

# *Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church*

Sunday, September 3, 2023 | 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost



# 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 in the Atrium 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 Sunday Worship Services are available to watch live at 10:00 a.m. on our live-streaming page: [www.bmpc.org/livestream](http://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 Pastor Rachel, [RachelPedersen@bmpc.org](mailto:RachelPedersen@bmpc.org) or Childcare Coordinator Erika Henry at [childcare@bmpc.org](mailto:childcare@bmpc.org) with any questions.

## WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER

Subscribe to our BMPC eNews by visiting our website: [www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org)

## Today's Schedule

### Childcare (infant - age 5)

7:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101

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### Worship with Summer Choir

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

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### Worship Together Sunday Grades K-12

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

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### Stories Through Art Exhibit

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

Art Gallery, Ministries Center

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### Sanctuary Choir Auditions

11:00 a.m., Sanctuary

# GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Improvisation

Jeffrey Brillhart

WELCOME

Franklyn C. Pottorff

## † CALL TO WORSHIP

One: O give thanks to the LORD; call on God's name.

**All: Make known God's deeds among all people.**

One: Sing praises to God; tell of God's wonderful works.

**All: Glory in God's holy name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.**

One: Seek God's strength; remember the wonderful works God has done,

**All: For the Lord is God, faithful to a thousand generations.**

## † HYMN 49

The God of Abraham Praise

LEONI

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Loving and Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor, and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

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

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

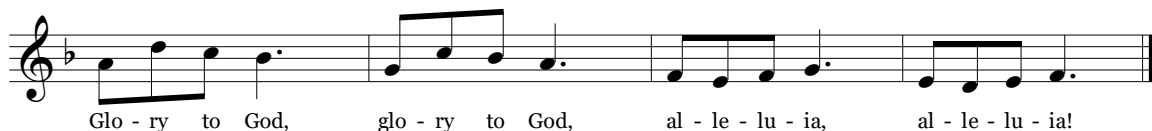
*During the Sung Response, children are invited to come forward for the Children's Moment.*

### SUNG RESPONSE 583

Glory to God

GLORIA

*Sung twice.*



3

† Please stand, if able.

# PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rachel Pedersen

### 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

Franklyn C. Pottorff

### FIRST LESSON    Romans 12:9-21 (*pg. 162 in pew Bible*)

### SECOND LESSON    Exodus 3:1-15 (*pg. 50 in pew Bible*)

Leigh DeVries

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

## SERMON

*I am with you*

Leigh DeVries

† HYMN 69

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky

HERE I AM

# RESPONSE TO THE WORD

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## AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Rachel Pedersen

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

~ The Apostles' Creed

## PASTORAL PRAYER 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.

## INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

### OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Let the Praise Go 'Round

William Boyce  
arr. Hal H. Hopson

Halleluia. Sing and rejoice. Praise the Lord. Praise him: let the sound go round.  
Let our praise abound. Sing we halleluia. Sing and rejoice. Praise the Lord.  
Praise him: let the sound go round. Let our praise abound. Sing we halleluia.

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

† **DOXOLOGY 609**

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Rachel Pedersen

† **HYMN 692**

Spirit, Open My Heart

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

† **BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE**

Leigh DeVries

**POSTLUDE**

Improvisation

Jeffrey Brillhart

†

“I am the resurrection and the life.”

Nancy H. Ligget ~ August 29, 2023

Patricia W. Cordray ~ August 30, 2023

## **Announcements**

**150TH ANNIVERSARY CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT.** Join in celebrating BMPC's 150th Anniversary by purchasing this newly-created Christmas ornament featuring our renovated church property. Designed and crafted by Wendell August Forge, this ornament is a beautiful way to celebrate the past and the future of our congregation. Ornaments will be on sale for \$20 each on Sundays, Sept. 10 and Oct. 15 following worship.



**PRAYER PARTNER MINISTRY.** The Prayer Partner Ministry connects members of our church through prayer. Adults pray for six to eight children or youth throughout the year, and prayer partners will have the opportunity to connect through special events and programs. You may sign up online: <https://bit.ly/PrayerPartners2023> or email [RachelPedersen@bmpc.org](mailto:RachelPedersen@bmpc.org) with questions.

**CHURCH OFFICER NOMINATIONS.** Please submit your recommendations by Sun., Sept. 17 for Elders, Deacons, Trustees, and Nominating Committee Members-at-large for 2023-2024 via the nominating form: <https://bit.ly/BMPCNominationForm>. Paper copies of the nominating form are available in the Narthex and at the Reception Desk in the Ministries Center. Candidates must be members for at least two years, faithfully participate in the worship and program life of the church, and regularly contribute to the church.

## **Today**

**SANCTUARY CHOIR AUDITIONS.** 11:00 a.m., Choir Loft. The BMPC Sanctuary Choir is inviting new members to sing during the upcoming 2023-2024 season. Perhaps you have participated in Summer Choir or you have been using your voice to lead hymns among the congregation. If you are interested in joining, please come up to the choir loft following the postlude this morning to learn about this leadership opportunity and audition. If you are a parent of a young child, childcare is available at the church from 7:45 a.m. to noon each Sunday. [EdwardLandinSenn@bmpc.org](mailto:EdwardLandinSenn@bmpc.org)

## **This Week**

**YOGA206 BONE BOOST CLASS.** Begins Wed., Sept. 6, 9:30 a.m., Gymnasium. This is an all-levels mat and chair yoga class focusing on bone strength with safely-adapted poses. Geared to persons proactive about strengthening their bones due to diagnosed bone loss. Participants, age 50+, must be able to safely sit on and rise from a mat. Class runs through Oct. 18. Email [YOGA206@icloud.com](mailto:YOGA206@icloud.com) for registration information.

## **Next Sunday**

**RALLY DAY.** Sun., Sept. 10, 11:00 a.m., Education Building Lawn. Join us for worship at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and then stay to enjoy food, fellowship, and activities on the lawn. All are welcome; bring a friend!

## **Upcoming**

**DANCE FOR PARKINSON'S CLASS.** Begins Tues., Sept. 12, 1:00 p.m., Gymnasium. Our Dance for Parkinson's Disease (PD) class is open to those living with PD and their care partners. This session runs through Dec. 12. For more information, contact [CarolCherry@bmpc.org](mailto:CarolCherry@bmpc.org) or visit <https://bit.ly/BMPCFitness>

**MEN'S DISCUSSION GROUP.** Second and fourth Wednesdays, starting Sept. 13, 10:00 a.m., Converse House Parlor. All men are welcome to join this study and discussion group. In Justo and Catherine Gonzalez' book, *Heretics for Armchair Theologians*, these noted church historians introduce readers to important early church figures whose teachings were denounced by the church as heresies. Dr. Joshua Yoder will lead this group. To register and purchase the book, contact [MonicaDevane@bmpc.org](mailto:MonicaDevane@bmpc.org)

**SACRED THREADS.** Thursdays, Sept. 14-Oct. 5, 7:00 p.m., via Zoom. Led by spiritual director Betty Wright-Riggins, the sessions will focus on Anne LaMott's book, *Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers*. LaMott explores prayer through examples, musings and humor. Register: [KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org](mailto:KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org)

**SUNDAY DISCUSSION GROUP.** Sundays, starting Sept. 17, 8:30 a.m., Cannon Room, and via Zoom. Join us for a thoughtful and comprehensive reflection on the New Testament: From Beginning to End. In troubled times we need to be grounded in the way we have chosen to live our lives together. The Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray leads this longstanding class which has a discussion format. Please note that homework will be required. Contact Paul MacMurray at 610-935-7582 for more information.

**FILLING THE WELL.** Sundays, starting Sept. 17, 8:45 a.m., Children's Library, Ed. Bldg. All women are welcome to join this longstanding Sunday morning class. This fall we will spend time reflecting on portions of Don Fisher and Tom Allender's classic book, *God Loves an Unmade Bed: Spirituality for the Imperfect*. In the book they share how God is always present, especially in the midst of the messes and struggles of life. For information and to receive a copy of the book, contact [RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org](mailto:RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org)

**DIGGING DEEPER.** Sundays, Sept. 17-Nov. 5, 8:45 a.m., Gloucester Room. This eight-week study will be guided by the book, *Whence and Whither: On Lives and Living*. In this collection of essays on death and the meaning of living, funeral director, poet and National Book Award finalist Thomas Lynch has an uncanny knack for writing about death in ways that are never morbid, always thoughtful, often humorous, and quite moving. The Rev. Dr. Franklyn C. Pottorff will lead this class. For more information and to receive a copy of the book, contact [FranklynPottorff@bmpc.org](mailto:FranklynPottorff@bmpc.org)



**YOUTH FALL KICKOFF.** Sun. Sept. 17, 10:00 a.m., Gymnasium. Join us for our annual fall Youth Kickoff! Families will learn about upcoming programs, meet youth volunteers, complete waivers and informational forms for the year, and enjoy fellowship with other youth families across the church!

**THE LEGACY OF LOCAL MISSION.** Sun., Sept. 24, 11:15 a.m., Congregational Hall. We are honored to host the Rev. Eustacia Marshall, pastor of New River Presbyterian Church, who will help us celebrate the rich legacy of BMPC's 25-year commitment to West Philadelphia as well as invite us alongside her congregation as they lead us in a new moment for Presbyterians in West Philadelphia. New River Presbyterian is a merger of First African Presbyterian Church, Calvin Presbyterian Church, and Church of the Good Shepherd. Through innovative ministries, intentional engagement, and a vision for hope and hospitality in the community, Rev. Marshall will help us imagine how we might be involved in this next season of mission in the city.

**THURSDAY DISCUSSION GROUP.** Thursdays, Sept. 28-Oct. 26, 10:00 a.m., via Zoom. Led by the Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick, we will spend five weeks discussing the classic book, *Turn My Mourning into Dancing: Finding Hope in Hard Times* by Henri Nouwen. In this collection of some of Nouwen's unpublished writings, he focuses not only on how we can survive hard times but on how we can live fully in the midst of them and beyond. To register and purchase the book, contact [AliciaFranklin@bmpc.org](mailto:AliciaFranklin@bmpc.org)

## **Caring and Sharing**

**CASSEROLE BLITZ.** Sat., Sept. 16, 8:30 a.m., Ministries Center Kitchen. Join us to make casseroles and friends at the Hunger Committee's Casserole Blitz! Enjoy this family activity (children over age 5) as you get to know BMPC folks you haven't met before and support a good cause while working with others to prepare casseroles for area shelters. Fall dates: Oct. 21, Nov. 18 and Dec. 16. Sign up: <https://bit.ly/Blitz-RSVP>

**HUNGER COMMITTEE CELEBRATION FOOD COLLECTION.** Sun., Sept. 24. As we celebrate our longtime commitment of addressing food insecurity, the Hunger Committee invites the congregation to bring non-perishable donations to the Narthex on Sun., Sept. 24 before worship. Donations will be distributed among six of our local partners. Suggested donations include: cold cereals, spaghetti sauce, canned meals, soups (particularly hearty ones), peanut butter, jelly, canned tuna and chicken, canned vegetables, canned beans, canned fruit and applesauce (or cups), macaroni and cheese, crackers (saltines or Ritz), instant oatmeal (packets), granola bars, single-serving snacks, bottled salad dressings, mayonnaise (smaller-sized jars preferred). Grocery bags will be available in the Narthex. [AliciaFranklin@bmpc.org](mailto:AliciaFranklin@bmpc.org)

# **Calendar**

## **Sunday, September 3**

7:45	a.m.	Childcare (Birth-Kindergarten), Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101
8:00	a.m.	<b>Worship with Communion, Chapel</b>
10:00	a.m.	<b>Sunday Worship with Summer Choir, Sanctuary and Livestreamed Service on <a href="http://www.bmpc.org">www.bmpc.org</a></b> Worship Together Sunday for Grades K-12, Sanctuary
11:00	a.m.	Atrium Cafe, Atrium

## **Monday, September 4**

BMPC Campus Closed. For pastoral emergencies, call 610-525-2821.

## **Tuesday, September 5**

10:30	a.m.	Tai Chi (Hybrid), Gymnasium
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## **Wednesday, September 6**

7:00	a.m.	Worldwide Ministries Committee Meeting, Cannon Room
9:30	a.m.	Yoga206 Bone Boost Class, Gymnasium

## **Thursday, September 7**

11:00	a.m.	Artists' Gathering, Fine Arts Center
6:00	p.m.	Refugee Committee Meeting, Witherspoon Parlor
7:30	p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Fine Arts Center

## **Friday, September 8**

10:00	a.m.	Senior Adult Council Meeting, Virtual
11:00	a.m.	<b>Sally Castle Memorial Service, Sanctuary</b>
4:30	p.m.	Apathy/Pecorari Wedding Rehearsal, Sanctuary

## **Saturday, September 9**

7:00	a.m.	Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
10:00	a.m.	Searching for Still Waters Bereavement Group, Converse House Parlor
3:30	p.m.	<b>Apathy/Pecorari Wedding, Sanctuary</b>

## **Sunday, September 10**

8:00	a.m.	<b>Worship with Communion, Chapel</b>
10:00	a.m.	<b>Sunday Worship with Summer Choir, Sanctuary and Livestreamed Service on <a href="http://www.bmpc.org">www.bmpc.org</a></b> The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.
11:00	a.m.	Rally Day, BMPC Campus

## **Fall Events at BMPC**

**Rally Day** – Sunday, September 10

**Sunday School Resumes** – Sunday, September 10

**Youth Kickoff** – Sunday, September 17

**Adult Education Classes Begin** – Sunday, September 17

**Evening Worship with Blessing of the Animals and**

**Tookany Creek Bluegrass Band** – Sunday, October 1, 5:00 p.m.

**Community Forum with Amanda Tyler** – Monday, October 9, 7:00 p.m.

**Theologian in Residence: The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston** – October 28-29

## **150th Anniversary Celebration Events**

### **Church Birthday Party**

Saturday, October 14, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Ed. Bldg. Lawn. Celebrate the church's birthday with cake, fun mission project, games for children and families, and fellowship!

### **Celebration of Former Pastors**

Saturday, October 14, 5:00 to 6:00 p.m., Ministries Center Court. This informal open house will honor former BMPC clergy and their families.

### **150th Anniversary Dinner**

Saturday, October 14, 6:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. This dinner will be RSVP only. Featuring the premiere of the BMPC anniversary video.

### **Organ Concert**

Saturday, October 14, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary. Philippe Lefebvre, principal organist of Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris, will perform.

### **Sunday Worship Service**

Sunday, October 15, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary. This service will feature music by the Sanctuary Choir, who will be singing a newly-commissioned anthem by Norwegian composer Kim André Arnesen in celebration of BMPC's 150th anniversary, with a sermon by the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet.

## **Worship Staff**

**Agnes W. Norfleet**, Pastor

**Leigh DeVries**, 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

**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

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[www.twitter.com/BrynMawrPres](https://www.twitter.com/BrynMawrPres)

[www.youtube.com/user/brynmawrpres](https://www.youtube.com/user/brynmawrpres)

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

The Middleton Center: 610-525-0766 •  
[info@middletoncenter.org](mailto:info@middletoncenter.org)

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