



***Bryn Mawr  
Presbyterian Church***

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December 22, 2019  
8:00 a.m., Chapel  
Fourth Sunday of Advent

# WELCOME TO BMPC

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

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

7:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Fullerton Room, Ministries Center

### **8:00 a.m. Worship, Chapel**

#### **Art @ 9**

Ages 3 - Grade 5

8:45 a.m., Conference Room

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

**NEW HERE?** We are pleased that you are joining us as we worship God this morning. Information about our programs is available near the main entrance. We invite you to participate in any of our programs, ministries and mission opportunities, as they are open to all.

**JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP.** Stop by the Ministries Center Court for coffee between 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. and join us for coffee and fellowship in the Gymnasium after the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service.

**TO ASSIST YOU DURING WORSHIP.** Children's bulletins with crayons may be found near the main entrance. If you are unable to come forward for Communion, please let an usher or server know, and Communion will be brought to you.

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 AROUND THE WORD

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

Franklyn C. Pottorff

## CALL TO WORSHIP

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Patricia Danzon

One: Last night was the winter solstice, the longest night of the year.

**All: Come, Lord Jesus. Illumine our days  
As light shining in darkness.**

One: Today we light all four Advent candles.

**All: Their brightness recalls God's glory that shone over  
Bethlehem.**

One: "Do not be afraid," the angels said to the shepherds.

**All: And the angels sang, "Glory to God in the highest,  
And on earth, peace."**

One: May the hope of Christ's coming bless us with a spirit of rejoicing,

**All: That we may be unafraid to welcome the Light of the world.**

One: For the Mighty One has done great things!

**All: And holy is God's name!**

† HYMN 106

Prepare the Way, O Zion

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

## CALL TO CONFESSION

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

God who comes to us in glory, we have turned away from you,  
neglecting the welfare of your creation, ignoring the plight of your people,  
and not doing all that we could to serve our neighbors in need.

Caught up in our own desires, we know our need for your forgiveness.

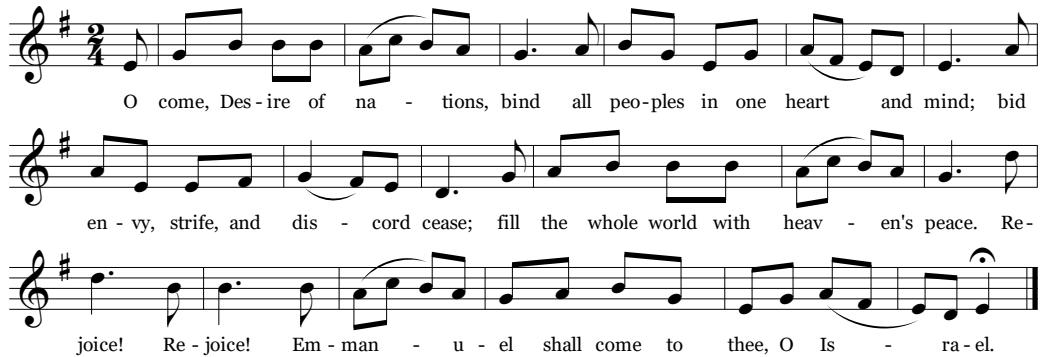
Have mercy upon us, O God.

Speak peace to our fearful hearts, and strengthen our wayward spirits  
as we seek to follow in your holy way.

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

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE



O come, Des - ire of na - tions, bind all peo - ples in one heart and mind; bid  
en - vy, strife, and dis - cord cease; fill the whole world with heav - en's peace. Re -  
joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

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## HEARING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Patricia Danzon

### FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 7:10-16 (*p. 636 in pew Bible*)

Patricia Danzon

### SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:1-7 (*p. 58 in pew Bible*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

*Hopes and Fears*

Agnes W. Norfleet

Fourth in Advent Series on the Radical Hope of Carols

† HYMN 121

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS

# RESPONSE TO THE WORD

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Franklyn C. Pottorff

*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 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

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 123

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

† SENDING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## POSTLUDE

## **Worship Notes**

### **CHRISTMAS EVE CHAPEL GARDEN FLOWERS**

Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
Sally Skillman Odiorne  
Mr. and Mrs. Sydney A. Skillman  
Susan A. Skillman

### **ASSISTING WITH COMMUNION**

Deacon Patricia Danzon

### **USHERING**

Elder Tom Willcox

### **ADVENT SERMON SERIES**

In the sweet familiarity of the carols we sing, do we still hear the radical hope they proclaim? This series considers how the biblical texts and carols together prepare us to receive the amazing in-breaking power of God, as we attend anew to *Joy to the World, Of the Father's Love Begotten, 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime* and *O Little Town of Bethlehem*.

### **BULLETIN COVER**

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## **Christmas Eve Services**

**CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE.** 4:30 p.m., Sanctuary. Family Service with Nativity Tableau (infant and toddler childcare available without reservations in the Ministries Center).

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

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS.** 11:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols with the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet. Prelude begins at 10:30 p.m.

## **Announcements**

**REMINDER.** When you are changing batteries on Christmas decorations and gifts, bring the discarded ones to the Ministries Center. Our Environmental Justice Committee disposes of batteries in a safe and environmentally-friendly way. Container is on the bottom shelf of the bookshelf next to the Reception Desk.

**BOOK CENTER CHRISTMAS SPECIALS!** Great selection of books for children and adults! Visit our table during coffee and fellowship in the Gymnasium.

**ORGAN RECORDING FOR SALE.** Renowned organist Aaron Tan, a student of Jeffrey Brillhart, recorded a CD on our Rieger organ, and we have them for sale for \$15 each. The CD includes works by Jongen, Demessieux, Bonnal, Tchaikovsky, Karg-Elert, Bizet and Vierne. Cash payments or checks payable to Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church will be accepted. Contact StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org to purchase.

## **Today**

**ADVENT GIFT MARKET.** 11:00-12:30 p.m., Gymnasium. Representatives are available to receive AGM orders. Online orders must be placed by 8:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve. <http://bit.ly/2019AdventGiftMarket>.

## **This Week**

**CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH ALUMNI GATHERING.** Tues., Dec. 24, 9:30 p.m., Converse House Parlor. Worship on Christmas Eve is made even more special by meeting with those who grew up at BMPC and now are home for the holidays. Join old friends after the 8:30 p.m. and before the 11:00 p.m. services. [MaryRichards@bmpc.org](mailto:MaryRichards@bmpc.org).

## Upcoming

**SPECIAL GUEST AT REFUGEE SUPPORT COMMITTEE MEETING.** Thurs., Jan. 2, 6:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. Cathryn Miller-Wilson, executive director of HIAS-Pennsylvania, a national organization with a distinguished history of providing legal and social services to low-income refugees and immigrants, will discuss the recent proposals to open new ICE facilities in the Philadelphia area.

**SANCTUARY CHOIR OPEN REHEARSAL.** Do you have questions about joining our Sanctuary Choir? On the first Thursday of every month we have an open rehearsal for visitors to drop in and try it out. Your next opportunity is Thurs., Jan. 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center. Contact StephanieSpeakman@bmpe.org if you plan to attend.

**SUNDAY MORNING DISCUSSION GROUP.** Sundays, Jan. 5, 12, and 19, 8:45 a.m., Congregational Hall. The Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray leads a study of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7), Jesus' most important teachings.

**EVERY FAMILY IS A STORY.** Sun., Jan. 5, 11:15 a.m., Chapel. The Rev. Debra Sutton, Middleton Center counselor and trauma specialist, leads us through a Family Systems approach to the Rev. Dr. Serene Jones' memoir, *Call It Grace*. Dr. Jones is our Theologian-in-Residence in late January, and her presentation is part of our celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Middleton Counseling Center.

**FAMILY CAREGIVER DEMENTIA WORKSHOP.** The Main Line Adult Day Center will host its fifth annual Family Caregiver Dementia Workshop on Sat., Jan. 11 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This free workshop provides a forum for individuals to learn new strategies for helping their relatives with dementia, such as how to make the home safer, resources for acquiring adaptive equipment, and strategies to promote participation in activities. Light lunch included. Space is limited; registration required. LizDyke@mladc.com.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. SPEAKER: THE REV. DR. CHARLES H. HOWARD.** Sun., Jan. 12, 11:15 a.m., Chapel. Dr. Howard, Chaplain at the University of Pennsylvania, is the editor of *The Souls of Poor Folk*, which explores new ways of considering homelessness and poverty; *The Awe and The Awful*, a poetry collection and Lenten Devotional; *Black Theology as Mass Movement*, a call to theologians to expand the reach of their theological work; and *Pond River Ocean Rain*, a small book about going deeper with a big God.

**Y-GROUP MEETING.** Tues., Jan. 14, 9:15-11:00 a.m., Congregational Hall. Spirituality in Family Life. Abby Pottorff, ygroupbmpe@gmail.com.

**HOLY LEISURE.** Fri., Jan. 17, 6:00-9:00 p.m., home of Barbara Cobb, Wayne. Join old and new friends for a potluck dinner and fellowship. The Rev. Margaret Somerville, Associate Pastor of Gladwyne Presbyterian Church, hosts our discussion, "Hold, Hands, Opening Hearts & Minds." Register: <http://bit.ly/HolyLeisureJan2020> and include your food or drink contribution.



## **Save the Date**

**HIGH SCHOOL SABBATH RETREAT.** Fri., Jan. 24-Sun., Jan. 26, North Bay Adventure Camp, Md., offers a weekend where youth can enjoy hiking, zip lines, small group fellowship, and worship together. Cost: \$299. Feel free to invite friends! Register online at [www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org) > Calendar > Open Registrations. Scholarship assistance readily available for all trips and events. [MaryRichards@bmpc.org](mailto:MaryRichards@bmpc.org).

## **Caring & Sharing**

**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING.** Support 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 that provides critical financial support to church workers and their families, and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges that serve communities of color. Look for offering envelopes in the pew holders today or note “Christmas Joy” on the memo line of your check.

**COLD WEATHER IS UPON US! UPCOMING COLLECTIONS OF WINTER CLOTHES.** In January we are collecting winter coats for Broad Street Ministry and hats, gloves and scarves for children who attend the Tutoring Program. Donations may be placed in the collection bins located near the entrance to the Ministries Center.

**THANK YOU.** Your donations of frozen turkeys, hams and non-perishable food are greatly appreciated. During the past six weeks, the BMPC Hunger Committee distributed more than 50 turkeys and hams through our partner organizations. We continue to collect and distribute non-perishable food as well as funds donated through the Hunger Fund envelopes in the pews. Food scarcity persists in our community, and your ongoing support of the church’s hunger ministry is much appreciated.

# *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 22

- 7:45 a.m. Childcare, Fullerton Room  
8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**  
8:45 a.m. Art @ 9, Conference Room  
10:00 a.m. **Worship with Baptism and Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary**  
Sunday School for age 2, Gloucester Room  
Sunday School for age 3, Witherspoon Parlor  
Sunday School for Pre-K, Middleton Center, Rm. 200  
Grades K - 5 Begin Worship in the Sanctuary  
10:15 a.m. Sunday School for Grade K, Middleton Center, Rm. 202  
Sunday School for Grades 1 & 2, Congregational Hall  
Sunday School for Grade 3, Middleton Center, Rm. 301  
Sunday School for Grades 4-5, Converse House Parlor  
11:00 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship, Gymnasium  
Advent Gift Market, Gymnasium

## Monday, December 23

*No scheduled activities.*

## Tuesday, December 24

- 4:30 p.m. **Christmas Eve Service with Tableau, Sanctuary**  
8:30 p.m. **Christmas Eve Worship with Communion, Sanctuary**  
9:30 p.m. Youth Alumni Christmas Eve Reunion, Converse House Parlor  
11:00 p.m. **Christmas Eve Service of Lessons and Carols, Sanctuary**

## Wednesday, December 25

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

## Thursday, December 26

- 11:00 a.m. Artists' Gathering, Fine Arts Center

## Friday, December 27

*No scheduled activities.*

**Saturday, December 28**

7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Mens' Group, Converse House Parlor

10:00 a.m. Searching for Still Waters Bereavement Group, Middleton Center, Rm. 202

**Sunday, December 29**

8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**

10:00 a.m. **Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary**

The Rev. Franklyn C. Pottorff will preach.

## Renovations Update

**Daytime Traffic Patterns:** Each weekday from 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., the driveway between the Chapel and the Sanctuary will be *one way*, with cars exiting onto Montgomery Avenue. This adjustment allows for the safe movement of children from the Weekday School during drop-off and pick-up. Please use the driveway between the Ministries Center and the Sanctuary to enter the campus from Montgomery Avenue during these weekday hours.

For more renovation updates, please visit us at:  
[www.bmpc.org/welcome/renovation-updates](http://www.bmpc.org/welcome/renovation-updates)

*This box will be updated regularly to keep you informed about how the renovation process is impacting our ministries and programs.*



## 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



**Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church**

625 Montgomery Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

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