



***Bryn Mawr
Presbyterian Church***

December 22, 2019
10:00 a.m., Sanctuary
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

10:00 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary

Age 2 - PreK Classes

10:00 a.m., Ministries Center

Grades K - 5 Classes

10:00 a.m., Worship in Sanctuary

10:15 a.m., Ministries Center

Coffee & Fellowship

11:00 a.m., Gymnasium

Advent Gift Market

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 to one of our pastors in the Narthex following the worship 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 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. Large print bulletins, back pillows and hearing assistance devices are available; ask an usher. Children's bulletins with crayons may be found near the main entrance.

SUNDAY SCHOOL. We are pleased to offer education opportunities for all ages, listed in this bulletin. **Grades K-5** worship with their families in the Sanctuary before being dismissed to Sunday School. If this is your first Sunday, please accompany your child to the Ministries Center.

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

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Contemplation on "St. Louis"

A.D. Miller

WELCOME

Brian K. Ballard

ADVENT INTROIT (*please remain seated*)

O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Noone Family

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

† **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 AND
THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Rachel Pedersen
Elder Gene Chang with Charlie Collett

One: Do we, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture this child by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of His church?

All: We do.

SENDING HYMN 188

Jesus Loves Me! (verse 1)

JESUS LOVES ME

During the Sending Hymn, children Grades K - 5 depart for their Sunday School classes

FIRST LESSON

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

Franklyn C. Pottorff

ANTHEM

Locus Iste
Sanctuary Choir

Anton Bruckner

This place was made by God, a priceless sacrament; it is without reproach.

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
Fourth in Advent Series on the Radical Hope of Carols

Agnes W. Norfleet

† **HYMN** 121

O Little Town of Bethlehem

ST. LOUIS

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(in unison)*

Leigh DeVries

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.

~ A Declaration of Faith

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Joys Seven
Sanctuary Choir

Stephen Cleobury

The first good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of one, to see the blessed Jesus Christ when He was first her son; good man, and blessed may he be; both Father, Son and Holy Ghost to all eternity. The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of two, to see her own son Jesus Christ to make the lame to go. The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of three, to see her own son Jesus Christ to make the blind to see. The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of four, to see her own son Jesus Christ to read the Bible o'er. The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of five, to see her own son Jesus Christ to bring the dead alive. The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of six, to see her own son Jesus Christ upon the crucifix. The next good joy that Mary had, it was the joy of seven, to see her own son Jesus Christ to wear the crown of heaven.

*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**
- † **HYMN 123** It Came Upon the Midnight Clear CAROL
- † **BENEDICTION WITH CHORAL RESPONSE** Agnes W. Norfleet
- POSTLUDE** Prepare the Royal Highway Emma Lou Diemer

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

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Everly Scott van Roden, daughter of
 Whitney Mills van Roden & John Crosby van Roden III

GREETING

Members of our Deacons

PLAYING THE CARILLON

Owen Yoder, Paul McConnell, Rob Mygatt

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.

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@bmpc.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, ygroupbmpc@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 > Calendar > Open Registrations. Scholarship assistance readily available for all trips and events. 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, call the church office, or contact 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

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



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www.bmpc.org

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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