://www.facebook.com/BrynMawrPres) • [Instagram.com/BrynMawrPres](https://www.instagram.com/BrynMawrPres)

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](mailto:info@middletoncenter.org)

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