



# Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, August 31, 2025

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary



# Gathering of God's People

Please note that online worshippers join the livestream at 9:50 a.m.

We invite you to prepare for worship in quiet reflection.

PRELUDE Lullaby

Calvin Hampton

WELCOME

Andy Greenhow

Please stand, if able.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

- One We look around and see how we have been blessed –  
**All blessed with community, with nature, with friendship, with faith.**  
One That goodness washes over us, and we receive these gifts with thanks.  
**All In this time, we thank God for all that we have been given.**  
One So let us worship God.

## HYMN 22 God of the Sparrow

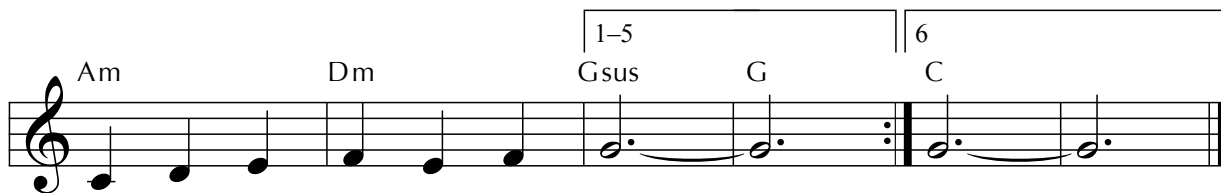
ROEDER

C Em Am Dm G

1 God of the spar - row God of the whale God of the  
2 God of the earth - quake God of the storm God of the  
3 God of the rain - bow God of the cross God of the  
4 God of the hun - gry God of the sick God of the  
5 God of the neigh - bor God of the foe God of the  
6 God of the a - ges God near at hand God of the

C F E7 Am Em F Em

swirl - ing stars How does the crea - ture say Awe  
trum - pet blast How does the crea - ture cry Woe  
emp - ty grave How does the crea - ture say Grace  
prod - i - gal How does the crea - ture say Care  
prun - ing hook How does the crea - ture say Love  
lov - ing heart How do your chil - dren say Joy



How does the crea - ture say Praise  
 How does the crea - ture cry Save  
 How does the crea - ture say Thanks  
 How does the crea - ture say Life  
 How does the crea - ture say Peace  
 How do your chil - dren say Home

## CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All** Holy God, we believe that you created us in love, to enjoy you and this world, to serve your creation and your children. And we are convinced by our actions and inaction, that we fall short of your good will. With clenched hands, we can neither give nor receive. With eyes shut tight, we cannot see pain or beauty. With feet of clay, we cannot dance in joy or run to assist. With hardened hearts, we cannot be shaped by gratitude and love. We ask for your help and your power to change. Open our hands and eyes, move our feet, change our hearts to experience and share your grace and hope. This we pray in Jesus' name.

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

IN BABILONE



# Proclamation of the Word

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rachel Pedersen

Following the Children's Moment, children return to their families in the Sanctuary.

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Andy Greenhow

## FIRST LESSON Genesis 12:1-3

(pg. 10 in pew Bible)

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and

make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

## SECOND LESSON 2 Corinthians 13:11-13

(pg. 186 in pew Bible)

Finally, brothers and sisters, farewell. Be restored; listen to my appeal; agree with one another; live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy

Kirby Lawrence Hill

kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

**One** The Word of the Lord.

**All** Thanks be to God.

## SERMON *Benediction*

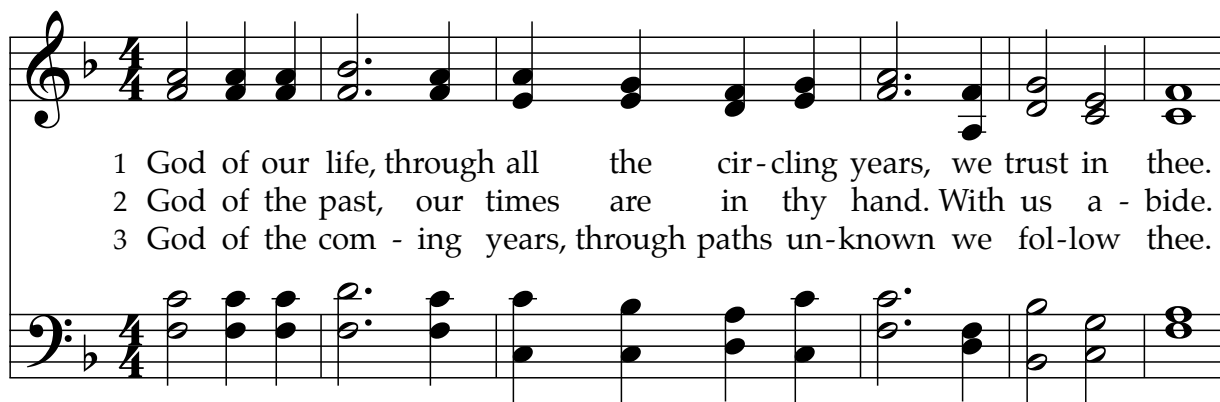
Kirby Lawrence Hill

# Response to the Word

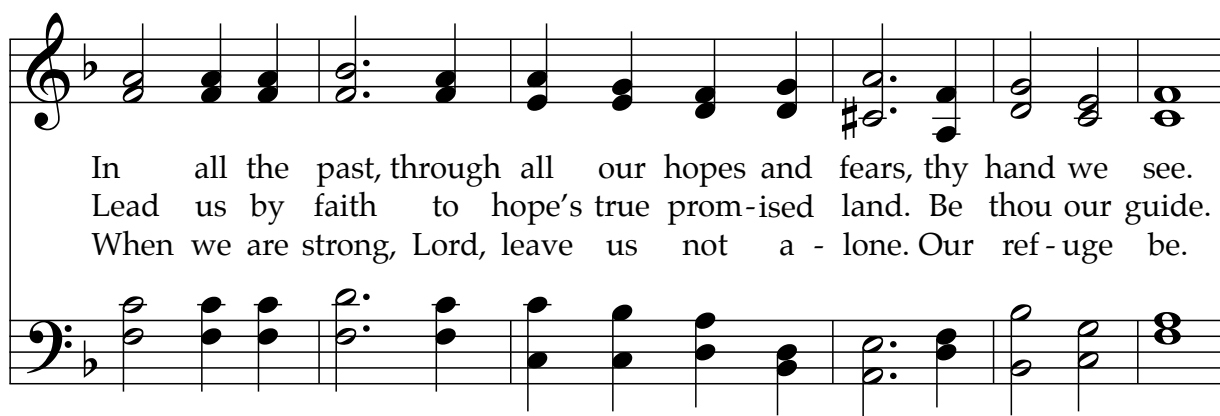
Please stand, if able.

HYMN 686 God of Our Life

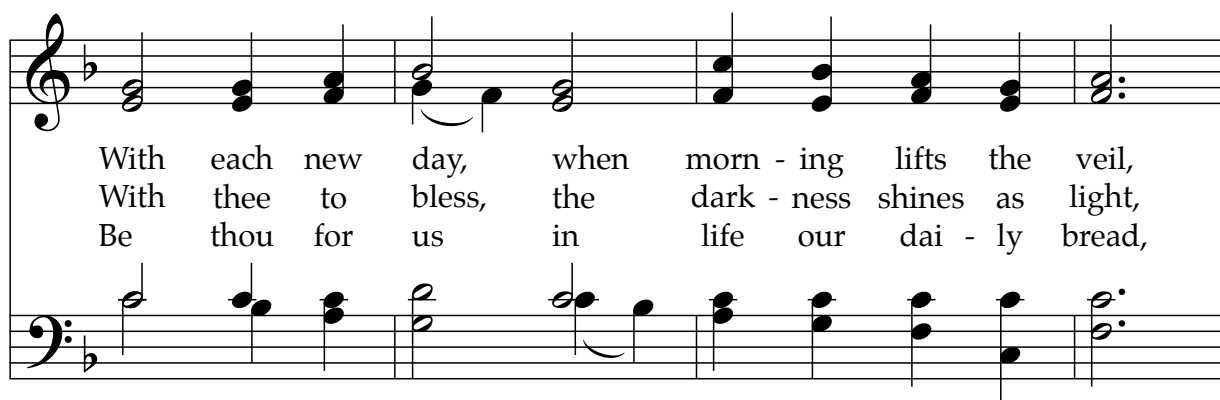
SANDON



1 God of our life, through all the cir-cling years, we trust in thee.  
2 God of the past, our times are in thy hand. With us a - bid.  
3 God of the com - ing years, through paths un-known we fol-low thee.



In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, thy hand we see.  
Lead us by faith to hope's true prom-ised land. Be thou our guide.  
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not a - lone. Our ref-uge be.



With each new day, when morn - ing lifts the veil,  
With thee to bless, the dark - ness shines as light,  
Be thou for us in life our dai - ly bread,



we own thy mer - cies, Lord, which nev - er fail.  
and faith's fair vi - sion chang - es in - to sight.  
our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

**All** We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Hearing their cry, God delivered the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

~ from *A Brief Statement of Faith*

## PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

**All** 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 A Gaelic Blessing

Roland E. Martin

Deep peace of the running wave to you. Deep peace of the flowing air to you.  
 Deep peace of the quiet earth to you. Deep peace of the shining stars to you.  
 Deep peace of the gentle night to you. Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.  
 Deep peace of Christ, the light of the world to you. Deep peace of Christ to you.

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

Please stand, if able.

### DOXOLOGY 606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDREDTH

**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

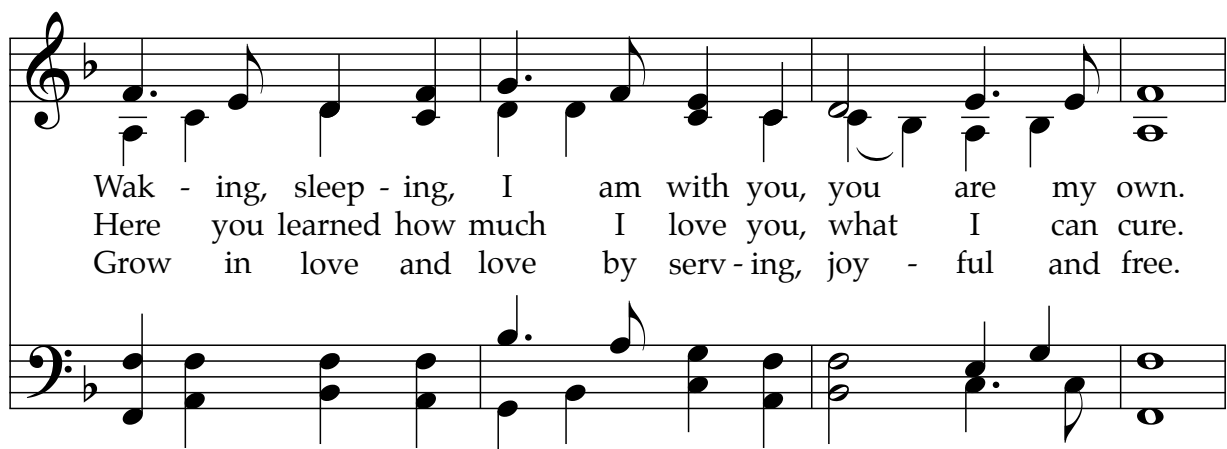
Rachel Pedersen

## HYMN 547 Go, My Children, with My Blessing

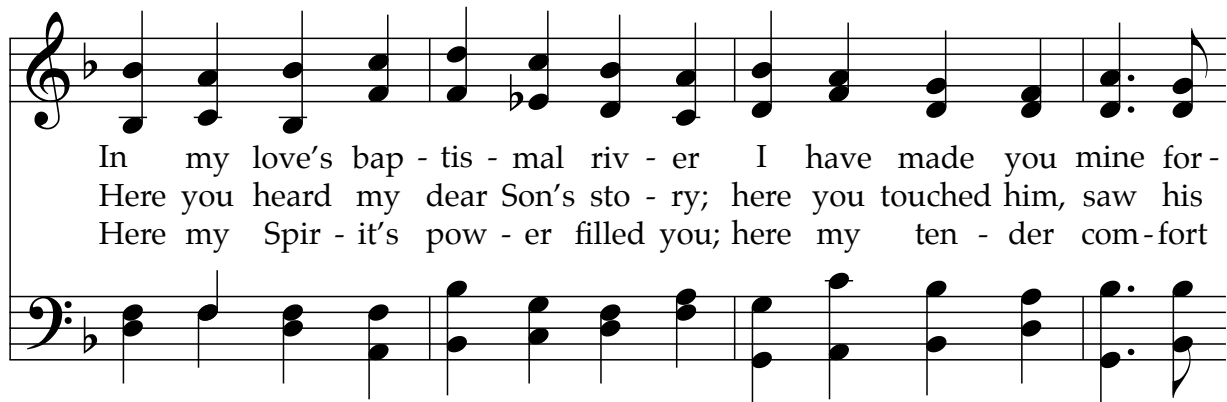
AR HYD Y NOS



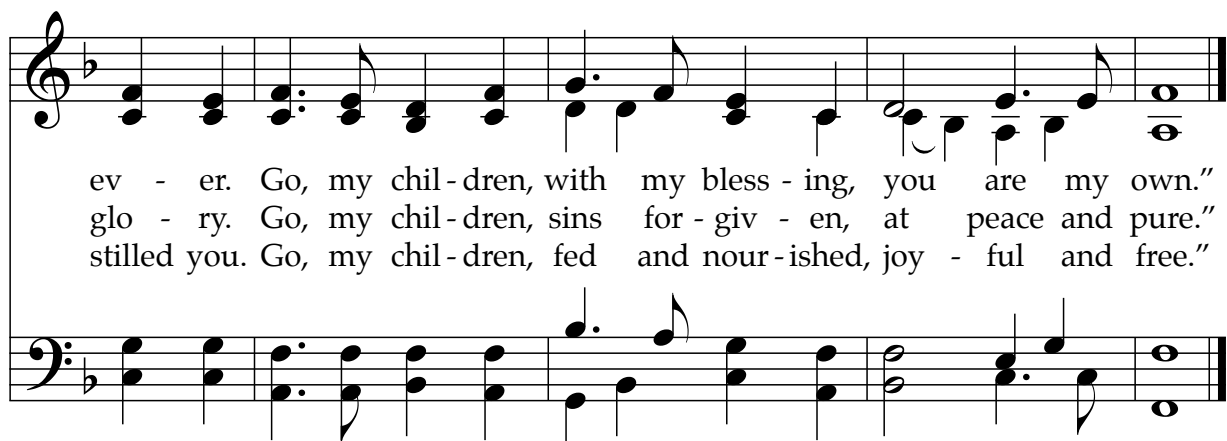
1 "Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev-er a-lone.  
 2 "Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure.  
 3 "Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos-er to me.



Wak-ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own.  
 Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure.  
 Grow in love and love by serv-ing, joy-ful and free.



In my love's bap-tis-mal riv-er I have made you mine for-  
 Here you heard my dear Son's sto-ry; here you touched him, saw his  
 Here my Spir-it's pow-er filled you; here my ten-der com-fort



ev-er. Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own."  
 glo-ry. Go, my chil-dren, sins for-giv-en, at peace and pure."  
 stilled you. Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, joy-ful and free."

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

Kirby Lawrence Hill

POSTLUDE Hymne d'Actions de grâces "Te Deum"

Jean Langlais

## Worship & Music Notes

PLAYING THE CARILLON

Klaus Volpert

BULLETIN COVER

BMPC Sanctuary. Photo by Dave Tavani.



# WELCOME TO BRYN MAWR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church during this season after Pentecost—a time of growth, learning, and deepening discipleship. Just as the Spirit empowered the early church, we trust that same Spirit is moving among us now, calling us to live out our faith with courage and compassion.

Whether you've been part of this community for years or are worshiping with us for the first time, we're grateful for your presence. Through worship, fellowship, and service, may we be renewed and inspired to follow Christ more faithfully. Inside this bulletin, you'll find opportunities to grow in faith and engage more fully in the life of the church.



The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet  
Senior Pastor

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## 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. Learn more at [bmpc.org](http://bmpc.org).

## T-COIL HEARING LOOP AVAILABLE

BMPC's Sanctuary and Congregational Hall are equipped with a T-Coil hearing loop system to enhance sound clarity for those with hearing aids or cochlear implants with a telecoil ("T" setting). Portable receiver units are also available in the Sanctuary upon request. We hope this technology enriches your worship experience!

## CHILDCARE ON SUNDAY

Childcare is available on Sundays from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for children ages six months and older. Please contact the Rev. Rachel Pedersen, [RachelPedersen@bmpc.org](mailto:RachelPedersen@bmpc.org) or Childcare Coordinator Erika Henry, [childcare@bmpc.org](mailto:childcare@bmpc.org) with any questions.

## LIVESTREAMED CHURCH SERVICES

Our Sunday 10:00 a.m. service is livestreamed and can be viewed at [www.bmpc.org/live](http://www.bmpc.org/live) or on our YouTube channel. A recording of the service will also be available on our Worship Services website page and Vimeo channel starting Monday. If you are attending in person and prefer not to be on camera, please speak with an usher who will seat you in an area off camera.

# Announcements

## TODAY

### **Kirby Lawrence Hill's Farewell Reception.**

Sun., Aug. 31, 11:15 a.m., Atrium. Please join us as we celebrate Kirby's time as BMPC's Interim Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care and Senior Adults and thank him for his work with the BMPC congregation.

**Last Day to View Gallery.** Sun., Aug. 31, 11:15 a.m., Gallery. Don't miss the final opportunity to experience COLOR! Where Music & Art Meet, an exhibition by Barbara Lister-Sink. This vibrant collection reflects her deep love of both art and music, celebrating color in all its forms—rich, velvety, pastel, shimmering, and iridescent. Stop by to enjoy the gallery one last time and take home a piece of the collection before it's gone.

## NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BMPC's New Website Has Launched!** We are excited to share that our new church website is live! Visit [bmpc.org](http://bmpc.org) to explore a fresh look, improved navigation, and updated content designed to help you connect with worship, ministries, and upcoming events. We invite you to check it out and discover all the ways you can engage in the life of our church.

**Men's Discussion Group.** 2nd & 4th Wed., starting Sept. 10, 10:00 a.m., Converse House Parlor. Join us as we explore *Why Religion?* by Dr. Elaine Pagels, a renowned Princeton religion scholar, whose powerful memoir weaves personal loss with profound insights into the enduring role of faith in human

experience. This group will be led by the Rev. Andy Greenhow. To register and find out how to purchase the book, contact [AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org](mailto:AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org)

**Sunday Morning Discussion Group.** Starting Sun., Sept. 14, 8:30 a.m., Cannon Room. Join us as we explore Apostle Paul's Greatest Hits. This longstanding Sunday morning class is led by the Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray. This fall, this class will explore the letters of Paul as a guide for navigating the life of faith and discerning our calling amid the uncertainty and complexity of today's world. For information about joining the class, contact Paul MacMurray at [katrmac2@icloud.com](mailto:katrmac2@icloud.com)

**Filling The Well.** Starting Sun., Sept. 14, 8:45 a.m., Children's Library, Ed. Bldg. This Sunday morning class for women will read and discuss a collection of writings by social activist Dorothy Day. In *The Reckless Way of Love*, we will reflect on Day's personal faith and how she sustained in the midst of the work of justice and change. The Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick leads this class. For more information and to reserve a copy of the book, contact [RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org](mailto:RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org)

**Youth Kickoff.** Sun., Sept. 14, 10:00 a.m., Gymnasium. Families will learn about upcoming programs this academic year, meet youth volunteers, complete waivers and informational forms for the year, and fellowship with other youth families throughout the church. Sunday morning programming for youth continues through May. Contact [AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org](mailto:AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org)

## UPCOMING & ONGOING

**Join a Connection Group.** You are invited to be a part of our growing small group ministry, where weekly small gatherings of about ten BMPC members nurture faith, friendship, and meaningful conversation. Together we share life, grow spiritually, and build a community rooted in Christ's love. Join a group by contacting [RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org](mailto:RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org)

**Child & Youth Protection Training.** Fri., Sept. 5, 10:00 a.m., Cannon Room & Zoom. Annual training is required for all volunteers working with children and youth. Register at [bit.ly/BMPCChildandYouthTraining](https://bit.ly/BMPCChildandYouthTraining). Contact [MaryRichards@bmpc.org](mailto:MaryRichards@bmpc.org)

**Bone Boost Yoga.** Wednesdays, beginning Sept. 3, 9:30 a.m., Gymnasium & virtual. This 60-minute mat & chair yoga class focuses on bone strength and is geared for persons with osteopenia, osteoporosis, or those proactive about bone health. While intended for participants of all levels, aged 50+, you must be able to sit on and rise from a mat. Cost: \$105 for 7 week class. Register at [bit.ly/45F1fg3Register](https://bit.ly/45F1fg3Register) Contact [YOGA206@icloud.com](mailto:YOGA206@icloud.com)

**Rally Day and Ministry Fair.** Sun., Sept. 7, 11:00 a.m., Ministries Center. Join us for worship at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary, then stick around for a morning full of food, fellowship, and fun where you can explore ways to get connected. All are welcome!

**Great Decisions.** Mondays, Sept. 8, Oct. 6, Nov. 3, 10:00 a.m., virtual. BMPC member Bob Martin leads our monthly programs based on the Great Decisions curriculum, a nonpartisan global affairs education program that explores pressing international issues through expert analysis, discussion questions, and policy options for informed civic engagement. The classes are free and open to all, but registration is required to receive materials and the Zoom links. Contact [TiaraHarris@bmpc.org](mailto:TiaraHarris@bmpc.org)

**Invitation to Walk the Labyrinth.** Tues., Sept. 9, 10:00 a.m.–7:00 p.m., Front Lawn. All are invited to join in an outdoor walk of remembrance and prayer. Contact [KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org](mailto:KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org)

**Wednesday Night Dinner.** Starting Wed., Sept. 10, 5:30 p.m., Congregational Hall. We're excited to welcome back Wednesday Night Dinner — a weekly evening of food and fellowship! Whether you're reconnecting or joining us for the first time, there's a seat at the table for everyone. Bring a friend and spread the joy — non-members are always welcome! Cost is \$12 for adults and \$5 for children and students.

**Community Garden Work Day.** Sat., Sept. 20, 9:00 a.m., Bethel AME Church of Ardmore. Join the Outreach Council for a Community Garden Work Day at The Bethel AME Church Community Garden. Together, we'll install herb and flower beds, plant fig trees, and care for the vegetable garden - all in support of community wellness, intergenerational learning, and food sovereignty. To sign up, contact [JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org](mailto:JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org) by Sept. 15.

**Chorister for a Day.** Sun., Sept. 21, 11:15 a.m.–12:30 p.m., Fine Arts Center. Curious about singing in the BMPC Children's Choirs? Come experience a fun, music-filled morning at Chorister for a Day with singing, movement, fellowship, our brand new piano lab, and pizza. Children from Pre-K through 12th grade are welcome, with age-appropriate groups led by our music staff. Whether your child is brand new to singing or already has experience, this is a great opportunity to get involved and make new friends. Sign up at [bit.ly/BMPCchoristers](https://bit.ly/BMPCchoristers)

**Church Officer Nominations.** Please submit your recommendations to the 2025 Nominating Committee by Sun., Sept. 21, for Elders, Deacons, Trustees, and Nominating Committee Members-at-Large via the nominating form: [bit.ly/BMPCNominations](https://bit.ly/BMPCNominations) Paper copies of the 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.

**Looking for a Church Home?** Sun., Oct. 5, 11:15 a.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Join Rebecca Kirkpatrick and Liz Ellis for our "Discover BMPC" new member class, which will give you an opportunity to become acquainted, ask questions, and learn more about our church, Presbyterian heritage, and mission. Inquirers welcome. Visit [bit.ly/DiscoverBMPC](https://bit.ly/DiscoverBMPC) to register. Questions? Contact [LizEllis@bmpc.org](mailto:LizEllis@bmpc.org)

**BMPC Prayer Partners 2025-2026.** We are so grateful to our Prayer Partners from this past year! Would you like to continue being a Prayer Partner or start being a Prayer Partner? Please sign up here so we can plan for our 2025-2026 prayer partner team: [bit.ly/PrayerPartnerSignUp2025](https://bit.ly/PrayerPartnerSignUp2025) For more information, contact [MaryRichards@bmpc.org](mailto:MaryRichards@bmpc.org)

## CARING AND SHARING

### **BMPC Tutoring Adult Volunteers Needed**

Volunteers are needed to support our longstanding peer tutoring program held on Tuesday nights here at BMPC. Local high school students provide literacy support to students from the William Dick Elementary School in Philly. Volunteer opportunities include classroom support, rotating meal preparation, and other behind-the-scenes assistance for the program. Contact [RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org](mailto:RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org)

**Help Lead Our Mission Efforts.** BMPC has eight different committees that lead the church in its mission work, both locally and in partnership with global organizations worldwide. If you are interested in joining a mission committee or exploring other hands-on ways to get involved in mission at BMPC, please contact [LizEllis@bmpc.org](mailto:LizEllis@bmpc.org), our Director of Engagement.

**Flower Ministry.** The BMPC Flower Committee needs volunteers to re-arrange the Sanctuary flowers after worship so the Deacons can deliver them to at-home members. This meaningful ministry takes about an hour following the 10:00 a.m. service and is a wonderful opportunity for fellowship and creativity. New members are especially encouraged to join! If interested, contact [MargoBennett@comcast.net](mailto:MargoBennett@comcast.net)

**Hunger Doesn't Take a Break in the Summer!** While donations to the BMPC Hunger Fund drop off in the summer months, the needs remain steady for our partners throughout the year. A larger donation of \$550 to the Hunger Fund this summer can provide chicken for 64 casseroles at one BMPC blitz. Make a one-time donation or set up a recurring gift to the Hunger Fund online: [onrealm.org/bmpc/give/hunger](https://onrealm.org/bmpc/give/hunger)

# Calendar

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

- 7:45 a.m. Childcare (infant - age 5), Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101
- 8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**
- 9:00 a.m. COLOR! Where Music and Art Meet Exhibit, Gallery
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Together Sunday (K-12), Sanctuary
- 10:00 a.m. **Worship with Summer Choir, Sanctuary & Livestreamed**
- 11:15 a.m. Farewell Celebration Honoring the Rev. Dr. Kirby Lawrence Hill, Atrium

## MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

Campus closed for the Labor Day holiday.

## TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 2

- 7:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, Fullerton Room

## WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga206 Bone Boost, Gymnasium & virtual
- 7:00 p.m. Worldwide Ministries Council Meeting, Cannon Room

## THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 4

- 1:00 p.m. Congregational Life Council Meeting, Cannon Room
- 6:00 p.m. Refugee Support Committee Meeting, Cannon Room
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Fine Arts Center

## FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 5

- 10:00 a.m. Child & Youth Protection Training, Cannon Room
- 10:00 a.m. Senior Adult Council Meeting, virtual

## SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Connection Group, Converse House Parlor

## SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

- 8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**
- 10:00 a.m. **Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary and Livestreamed**  
The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.
- 11:00 a.m. Rally Day, Ministries Center





## Giving

Your generosity can make a profound difference at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. Join us in spreading love and hope by giving at [bit.ly/BMPCGiveOnline](https://bit.ly/BMPCGiveOnline) or simply scan the QR code to the right. Every donation, no matter the size, fuels our mission to create a more faithful, just, and compassionate community. Together, let's make a lasting impact!



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### CONNECT WITH US



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## Worship Staff

Agnes W. Norfleet, Pastor

Andy Greenhow, 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

Jeffrey Brillhart, Director of Music & Fine Arts

James Kealey, Co-Director of Music & Fine Arts