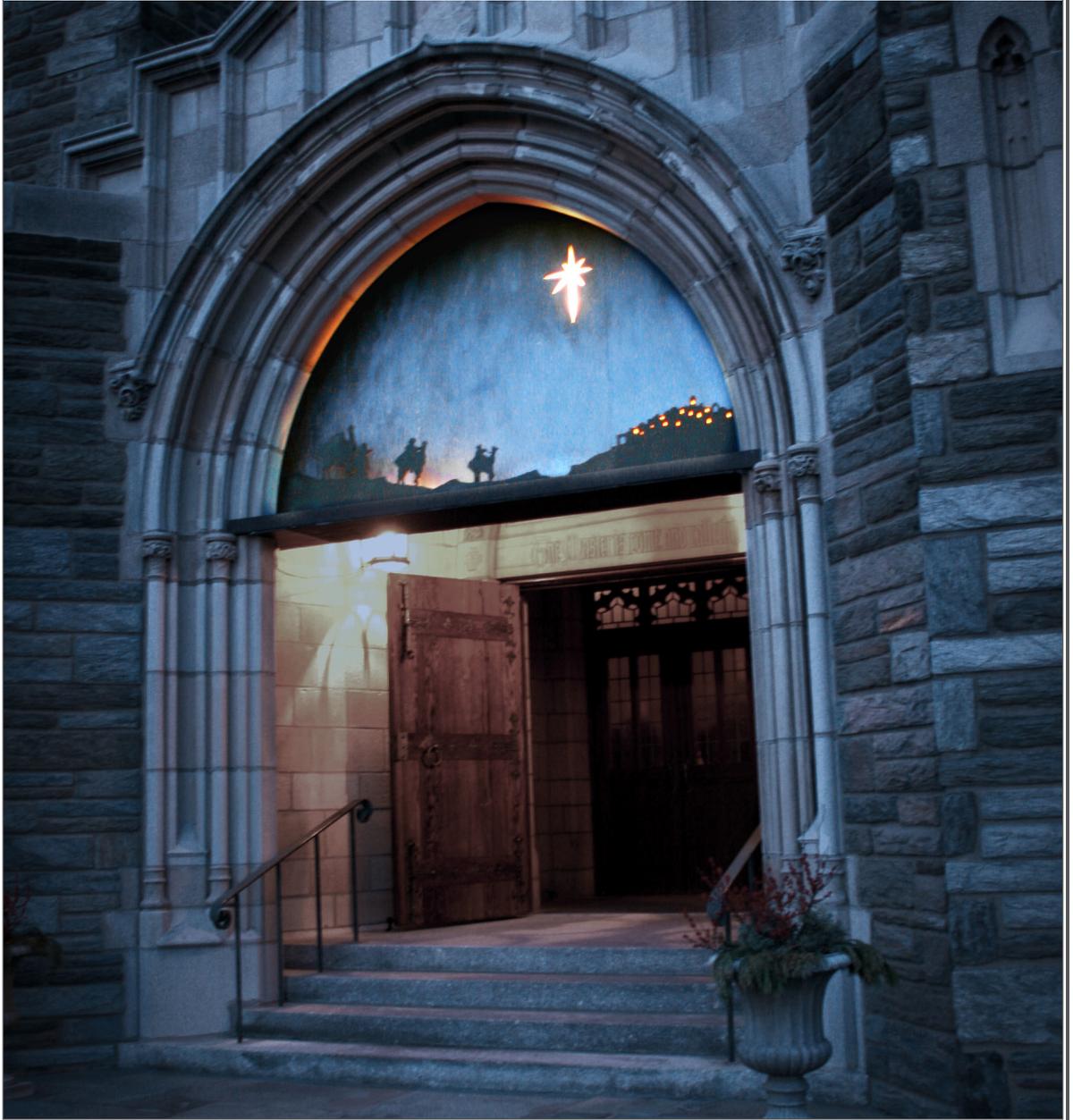


Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 11, 2022 | 8:00 a.m., Chapel

Third Sunday of Advent



WELCOME

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 following the Worship Service. All of our programs, ministries, and opportunities for mission are open to everyone. Come join us!

LIVESTREAMED CHURCH SERVICES

In addition to in-person worship, the 10:00 Sunday Worship Service is available to watch on our livestreaming page: www.bmpc.org/livestream. For your convenience, the service also will be posted on our Worship Services page on Monday.

CHILDCARE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

Childcare is available on Sundays from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for children ages six months and older. See Sunday School class information on this page. Please contact Childcare Coordinator Rebecca Kellich at childcare@bmpc.org with any questions.

WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER

Subscribe to our BMPC eNews by visiting our website: www.bmpc.org.

Today's Schedule

Childcare (infant - age 5)

7:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101

Worship with Sanctuary Choir

10:00 a.m.

Sunday School Classes

Age 2 - PreK

10:00 a.m., Ed. Bldg.

Grades K - 5

10:00 a.m., Worship in Sanctuary

10:15 a.m., Ed. Bldg.

Youth Gathering

10:00 a.m., Gymnasium

Atrium Café

11:00 a.m., Atrium

BMPC Members

Art Exhibit

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.,

Art Gallery, Ministries Center

Advent, Isaiah and Our Jewish Neighbors

11:15 a.m., Fullerton Room

Rainbow Reindeer Games

11:30 a.m., Gymnasium

"Messiah" Sing-In

3:00 p.m., Sanctuary

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Brian K. Ballard

† LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Jean Bay

One: People of faith, the Lord is our strength, our song, and our salvation.

All: We journey toward Bethlehem to offer the gifts of our lives.

One: For long years, the children of God have embarked on a pilgrimage;

All: We travel with saints of ages past toward the light of God's redeeming love.

One: We trust our path is illumined by the promise of a Savior,

All: Who will cause righteousness and praise to resound before the nations.

One: May this tiny flame hold back the darkness,

All: And lead us forward in hope to God's glorious light.

† HYMN 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

VENI EMMANUEL

CALL TO CONFESSION

AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

God of love, you invite us to a path of faithful service, and yet we have not always used our gifts for the common good. We have been impatient, neglected to share with those most in need, and failed to hold fast to what is true. Restore us to journey down your holy way, doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with you.

A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUNG RESPONSE

On Those Who Sit In Darkness

MERLE'S TUNE

On those who sit in darkness the sun begins to rise, the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes. God guides the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace.

O Bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

HEARING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Jean Bay

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

SECOND LESSON Matthew 2:1-12 (*pg. 2 in pew Bible*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Down the Holy Way

Agnes W. Norfleet

Journey to Bethlehem Advent Series

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Brian K. Ballard

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 offering when you come forward.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

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.

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Agnes W. Norfleet

† HYMN 84 Creator of the Stars of Night CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

† SENDING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

WORSHIP NOTES

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AT NOON

Grace Kennedy Schoeman
Daughter of Michaela and Gary Schoeman

ASSISTING WITH COMMUNION

Jean Bay, Deacon

USHERING

Tom Willcox

Christmas Eve Services

CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE. 4:30 p.m., Sanctuary and Livestreamed. Family Service with Nativity Tableau and musical leadership by BMPC's Children's Choir, Youth Chorale and the Bryn Mawr Festival Brass. Prelude begins at 4:15 p.m. Infant and toddler childcare available without reservations from 3:45-5:45 p.m. in the Education Building, Room 101.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS. 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary and Livestreamed. Carols and anthems led by BMPC's Sanctuary Choir and Mainline Musicians. The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach. Prelude begins at 7:10 p.m.

Announcements

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY. We are looking for volunteers to serve at our reception desk on the ground floor of the Ministries Center during weekdays. This position serves as a "minister of first impressions," helping to answer phones and welcome guests who visit our campus or church offices. To learn more, please contact Liz Ellis, LizEllis@bmpc.org.

FAMILY AND FRIENDS CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS EVE! Family and friends are invited to rehearse and learn a simple setting of "Ding, Dong! Merrily on High" to sing together with both the Children's Choir and Youth Chorale at the 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service. Open to siblings, parents, college students home from school, and more! Please contact Edward Landin Senn to express your interest or ask any questions: EdwardLandinSenn@bmpc.org.

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE. Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge for 2023! Your thoughtful and generous support of our ministries and programs makes it possible for hope to grow here and in the community and in the world. If you have not yet made a pledge, we ask that you prayerfully consider how you would like to support our work in the coming year. You may complete a pledge card found in the pews and place it in the offering plate, mail the pledge card from home, or pledge online: <https://www.bmpc.org/giving/annual-stewardship>. Thank you!

Today

ADVENT GIFT MARKET. 11:15 a.m., Atrium. AGM provides the opportunity to purchase alternative gifts at Christmas for friends and family in support of a wide variety of partners around the world. AGM representatives will be present in the Atrium before and after worship to place orders as well as answer questions about mission groups and their chosen projects. Orders also may be placed online: www.brynmawragm.com.

UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN: ADVENT, ISAIAH AND OUR JEWISH NEIGHBORS. Today and Sunday, Dec. 18, 11:15 a.m., Fullerton Room. Drawing upon the insights from Tyler Mayfield's book, *Unto Us A Child is Born: Advent, Isaiah and our Jewish Neighbors*, the Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick and Rabbi David Straus, former senior rabbi at Main Line Reform Temple, will lead a three-week conversation about the different historical and theological understandings of the most iconic passages from the Book of Isaiah. RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org.

RAINBOW REINDEER GAMES. 11:30 a.m., Gymnasium. All youth (grades 6-12) are invited to join in the fun, games, and color powder shenanigans we have planned for our Rainbow Reindeer Games this year! To register, visit <https://bit.ly/Rainbowgames>.

MESSIAH SING-IN. 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Lift up your voices with the Singing City Choir and the BMPC Sanctuary Choir as we sing choruses from this timeless oratorio. Featuring Elizabeth Weigle, soprano; Valerie Haber, soprano; Misoon Ghim, mezzo-soprano; Siddhartha Misra, tenor; Nicholas Provenzale, baritone; and Nate Zullinger, conductor. Tickets are \$21 for adults and \$11 for students and may be purchased through the Singing City Choir website: <https://bit.ly/BMPCMessiah>.

This Week

ADVENT HARPSICORD RECITALS. Tuesdays, Dec. 13 and 20, noon, Sanctuary. Featuring Kathleen Scheide, Anna Kislitsyna, Alexandr Kislitsyn, and Torsten Fras, performing free 30-minute recitals on BMPC's William Dowd harpsichord.

FALL YOGA206 BONE BOOST SESSION. Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m., through Dec. 21, Gymnasium. Geared to persons proactive about strengthening bones or those with bone-loss medical conditions. Participants age 50+ must be able to safely sit on and rise from a mat. Cost: \$91. COVID-19 vaccination required. For information, email Abby Contract at YOGA206@icloud.com.

QUIET PRAYER IN ADVENT. Wed., Dec. 14, 7:00 - 7:45 p.m., Middleton Center, Room 200. Amidst the busyness of the Advent season, this is a time for contemplative guided prayer which will include Scripture readings, space for reflection, and a time of communal silence. Caring Ministry team members and Deacons will lead these sessions. KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org.

ADVENT STORY PATH LABYRINTH. Walking a labyrinth during Advent provides a meaningful way to journey to Bethlehem. The small labyrinth is open daily during Advent, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Chapel. An Advent labyrinth booklet is available.

Upcoming

WEE CHRISTMAS. Tues., Dec. 20, 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Designed for children ages 2 - 5 years 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.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE. Wed., Dec. 21, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary and via livestream. This contemplative worship service is for anyone yearning for comfort amid personal grief and hope for a more peaceful world. A meditation by the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will be accompanied by prayer, the singing of carols and lighting candles to lead us through darkness toward healing and wholeness. A labyrinth on the Education Building Lawn invites walkers following the service, weather permitting.

CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH ALUMNI PARTY. Tues., Dec. 24, 6:00 p.m., Youth Lounge. Worship on Christmas Eve is made even more special by seeing those who grew up at BMPC and now are back home for the holidays. All are encouraged to attend! LeighDeVries@bmpc.org.

ADD THIS SPECIAL EVENT TO YOUR 2023 CALENDAR! Sun., Jan. 8, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary and Atrium. Join us in celebrating Jeffrey Brillhart's 40 years of service to BMPC during the 10:00 a.m. worship and a reception in the Atrium following the service. At noon a luncheon will be served in Congregational Hall to celebrate Jeff's four decades; limited seating is available at \$20 per person. RSVP deadline: Dec. 18. Contact PatrickHowley@bmpc.org or EdwardLandinSenn@bmpc.org for details.

Caring and Sharing

CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING. Supporting past, present and future leaders! A Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s, this Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges that serve communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Look for offering envelopes in the pew holders on Dec. 11 and 18, or note “Christmas Joy” on the memo line of your check.

REFUGEE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES. The BMPC Refugee Support Team is seeking volunteers in their ongoing work with local refugee families. Opportunities include English language conversation practice, tutoring for elementary school children, employment mentoring, and transportation assistance. Families are located in Bryn Mawr, Ardmore and Overbrook. If you wish to become involved in this vital and rewarding work, contact RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org.

SUPPORTING IMMIGRANTS AND ASYLUM SEEKERS IN PHILADELPHIA. In partnership with West Kensington Ministries, the BMPC Refugee Support Team is collecting items needed to support immigrants and asylum seekers who are being transported from the southern border to Philadelphia. The following items may be dropped off in the collection bin in the Ministries Center vestibule near the church offices. Donations of new sweatpants, sweaters, socks, gloves, scarves, hats or underwear in any size are needed. The collection runs through the end of December. AliciaFranklin@bmpc.org.

Calendar

Sunday, December 11

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.	Filling the Well, Ed. Bldg., Children's Library
9:00	a.m.	Art @ 9, Ed. Bldg., Rm. 102 Sunday School, Virtual
10:00	a.m.	Sunday School Ages 2, 3, and Pre-K, Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101 Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary, and Livestreamed Service on www.bmpc.org Youth Gathering, Gymnasium
10:15	a.m.	Sunday School K - 5th Grade, Ed. Bldg.
11:00	a.m.	Atrium Café, Atrium Family Fellowship, Ed. Bldg. Lobby Advent Story Path Labyrinth, Children's Chapel Rainbow Reindeer Games, Gymnasium
11:15	a.m.	Advent, Isaiah and Our Jewish Neighbors, Fullerton Room
12:00	p.m.	Baptism Service, Chapel
3:00	p.m.	Handel's "Messiah" Sing-In, Sanctuary

Monday, December 12

7:00	p.m.	Discover BMPC Class, Witherspoon Parlor
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Tuesday, December 13

8:30	a.m.	RePose Yoga, Gymnasium
9:15	a.m.	Y-Group Coffee and Advent Workshop Prep, Ed. Bldg., Rm. 102
10:30	a.m.	Tai Chi, Gymnasium and Virtual
12:00	p.m.	Advent Harpsichord Recital Series, Sanctuary
1:00	p.m.	Dance for Parkinson's Class, Gymnasium
2:30	p.m.	Parkinson's Support Group, Cannon Room
7:00	p.m.	Session Meeting, Fullerton Room

Wednesday, December 14

10:00	a.m.	Coffee Cup Bible Study, Cannon Room Men's Study Group, Converse Parlor & Library Yoga206 Bone Boost, Gymnasium
4:45	p.m.	Wednesdays Together, Sanctuary
5:30	p.m.	Wednesday Night Dinners, Congregational Hall
5:45	p.m.	Youth Chorale, Fine Arts Center
6:00	p.m.	Property Committee Meeting, Gloucester Room
6:30	p.m.	Handbell Ensemble, Fine Arts Center
7:00	p.m.	Quiet Prayer for Advent, Middleton Center, Room 200

Thursday, December 15

10:00	a.m.	Thursday Book Group, Virtual
11:00	a.m.	Artist's Gathering, Fine Arts Center
7:00	p.m.	Hunger Committee Meeting, Gloucester Room

Friday, December 16

No Events Scheduled.

Saturday, December 17

7:00	a.m.	Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
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Sunday, December 18

8:00	a.m.	Worship with Communion, Chapel
10:00	a.m.	Worship with Baptism & Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary, and Livestreamed Service on www.bmpc.org The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.

Worship Staff

Agnes W. Norfleet, Pastor

Brian K. Ballard, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care & Senior Adults

Leigh DeVries, Associate Pastor for Youth & Their Families

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

Jeffrey Brillhart, Director of Music & Fine Arts

Edward Landin Senn, Assistant Director of Music

Contact Information



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www.facebook.com/BrynMawrPres

www.instagram.com/BrynMawrPres

www.twitter.com/BrynMawrPres

www.youtube.com/user/brynmawrpres

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

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

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