

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, January 26, 2025

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary



Gathering of God's People

Please note that online worshipers join the livestream at 9:50 a.m.

We invite you to prepare for worship in quiet reflection.

PRELUDE Improvisation

Jeffrey Brillhart

WELCOME

Rachel Pedersen

CALL TO WORSHIP

One Come, let us sing to the Lord;

All **let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.**

One For the Lord is a great God, and a great Sovereign above all gods,

All **and we are God's people, and the sheep of God's hand.**

HYMN 744 Arise, Your Light Is Come!

FESTAL SONG

CALL TO CONFESSION & PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All **Merciful God, you alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, and in neglecting to love others as ourselves. Have mercy on us, for we are sorry for all we have done and left undone. Forgive our sins, and help us to live in your light, and walk in your ways, and serve those in need for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.**

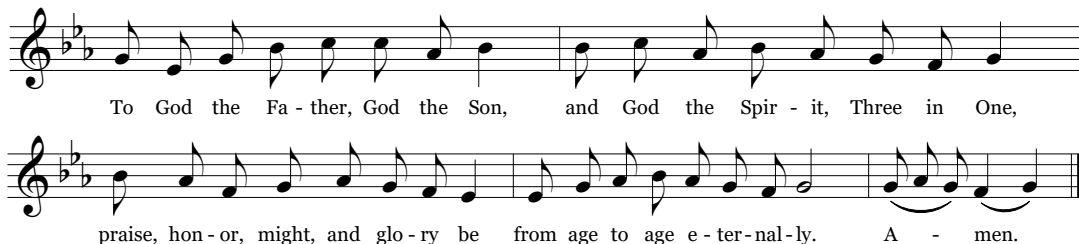
A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

During the Sung Response, children are invited to come forward for the Children's Moment.

SUNG RESPONSE

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM



To God the Fa-ther, God the Son, and God the Spir-it, Three in One,
 praise, hon-or, might, and glo-ry be from age to age e-ter-nal-ly. A - men.

Proclamation of the Word

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rachel Pedersen

Following the Children's Moment, children K - grade 5 depart for their Sunday School classes.

SENDING HYMN Go Now Children With Our Blessing



Go now, child-ren with our bless-ing, to love and serve the Lord. May God
 Bless you, May God guard you, May the light of God shine u-pon you, and may
 God be gra-cious to you. May the pre-sence of God be with you. May the
 pre-sence of God be with you, and give you peace.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Kirby Lawrence Hill

FIRST LESSON Psalm 138:1-3

(pg. 577 in pew Bible)

ANTHEM Shall We Gather at the River
Kara Goodrich, soprano

Stephen Paulus

Shall we gather at the river, where bright angels' feet have trod, With its crystal tide forever Flowing by the Throne of God. Yes we'll gather at the river, the beautiful river, Gather with the saints by the river that flows by the throne of God. Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease, Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace. Yes we'll gather at the river, the beautiful river, Gather with the saints by the river that flows by the throne of God.

SECOND LESSON Ruth 2:1-7, 17-23
(pg. 242 in pew Bible)

Agnes W. Norfleet

One The Word of the Lord.
All **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Ruth: Charitable Economics*
Second in Three Part Series

Agnes W. Norfleet

Response to the Word

Please stand, if able.

HYMN 652 A Grateful Heart

ROCKINGHAM

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Kirby Lawrence Hill

All We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. Like a mother who

will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

- from A Brief Statement of Faith

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Kirby Lawrence Hill

All 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.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY ANTHEM The Heavens Declare

William Billings

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament showeth His handy-work. One day telleth another, and one night doth certify another. For there is neither speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their sound is gone out into all the lands. The statutes of the Lord are right and rejoice the heart. Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be always accepted in Thy sight. O Lord my Strength and my Redeemer. Hallelujah, Amen.

Please fill in the Friendship Pad at the end of your pew; pass it down your row and back again.

Please stand, if able.

DOXOLOGY 606 Praise God, from whom all Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDRETH

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

Kirby Lawrence Hill

HYMN 766 The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound

MCKEE

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

Agnes W. Norfleet

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Worship & Music Notes

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Claire P. Swarr.

BULLETIN COVER

Story of Ruth © 2025 John August Swanson | Eyekons

PLAYING THE CARILLON

Klaus Volpert

WELCOME TO BRYN MAWR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church! Whether you're visiting for the first time or have been part of our community for years, we're so glad you're here. We hope this hour of worship brings you meaning and inspiration. Inside this bulletin, you'll find announcements about upcoming opportunities to grow as disciples of Jesus Christ. We pray that your time with us leads to deeper connections and meaningful ways to live out your faith through worship, fellowship, and service.



The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet
Senior Pastor

NEW HERE?

We are pleased that you are joining us as we worship God this morning. We invite you to introduce yourself to one of our pastors in the Atrium following the worship service. All of our programs, ministries, and opportunities for mission are open to everyone. Learn more at bmpc.org.

LIVESTREAMED CHURCH SERVICES

Our Sunday 10:00 a.m. service is livestreamed and can be viewed at www.bmpc.org/livestream or on our YouTube channel. A recording of the service will also be available on our Worship Services website page and Vimeo channel starting Monday. If you are attending in person and prefer not to be on camera, please speak with an usher who will seat you in an area off camera.

CHILDCARE ON SUNDAY

Childcare is available on Sundays from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for children ages six months and older. Please contact the Rev. Rachel Pedersen, RachelPedersen@bmpc.org or Childcare Coordinator Erika Henry, childcare@bmpc.org with any questions.

Announcements

TODAY

Congregational Meeting. A congregational meeting is called by the Session following the 10:00 a.m. worship service this morning. This is a brief meeting to elect church officers and vote on changes to pastors' terms of call.

Belonging and Inclusion, A Conversation. Rescheduled for Sun., Jan. 26, 11:30 a.m., Congregational Hall. In the Spring of 2024, the BMPC Session approved a new "Commitment to Belonging and Inclusion" to help guide our church's leaders, councils, and committees as we move more fully into a welcoming and diverse congregation. Join the Anti-Racism Committee (ARC) in large and small group conversations about the statement, how it is being implemented, and how it connects to all parts of our life together.

Feminine Energy Exhibit. Through Mar. 2, Gallery. This exhibit by Sister Helen David Brancato honors the courage and strength of women from diverse backgrounds and eras who lived with passion and compassion. Through these portraits, we celebrate their fidelity, endurance, and the many ways they shared their talents and gifts with the world.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Serve Dinner at the Ardmore Food Pantry. The Ardmore Food Pantry has started offering a community meal on Monday evenings during pantry hours. On the second Monday of each month, they serve BMPC Hunger Casseroles. Two to three volunteers from BMPC are needed on those Monday nights to serve dinner from 5:15 to 7:00 p.m. If you are interested in volunteering for one month or on a regular basis, please contact RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org

Scatterlings with Betty Wright-Riggins. Sun., Feb. 2 & 9, 11:15 a.m., Fullerton Room. Drawing from the recent South African novel *Scatterlings*, Middleton Center Spiritual Director and Pastor Betty Wright-Riggins will guide us through a conversation on the themes of racial justice, the commandment to be one another's keeper, the parameters of love, cultural conformity, and parental responsibility. Participants do not need to read the novel to fully participate in the class, but if you would like to purchase a copy from the church for \$10, visit bit.ly/BMPCBookpickup

Love In the Hebrew Bible. Mon., Feb. 3, 10 & 17, 7:00 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Join this three-week class based on Suzie Park's exploration of the concept of love in the Old Testament. Pushing against characterizations of the loving God of the New Testament narrative universe versus the wrathful God of the Old Testament, Park shows that love is integral to the ways in which relationships, among people and between humanity and God, are imagined in the Hebrew text. The Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick will teach this class. Visit bit.ly/BMPCBookpickup to reserve a copy of the book.

Great Decisions. Mon., Feb. 3, Mar. 3, Apr. 7, May 5, Jun. 2, 10:00 a.m., Zoom. BMPC member Bob Martin leads our monthly programs based on the *Great Decisions Briefing Book*, videos, and information he and other members share with the group. The classes are free and open to all, but registration is required to receive materials and the Zoom links. Contact [Kirby LHill@bmpc.org](mailto:KirbyLHill@bmpc.org)

Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living in a Secular World. Tues., Feb. 4, 11, & 25, 7:00 p.m., Zoom. Spiritual director Patricia Danzon will guide us through this beloved book by Henri Nouwen. To register, contact KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org

Family Movie Night Featuring The Lorax. Fri., Feb. 7, 5:30 p.m., Congregational Hall. All children, youth, and their families are invited to a family movie night with pizza and popcorn provided. Dinner is served at 5:30 p.m., and the movie will begin at 6:00 p.m. Please Register at bit.ly/movie_nightlorax so we can plan for the correct amount of food. Contact, MaryRichards@bmpc.org

Vacation Bible Camp 2025. Mon., June 23 – Fri., June 27, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., BMPC Campus. Registration is open for VBC. Ages Pre-K - Rising 5th Grade register at bit.ly/VBCRegistration2025 Campers must be at least 4 years old by May 1, 2025. Calling all Youth and Adult Volunteers! Rising 6th Grade and above register as a volunteer at bit.ly/VBCVolunteer2025 Contact, MaryRichards@bmpc.org

UPCOMING

Deepen Your Faith This Lent. Looking for a meaningful way to connect with others in the church and grow in faith this Lent? Join a Lenten Connection Group! These four one-hour weekly gatherings are lay-led groups that will reflect on scripture and insights from our annual Lenten devotional, written by our pastors and fellow congregants. Share joys and concerns, listen deeply, and support one another on this sacred journey. To join a group, fill

out the form at bit.ly/LentenCG or contact RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org

The Jazz Sanctuary Concert. Wed., Jan. 29, 7:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. All are invited to join us for a free concert by The Jazz Sanctuary, a musical group bringing live jazz to diverse venues, blending artistry with a mission to foster community and enrichment. The concert will include coffee and dessert and follows BMPC's weekly Wednesday Night Dinner (\$12/person). This event is sponsored by ARC, BMPC's Anti-Racism Committee.

Singing for Life. Starting Thurs., Jan 30, 9:30-10:45 a.m., Fine Arts Center. Join us for the Spring 2025 semester of Singing for Life, a weekly program of singing and physical/vocal exercises for those aged 55 and older. Membership does not require BMPC affiliation. Cost for the semester is \$75. Sign up at bit.ly/S4LSpring2025 Contact ToriFisher@bmpc.org

Youth Summer Mission Trip. July 6-11, 2025. Current 5th-12th graders are invited to the Youth Summer Mission Trip at CROSS Missions in Charlotte, NC. Cost for first registrant is \$250. Each additional registrant (sibling or friend) is \$125. Scholarships are available. Register by Fri., Mar. 14 at bit.ly/BMPCMissionTripNC Contact AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org

Youth Summer Camp. July 26-Aug. 2, 2025. Current 6th-12th graders will travel to Montreat Conference Center in Montreat, NC for camp. Youth will learn about Jesus, connect with new and old friends from across the country, and play games. Registration cost is \$650. Scholarships are available. Register by Fri., Mar. 14 at bit.ly/BMPCYouthCamp2025 Contact AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org

CARING AND SHARING

Souper Bowl of Caring Food Collection. Sun., Feb. 9, Narthex. This year, BMPC donations will be distributed among six of our local partners located from Lower Merion to Chester, serving their community's needs. Donations should be brought to the Narthex on Feb. 9 before worship. If you need to bring donations prior to the 9th, please bring them to the Atrium or the Church office reception desk. Suggested donations include cold cereals, pasta and sauce, soups, peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, beans or fruit, and mac & cheese. To promote sustainability and at the request of our partner pantries, we encourage you to bring your donations in reusable grocery bags. Contact JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org

Code Blue Volunteers Needed. For the month of January, BMPC is hosting a Code Blue Shelter to house up to five men sleeping outside in Lower Merion on the coldest nights. Volunteers work in shifts between 8:30p.m. and 6:30 a.m. on nights the shelter is open. Visit [bit.ly/CodeBlue Volunteer](http://bit.ly/CodeBlueVolunteer) to sign up. Contact [Jennifer McArthur@bmpc.org](mailto:JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org)

California Wildfire Relief. You can support wildfire relief efforts by making a financial contribution to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA). Simply write “Wildfire Relief” in the memo line of your check. Donations can be made through today’s offering or sent to the church office during the week. To learn more about PDA’s vital work in supporting churches and residents affected by the fires, visit bit.ly/PresbyterianDisasterAssistance

Sanctuary Flower Donations. Openings are available in February and March for donors who wish to give flowers in memory of or in honor of loved ones. After Sunday services, our Deacons deliver small arrangements of the flowers to homebound church members. Contact SusanThorkelson@mac.com

Calendar

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26

- 7:45 a.m. Childcare (Birth-Kindergarten), Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101
- 8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Discussion Group, Cannon Room
- 8:45 a.m. Art@9, Room 102, Ed. Bldg.
- 8:45 a.m. Filling the Well, Children's Library, Ed. Bldg.
- 9:00 a.m. Feminine Energy Exhibit, Gallery
- 9:55 a.m. Sunday School Ages 2s, 3s, and Pre-K, Ed. Bldg.
- 10:00 a.m. **Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary and Livestreamed**
- 10:00 a.m. Youth Gathering, Gymnasium
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School K-5th Grade, Ed. Bldg.
- 11:00 a.m. Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Family Fellowship, Ed. Bldg. Hall
- 11:15 a.m. Atrium Cafe, Atrium
- 11:15 a.m. APNC for Youth Meeting, Cannon Room
- 11:30 a.m. Belonging and Inclusion, A Conversation, Congregational Hall

MONDAY, JANUARY 27

- 7:00 p.m. Anti-Racism Committee Meeting, Cannon Room
- 7:30 p.m. FIT4MOM, Gymnasium

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28

- 8:30 a.m. APNC for Congregational Care Meeting, Gloucester Room
- 9:00 a.m. RePose Yoga (Hybrid), Gymnasium
- 10:30 a.m. Tai Chi (Hybrid), Gymnasium
- 1:00 p.m. Dance for Parkinson's Disease Class, Gymnasium
- 2:30 p.m. Parkinson's Support Group, Cannon Room
- 6:45 p.m. BMPC Tutoring Program, Ed. Bldg. Hall

Calendar

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 29

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga206 Bone Boost, Gymnasium
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee Cup Bible Study, Cannon Room
- 4:30 p.m. Wednesday Connection Group, Converse House Parlor
- 4:45 p.m. Beginners' Choir Rehearsal, Ed. Bldg. Hall
- 4:45 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal, Children & Youth Rehearsal Room
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Congregational Hall
- 5:45 p.m. Youth Chorale Rehearsal, Children & Youth Rehearsal Room
- 7:00 p.m. Jazz Sanctuary Concert, Congregational Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Student Serve, Gym Youth Lounge

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30

- 9:30 p.m. Singing for Life Rehearsal, Rehearsal Room
- 9:45 a.m. FIT4MOM, Gymnasium
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Rehearsal Room

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31

- 9:45 a.m. FIT4MOM, Gymnasium
- 11:00 a.m. Oil Painting for Beginners, Fine Arts Center

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1

- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Connection Group, Converse House Parlor

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

- 8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**
- 10:00 a.m. **Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary and Livestreamed**
The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.

Giving

Your generosity can make a profound difference at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. Join us in spreading love and hope by giving at bit.ly/BMPCGiveOnline or simply scan the QR code to the right. Every donation, no matter the size, fuels our mission to create a more faithful, just, and compassionate community. Together, let's make a lasting impact!



CONNECT WITH US



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Worship Staff

Agnes W. Norfleet, Pastor

Andy Greenhow, Interim Associate Pastor for Youth & Their Families

Rebecca Kirkpatrick, Associate Pastor for Adult Education & Mission

Kirby Lawrence Hill, Interim Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care & Senior Adults

Rachel Pedersen, Associate Pastor for Children & Family Ministry

Jeffrey Brillhart, Director of Music & Fine Arts

Edward Landin Senn, Assistant Director of Music