

Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church

Sunday, December 31, 2023 | 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

First Sunday of Christmas



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 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 or Childcare Coordinator Erika Henry 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)

8:45 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101

Worship with Sanctuary Choir

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Children and Youth in Worship

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Atrium Café

11:00 a.m., Atrium

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Song without Words
Klaus Volpert, piano & Peter Volpert, cello

Felix Mendelssohn

WELCOME

Kirby Lawrence Hill

† CALL TO WORSHIP

One: I will proclaim the gracious deeds of God;

All: The steadfast love of the Lord is great.

One: For now we have witnessed the Word made flesh,

All: The glory of God's people and a light to all.

One: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts;

All: Let the redemption of Christ fill the whole earth.

† HYMN 146

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

CALL TO CONFESSION

AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

God of grace and truth,

in Jesus Christ you came among us

as light shining in the darkness.

We confess that we are slow to believe it.

We pray for justice and mercy, yet the lowly are crushed.

We hear of the hungry being fed, yet famines decimate.

We sing of "peace on earth," yet wars rage.

We proclaim God's grace over us, yet are slow to share it.

We expect little and hope for less.

Forgive our cynicism, and renew our hope,

so that we may work to share this good news,

to live in the in-breaking promises of Christ, our newborn King.

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

Away in a Manger

MUELLER

Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

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

Kirby Lawrence Hill

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 61:10-62:3 (pg. 692 in pew Bible)

ANTHEM

In the Bleak Midwinter

Harold Darke

In the bleak mid-winter, frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone. Snow had fallen snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak mid-winter long ago. Our God, Heav'n cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain Heav'n and earth shall flee away, when he comes to reign. In the bleak mid-winter, a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty Jesus Christ. Enough for Him whom cherubin, worship night and day, a breast full of milk and a manger full of hay. Enough for Him, whom angels, fall down before, the ox and ass and camel which adore. What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part. Yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

SECOND LESSONLuke 2:22-40 (*pg. 59 in pew Bible*)

Franklyn C. Pottorff

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.**SERMON***A Promise You Can Hold*

Franklyn C. Pottorff

†

HYMN 116

The Snow Lay on the Ground

VENITE ADOREMUS

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

†

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.

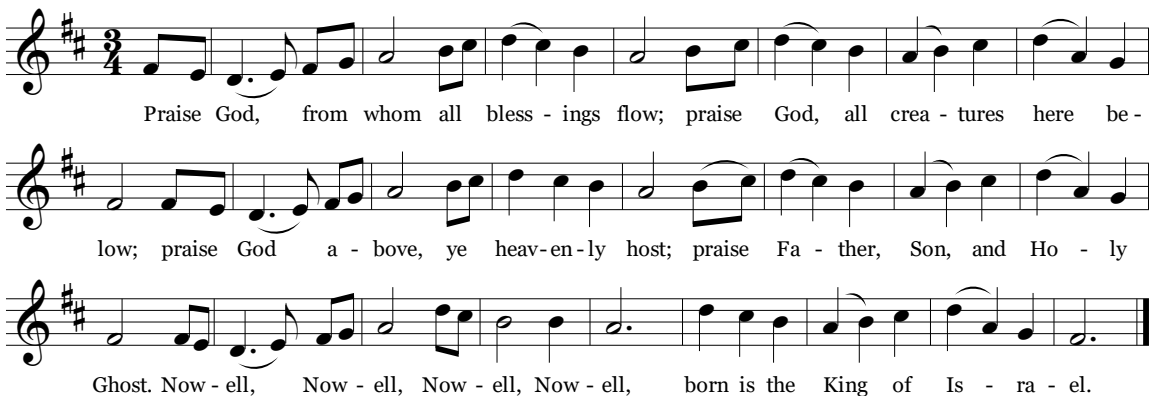
INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Angels, from the Realms of Glory Richard Webster

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; you, who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king! Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king! Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar; seek the great desire of nations; you have seen his natal star: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king! All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king!

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

† DOXOLOGY Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow THE FIRST NOWELL



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all crea - tures here be -
low; praise God a - bove, ye heav-en-ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly
Ghost. Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, Now - ell, born is the King of Is - ra - el.

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION Rachel Pedersen

†	HYMN 110	Love Has Come	BRING A TORCH
†	BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE		Franklyn C. Pottorff
	POSTLUDE	Go, Tell it on the Mountain	A. D. Miller

WORSHIP NOTES

PLAYING THE CARILLON

Brian Middleton

BULLETIN COVER

Hope In Breaking | Adobe Firefly

Announcements

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, 9:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. in the Chapel.

CODE BLUE SHELTER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED. For the month of January, BMPC will host a Code Blue Shelter to house up to 5 men sleeping outside in Lower Merion on the coldest nights. Volunteers will work in shifts from 8:30p.m. to 6:30 a.m. the nights the shelter is open. To receive the sign up link, a recording of last week's training/information session, or if you have questions, please contact RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org.

Upcoming

YOUTH INTERNATIONAL MISSION TRIP APPLICATION DEADLINE.

Fri, Jan. 5, 5:00 p.m. Rising 9-12th graders (current 8-12th graders) are welcome to apply for a spot on the international mission trip to Peru, July 10-20, 2024. Applicants will be notified by February 1st at 5:00 p.m. if they have been accepted.

The application can be found on Realm, the youth ENews, or by emailing Pastor Leigh Devries at ldevries@bmpc.org

CASSEROLE BLITZ. Sat., Jan. 20, 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. Upcoming Dates: Feb. 19, Mar. 18. Please use our RSVP link to sign up: <https://bit.ly/Blitz-RSVP>

JAMES KEALEY ORGAN RECITAL. Sun., Jan. 21, 2:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Mr. Kealey is the Laureate of the 2022 American Guild of Organists' "National Young Artist Competition in Organ Performance." His program will feature Maurice Duruflé's tone poem, "Prélude, Adagio, et Choral varié" on the Pentecost chant theme of Veni Creator, and David' Hurd's "On the name of MAURICE DURUFLÉ." Fifty percent of the free-will offering taken will benefit the AGO Philadelphia Scholarship Fund.

DEACONS' ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE. Mon., Jan. 22, 1:00-6:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. Volunteers needed to donate blood; register online: <https://bit.ly/2024-Blood-Drive> Contact Monica Devane at 610-520-8823 or MDevane@bmppc.org.

Calendar

Sunday, December 31

8:30	a.m.	Sunday Morning Discussion Group, Cannon Room
8:45	a.m.	Childcare (Birth-Kindergarten), Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101
10:00	a.m.	Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary and Livestreamed Service on www.bmpc.org Atrium Cafe, Atrium

Monday, January 1

Campus Closed.

Tuesday, January 2

10:30	a.m.	Tai Chi (Hybrid), Gymnasium
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Wednesday, January 3

No Events Scheduled.

Thursday, January 4

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

Friday, January 5

10:00	a.m.	Senior Adult Council Meeting, Virtual
4:00	p.m.	Kim/Starn Wedding Rehearsal, Sanctuary

Saturday, January 6

7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
4:00 p.m. **Kim/Starn Wedding, Sanctuary**

Sunday, January 7

8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**
10:00 a.m. **Worship with Sanctuary Choir**
Sanctuary and Livestreamed Service on www.bmpc.org
The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.
4:00 p.m. **Evening Worship, Sanctuary**

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

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610-525-2821 • www.bmpc.org

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