



Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

December 11, 2016
8:00 a.m., Chapel
Third 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 in Gym;

10:15 a.m., Grade Groups and Confirmation in the 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."

Maurice A. Webster ~ November 5, 2016

William H. Wilson ~ December 2, 2016

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Richard Wohlschlaeger

Please fill out the Fellowship Register at the end of your pew.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Brad Baturka

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

One: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad.

All: The desert shall rejoice and blossom.

One: They shall see the glory of the Lord and the majesty of our God.

All: For the waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

One: A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way.

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 all of creation will be restored. We hear the promise, but it is hard to see restoration when so much feels broken. We light this candle to help us see God's rebuilding; we light these candles so that we might walk in the light of the Lord.

† HYMN 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

CALL TO CONFESSION

AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Almighty God, you sent your Son into our world
so that his light would banish our darkness.

We claim to rejoice in his light,
yet we have turned away from it in fear.

Forgive us for all selfishness and deceitfulness
that cause us to hide from your ways.

Restore us to the hope and promise of your coming kingdom
that we may walk in your ways.

A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† *Please stand, if able.*

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE



Musical notation for a congregational response in 4/4 time, key of D major. The melody is written on two staves. The lyrics are: Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord who sets us free. Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord God!

Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord who sets us free.

Sing out, my soul. Sing out, my soul. Sing out and glo - ri - fy the Lord God!

*Text and Music © 1979 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)
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HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Brad Baturka

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 35:1-10 (*p. 663 in pew Bible*)

Brad Baturka

SECOND LESSON Matthew 11:2-11 (*p. 11 in pew Bible*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

The Light of Holiness
Third in Advent Series *Christ, Be Our Light!*

Agnes W. Norfleet

† **HYMN** 100

My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout

STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Richard Wohlschlaeger

You are invited to come forward, using the center aisle, to partake of the Lord's Supper by intinction (dipping a piece of bread into the cup); return to your seat using the side aisle.

Gluten- and casein-free elements are on the center table.

You are invited to bring your morning offering to the offering plates when you come forward.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION AND THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*in unison*)

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.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Agnes W. Norfleet

† **HYMN 106** Prepare the Way, O Zion **BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN**

† **SENDING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

POSTLUDE

Worship Notes

ASSISTING WITH COMMUNION

Elder Brad Baturka

USHERING

Tom Willcox

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 A Visit © 2015 John August Swanson | Eyekons

10:00 a.m. Service

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Maurice L. Clancy

GREETING AND HOSTING

Members of our Coffee Cup Bible Study Group

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Kimberly Fazio
Anne Grauer
Donna Leonard
Kelly Monahan
Sharon Wall

Special Events During Advent

SWEET SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS. Today, Dec. 11, 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary. This concert celebrates the joys of the Advent and Christmas seasons and features the entire family of BMPC choirs as well as one of the great brass ensembles in America, the Philadelphia Brass. Thirty-minute carillon prelude by Lisa Lonie. Free-will offering.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY. Sun., Dec. 18, 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. Register by Dec. 16 to AmyBauer@bmpc.org, ext. 8821.

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. Helpers 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 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

CARILLON TOUR. 11:05 a.m., Choir Loft. Come see the instrument that welcomes you to worship and sends you out. Carillon tours are held on the second Sunday of each month; meet in the Choir Loft following the postlude to climb the tower stairs and see the bells.

YOUTH MISSION TRIPS INFO MEETING. 11:15 a.m., Gloucester Room. Youth and parents are invited to learn about our exciting middle school (Philadelphia) and high school (New Mexico) mission trips planned for summer 2017.

ANNUAL YOUNG ADULTS CHRISTMAS PARTY. 6:00 p.m., Pastor Kellen's Manse (127 Radnor St.). KellenSmith@bmpc.org, ext. 8822.

ADVENT GIFT MARKET. Sundays through Dec. 18, 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 on Sundays or online at www.bmpc.org > Outreach > Advent Gift Market. Order forms also may be dropped off at the Receptionist Desk with check during the week. Marian Chitester, mmcthistle@verizon.net.

FULLERTON BIBLE STUDY: GOSPEL OF MARK. Sundays through Dec. 18, 11:15 a.m., Fullerton Room. The Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray walks us through this Gospel that gives us the very essence of Jesus' life and ministry. CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE. Sundays through Dec. 18, 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.

LAST CALL FOR CHRISTMAS ANGELS. Share the Christmas spirit with children of the Village by adopting a family or sponsoring a child (5 - 8 gifts per child). Sign up online (<http://bit.ly/2ePhUBF>) or in the Ministries Center Court and bring gifts to collection bins in the Ministries Center and Education Building today. Betty Wu, efwu01@gmail.com, 610-449-8059.

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, 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 today through Sun., Dec. 18, 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. Artists' reception today after our Christmas choir concert. StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org, ext. 8836.

This Week

GREAT DECISIONS. Tues., Dec. 13, 2:30 p.m., Rosemont Presbyterian Village Auditorium. Marilyn Irwin leads a discussion of *Cuba and the United States – How will efforts to normalize relations with Cuba evolve in the 21st century?* Marilyn Irwin, marirwin@aol.com.

ADVENT CLASS: HANDEL'S MESSIAH. Wed., Dec. 14, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Led by the Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick, Jeffrey Brillhart and Edward Landin. Together we study the texts that Handel used to create his most iconic work. Our gathering includes performances by our Sanctuary Choir section leaders. CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

BIBLE FOR BEGINNERS. Thurs., Dec. 15, 7:00 p.m., Gloucester Room. Led by the Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick, using *The Bible From Scratch: New Testament for Beginners* by Donald Griggs. Anita Iyengar, aciyengar@gmail.com.

Y-GROUP COOKIE EXCHANGE. Thurs., Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m., home of Krista Vaughan. Celebrate the season at the Y-Group cookie exchange. Guests are asked to bring five dozen cookies - four to share and one to donate. Register: KristaVaughan@yahoo.com.

Caring & Sharing

DECK THE HALLS. Thurs., Dec. 15, 9:30 a.m., Sanctuary. Help our Flower Committee decorate the church with boughs of holly, wreaths, poinsettias, and greens. Patti Hallowell, augustehallowell@mac.com.

CASSEROLE BLITZ. Sat., Dec. 17, 8:30 a.m., Main Kitchen. Family-friendly event to prepare casseroles for homeless shelters. sandiekev@verizon.net.

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. Volunteers are needed to serve lunch at this homeless shelter. Pam Haynes-Walsh, haynes-walsh@comcast.net, 610 667-0972.

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 11, 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
9:00 a.m. Session Meeting to Receive New Members, Gloucester Room
10:00 a.m. **Worship with New Members 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
Advent Gift Market Sales, Ministries Center Court
11:05 a.m. Carillon Tours, Sanctuary Choir Loft
11:15 a.m. Religious Freedom: Past, Present, and Future, Witherspoon Parlor
Fullerton Bible Study: Gospel of Mark, Fullerton Room
4:00 p.m. Sweet Sounds of Christmas Concert, Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. Art Exhibit Reception, Ministries Center Court
6:00 p.m. Young Adult Christmas Party, Pastor Kellen's Manse

Monday, December 12, 2016

- 9:30 a.m. Dance Fit, Gymnasium
Clergy Colleague Group, Converse House Parlor

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

- 9:00 a.m. RePose Yoga, Gymnasium
Tuesday Morning Out, Ed. Bldg.
10:30 a.m. Tai Chi, Gymnasium
1:00 p.m. Dance for Parkinson's Disease, Gymnasium
2:00 p.m. Parkinson's Disease Support Group, Gloucester Room and Witherspoon Parlor
2:30 p.m. Great Decisions, Rosemont Presbyterian Village Auditorium
7:00 p.m. Session Meeting, Gloucester Room

Wednesday, December 14, 2016

- 8:00 a.m. Stewardship Meeting, Conference Room
- 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
Men's Study Group, Converse House Parlor
- 10:30 a.m. Weekday School Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 4:45 p.m. Wednesdays Together Program for grades K - 5, Fine Arts Center
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Congregational Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Chorale, Fine Arts Center
- 7:00 p.m. Student Serve, Loft
Advent Class: Handel's *Messiah*, Sanctuary

Thursday, December 15, 2016

- 10:00 a.m. Artists' Gathering, Gloucester Room
Memoir Writing Class, Fullerton Room
- 11:00 a.m. Senior Exercise Class, Gymnasium
- 6:00 p.m. Personnel Committee, Fullerton Room
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 19, Gymnasium
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Fine Arts Center
Bible for Beginners, Gloucester Room

Friday, December 16, 2016

- 9:00 a.m. Friday Morning Out, Ed. Bldg.
- 9:30 a.m. Dance Fit, Gymnasium
- 10:00 a.m. Weekday School Pageant, Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Children's Spanish Class, Ed. Bldg.

Saturday, December 17, 2016

- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
- 8:30 a.m. Casserole Blitz, Main Kitchen
- 10:00 a.m. Bereavement Group, Middleton Center

Sunday, December 18, 2016

- 8:00 a.m. Worship with Communion, Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary
The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.
Sunday School for age 2 - grade 12.

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

625 Montgomery Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

(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



Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

December 11, 2016
10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome to BMPC

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"I am the resurrection and the life."

Maurice A. Webster ~ November 5, 2016

William H. Wilson ~ December 2, 2016

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Two settings of *Savior of the Nations, Come*

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

Rachel Pedersen

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.

Text and Music © 1993 Bernadette Farrell (Published by OCP).

CALL TO WORSHIP

Eric and Susan Swanson

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

One: The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad.

All: The desert shall rejoice and blossom.

One: They shall see the glory of the Lord and the majesty of our God.

All: For the waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert.

One: A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way.

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 all of creation will be restored. We hear the promise, but it is hard to see restoration when so much feels broken. We light this candle to help us see God's rebuilding; we light these candles so that we might walk in the light of the Lord.

† **HYMN 88**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

CALL TO CONFESSION

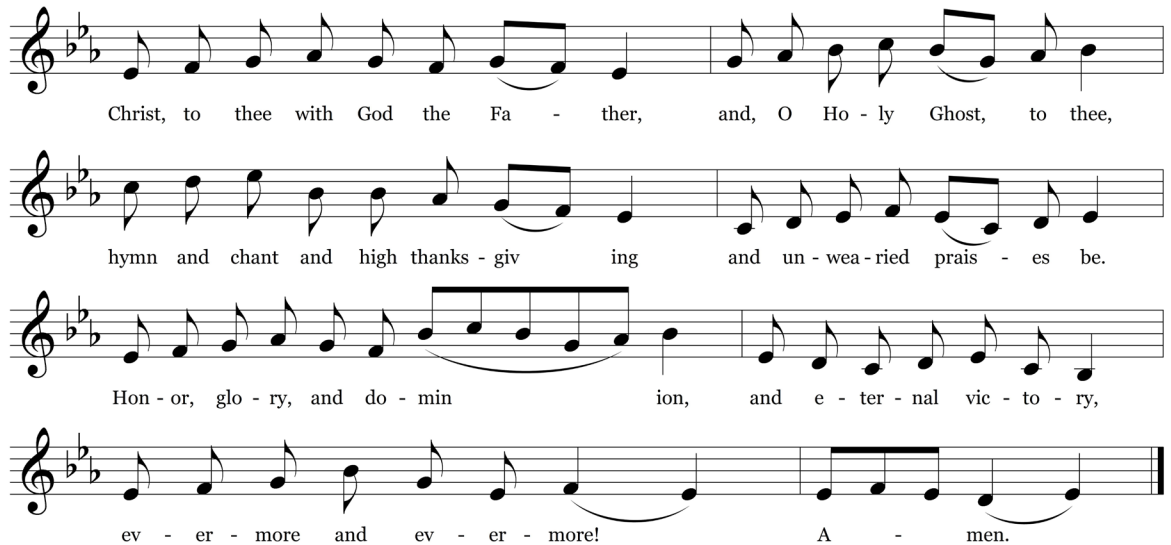
AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Almighty God, you sent your Son into our world
so that his light would banish our darkness.
We claim to rejoice in his light,
yet we have turned away from it in fear.
Forgive us for all selfishness and deceitfulness
that cause us to hide from your ways.
Restore us to the hope and promise of your coming kingdom
that we may walk in your ways.

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 SENDING HYMN

Rachel Pedersen
Go now, Children, with our Blessing

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 LESSONIsaiah 35:1-10 (*p. 663 in pew Bible*)

Richard Wohlschlaeger

ANTHEMA Spotless Rose
Sanctuary Choir

Herbert Howells

A spotless Rose is blowing, sprung from a tender root, of ancient seers' foreshowing
of Jesse's promised fruit; Its fairest bud unfolds to light amid the cold, cold winter,
and in the dark midnight. The Rose which I am singing, whereof Isaiah said, is
from its sweet root springing in Mary, purest Maid; For through our God's great
love and might, the Blessed Babe she bare us in a cold, cold winter's night.

SECOND LESSONMatthew 11:2-11 (*p. 11 in pew Bible*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

SERMON

The Light of Holiness
Third in Advent Series *Christ, Be Our Light!*

Agnes W. Norfleet

† **HYMN** 100 My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

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*

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Agnes W. Norfleet

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

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence
Sanctuary Choir

Gustav Holst

Text: Hymn 347, verses 1-4

*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** 106 Prepare the Way, O Zion BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

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

POSTLUDE Pièce d'orgue, BWV 572 J.S. Bach

Worship Notes

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Maurice L. Clancy

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

Kimberly Fazio
Anne Grauer
Donna Leonard
Kelly Monahan
Sharon Wall

GREETING AND HOSTING

Members of the Coffee Cup Bible Study Group

PLAYING THE CARILLON

Bob Holmes

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 A Visit © 2015 John August Swanson | Eyekons

Special Events During Advent

SWEET SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS. Today, Dec. 11, 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary. This concert celebrates the joys of the Advent and Christmas seasons and features the entire family of BMPC choirs as well as one of the great brass ensembles in America, the Philadelphia Brass. Thirty-minute carillon prelude by Lisa Lonie. Free-will offering.

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY. Sun., Dec. 18, 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. Register by Dec. 16 to AmyBauer@bmpc.org, ext. 8821.

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. Helpers 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 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

CARILLON TOUR. 11:05 a.m., Choir Loft. Come see the instrument that welcomes you to worship and sends you out. Carillon tours are held on the second Sunday of each month; meet in the Choir Loft following the postlude to climb the tower stairs and see the bells.

YOUTH MISSION TRIPS INFO MEETING. 11:15 a.m., Gloucester Room. Youth and parents are invited to learn about our exciting middle school (Philadelphia) and high school (New Mexico) mission trips planned for summer 2017.

ANNUAL YOUNG ADULTS CHRISTMAS PARTY. 6:00 p.m., Pastor Kellen's Manse (127 Radnor St.). KellenSmith@bmpc.org, ext. 8822.

ADVENT GIFT MARKET. Sundays through Dec. 18, 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 on Sundays or online at www.bmpc.org > Outreach > Advent Gift Market. Order forms also may be dropped off at the Receptionist Desk with check during the week. Marian Chitester, mmcthistle@verizon.net.

FULLERTON BIBLE STUDY: GOSPEL OF MARK. Sundays through Dec. 18, 11:15 a.m., Fullerton Room. The Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray walks us through this Gospel that gives us the very essence of Jesus' life and ministry. CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE. Sundays through Dec. 18, 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.

LAST CALL FOR CHRISTMAS ANGELS. Share the Christmas spirit with children of the Village by adopting a family or sponsoring a child (5 - 8 gifts per child). Sign up online (<http://bit.ly/2ePhUBF>) or in the Ministries Center Court and bring gifts to collection bins in the Ministries Center and Education Building today. Betty Wu, efwu01@gmail.com, 610-449-8059.

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, 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 today through Sun., Dec. 18, 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. Artists' reception today after our Christmas choir concert. StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org, ext. 8836.

This Week

GREAT DECISIONS. Tues., Dec. 13, 2:30 p.m., Rosemont Presbyterian Village Auditorium. Marilyn Irwin leads a discussion of *Cuba and the United States – How will efforts to normalize relations with Cuba evolve in the 21st century?* Marilyn Irwin, marirwin@aol.com.

ADVENT CLASS: HANDEL'S MESSIAH. Wed., Dec. 14, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Led by the Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick, Jeffrey Brillhart and Edward Landin. Together we study the texts that Handel used to create his most iconic work. Our gathering includes performances by our Sanctuary Choir section leaders. CarolSchmidt@bmpc.org, ext. 8819.

BIBLE FOR BEGINNERS. Thurs., Dec. 15, 7:00 p.m., Gloucester Room. Led by the Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick, using *The Bible From Scratch: New Testament for Beginners* by Donald Griggs. Anita Iyengar, aciyengar@gmail.com.

Y-GROUP COOKIE EXCHANGE. Thurs., Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m., home of Krista Vaughan. Celebrate the season at the Y-Group cookie exchange. Guests are asked to bring five dozen cookies - four to share and one to donate. Register: KristaVaughan@yahoo.com.

Caring & Sharing

DECK THE HALLS. Thurs., Dec. 15, 9:30 a.m., Sanctuary. Help our Flower Committee decorate the church with boughs of holly, wreaths, poinsettias, and greens. Patti Hallowell, augustehallowell@mac.com.

CASSEROLE BLITZ. Sat., Dec. 17, 8:30 a.m., Main Kitchen. Family-friendly event to prepare casseroles for homeless shelters. sandiekev@verizon.net.

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. Volunteers are needed to serve lunch at this homeless shelter. Pam Haynes-Walsh, haynes-walsh@comcast.net, 610 667-0972.

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 11, 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
9:00 a.m. Session Meeting to Receive New Members, Gloucester Room
10:00 a.m. **Worship with New Members 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
Advent Gift Market Sales, Ministries Center Court
11:05 a.m. Carillon Tours, Sanctuary Choir Loft
11:15 a.m. Religious Freedom: Past, Present, and Future, Witherspoon Parlor
Fullerton Bible Study: Gospel of Mark, Fullerton Room
4:00 p.m. Sweet Sounds of Christmas Concert, Sanctuary
5:30 p.m. Art Exhibit Reception, Ministries Center Court
6:00 p.m. Young Adult Christmas Party, Pastor Kellen's Manse

Monday, December 12, 2016

- 9:30 a.m. Dance Fit, Gymnasium
Clergy Colleague Group, Converse House Parlor

Tuesday, December 13, 2016

- 9:00 a.m. RePose Yoga, Gymnasium
Tuesday Morning Out, Ed. Bldg.
10:30 a.m. Tai Chi, Gymnasium
1:00 p.m. Dance for Parkinson's Disease, Gymnasium
2:00 p.m. Parkinson's Disease Support Group, Gloucester Room and Witherspoon Parlor
2:30 p.m. Great Decisions, Rosemont Presbyterian Village Auditorium
7:00 p.m. Session Meeting, Gloucester Room

Wednesday, December 14, 2016

- 8:00 a.m. Stewardship Meeting, Conference Room
- 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
Men's Study Group, Converse House Parlor
- 10:30 a.m. Weekday School Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 4:45 p.m. Wednesdays Together Program for grades K - 5, Fine Arts Center
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Congregational Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Youth Chorale, Fine Arts Center
- 7:00 p.m. Student Serve, Loft
Advent Class: Handel's *Messiah*, Sanctuary

Thursday, December 15, 2016

- 10:00 a.m. Artists' Gathering, Gloucester Room
Memoir Writing Class, Fullerton Room
- 11:00 a.m. Senior Exercise Class, Gymnasium
- 6:00 p.m. Personnel Committee, Fullerton Room
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 19, Gymnasium
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Fine Arts Center
Bible for Beginners, Gloucester Room

Friday, December 16, 2016

- 9:00 a.m. Friday Morning Out, Ed. Bldg.
- 9:30 a.m. Dance Fit, Gymnasium
- 10:00 a.m. Weekday School Pageant, Sanctuary
- 4:00 p.m. Children's Spanish Class, Ed. Bldg.

Saturday, December 17, 2016

- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
- 8:30 a.m. Casserole Blitz, Main Kitchen
- 10:00 a.m. Bereavement Group, Middleton Center

Sunday, December 18, 2016

- 8:00 a.m. Worship with Communion, Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary
The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.
Sunday School for age 2 - grade 12.

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

625 Montgomery Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

(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