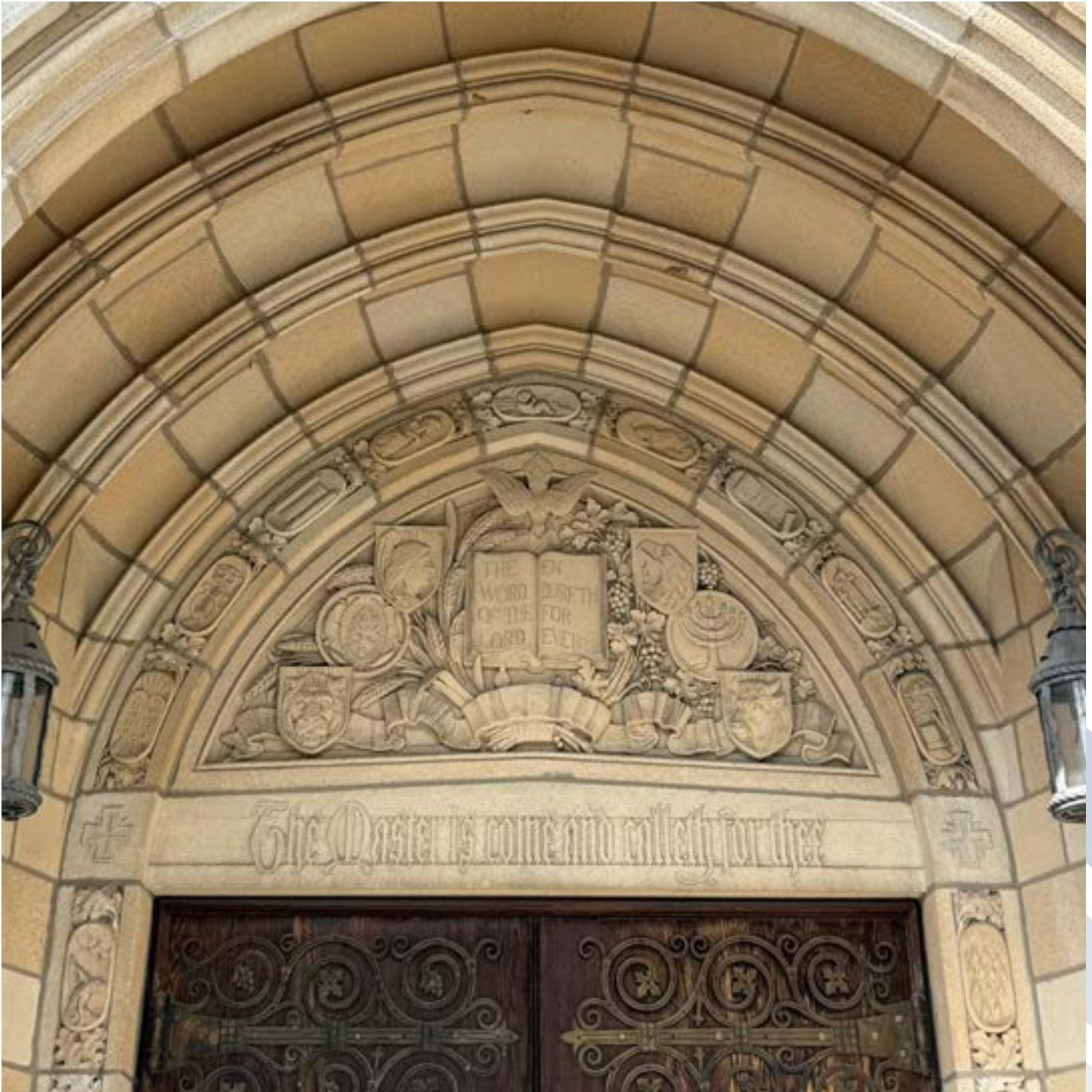




Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 7, 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 "Cathédrales," from Pièces de Fantaisie (Op. 55, No. 3)

Louis Vierne

Jeffrey Brillhart, organist

WELCOME

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

Please stand, if able.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One Happy are they who dwell in your house, O God!

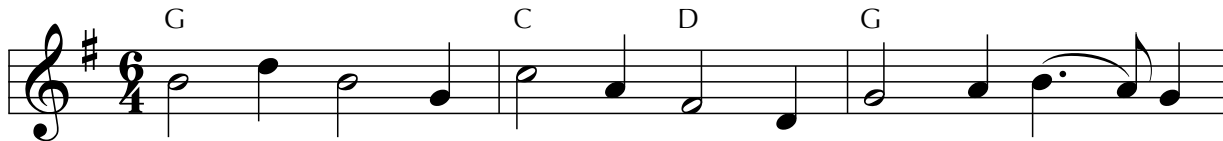
All **We will always be praising you.**

One Happy are the people whose strength is in you!

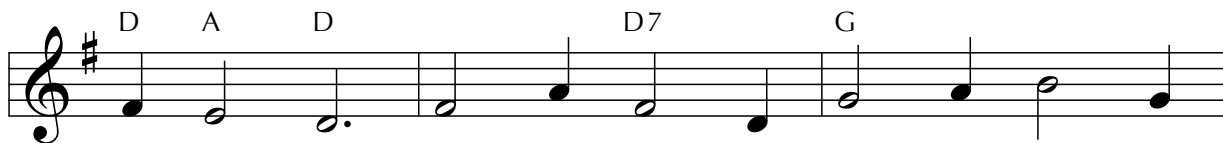
All **Whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.**

HYMN 394 Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

WESTMINSTER ABBEY



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
4 Laud and hon - or to the Fa - ther, laud and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; come, with all your lov - ing - kind - ness;
you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
to the Son, laud and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
hear your peo - ple as we pray, and your full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er, and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All Gracious God, you have clothed us with power from on high. Christ has opened our minds to understand you and our hearts to place our hope in you. Still, we can feel helpless in the face of sin, paralyzed by evil's sway in the world, and unsure of your power to redeem what seems lost. Forgive our doubt; remind us of our heritage as children of faith; and renew us, O God, in your wisdom, mercy, and power.

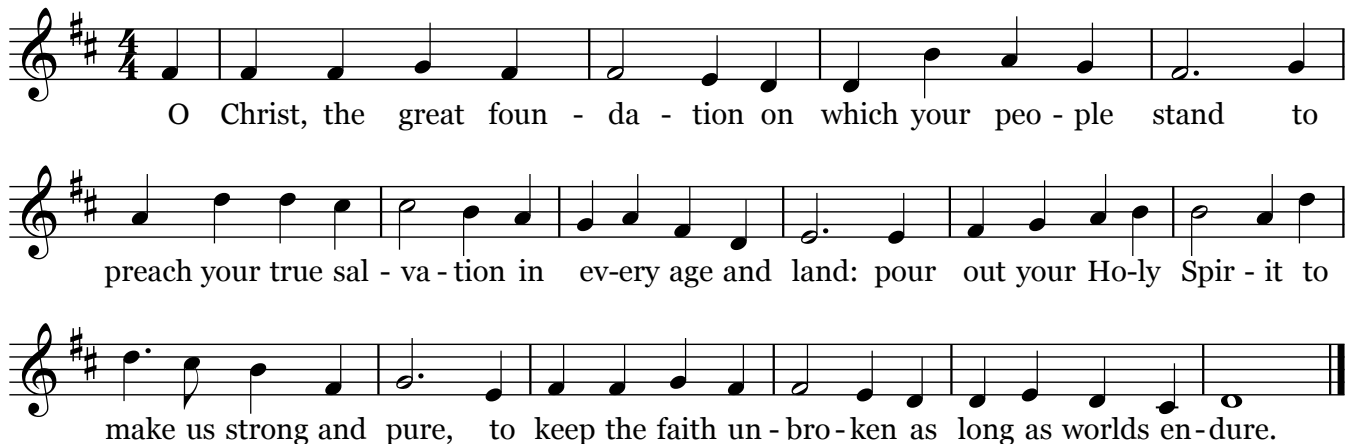
A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

SUNG RESPONSE

AURELIA



Proclamation of the Word

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rachel Pedersen

Following the Children's Moment, children K - grade 5 depart for their Sunday School classes.

SENDING HYMN Go Now Children With Our Blessing



PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

FIRST LESSON 1 Kings 7:48-8:7

(pg. 311 in pew Bible)

So Solomon made all the vessels that were in the house of the Lord: the golden altar, the golden table for the bread of the Presence, the lampstands of pure gold, five on the south side and five on the north, in front of the inner sanctuary; the flowers, the lamps, and the tongs, of gold; the cups, snuffers, basins, dishes for incense, and firepans, of pure gold; the sockets for the doors of the innermost part of the house, the most holy place, and for the doors of the main hall of the temple, of gold.

Thus all the work that King Solomon did on the house of the Lord was finished. Solomon brought in the things that his father David had dedicated, the silver, the gold, and the vessels, and stored them in the treasuries of the house of the Lord. Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion.

All the people of Israel assembled to King Solomon at the festival in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh month. And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests carried the ark. So they brought up the ark of the Lord, the tent of meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent; the priests and the Levites brought them up. King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, who had assembled before him, were with

him before the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and oxen that they could not be counted or numbered. Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim made a covering above the ark and its poles.

ANTHEM Open Our Eyes

William C. Macfarlane

Open our eyes, O living and compassionate Jesus, that we may behold Thee, walking beside us in our sorrow. Thou hast made death glorious and triumphant; for through its portals we enter into the presence of the Living God. Open our eyes, O loving and compassionate Jesus, that we may see to follow Thee, Jesus our Savior and Redeemer. Amen.

SECOND LESSON 1 Kings 8:22-30

Agnes W. Norfleet

(pg. 312 in pew Bible)

Then Solomon stood before the altar of the Lord in the presence of the whole assembly of Israel and spread out his hands to heaven. He said, "O Lord, God of Israel, there is no God like you in heaven above or on earth beneath, keeping covenant and steadfast love with your servants who walk before you with all their heart, the covenant that you kept for your servant my father David as you declared to him; you promised with your mouth and have this day fulfilled with your hand. Therefore, O Lord, God of Israel, keep for your servant my father David that which you promised him, saying, 'There shall never fail you a successor before me to sit on the

throne of Israel, if only your children look to their way, to walk before me as you have walked before me.' Therefore, O God of Israel, let your word be confirmed that you promised to your servant my father David.

"But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less this house that I have built! Regard your servant's prayer and his plea, O Lord my God, heeding the cry and the prayer that your servant prays to you today, that your eyes may be open night and day toward this house, the place of which you said, 'My name shall be there,' that you may heed the prayer that your servant prays toward

this place. Hear the plea of your
servant and of your people Israel when
they pray toward this place; O hear in

heaven your dwelling place; hear and
forgive.

One The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Where Does God Dwell?*
Sacred Texts for Beloved Community Series

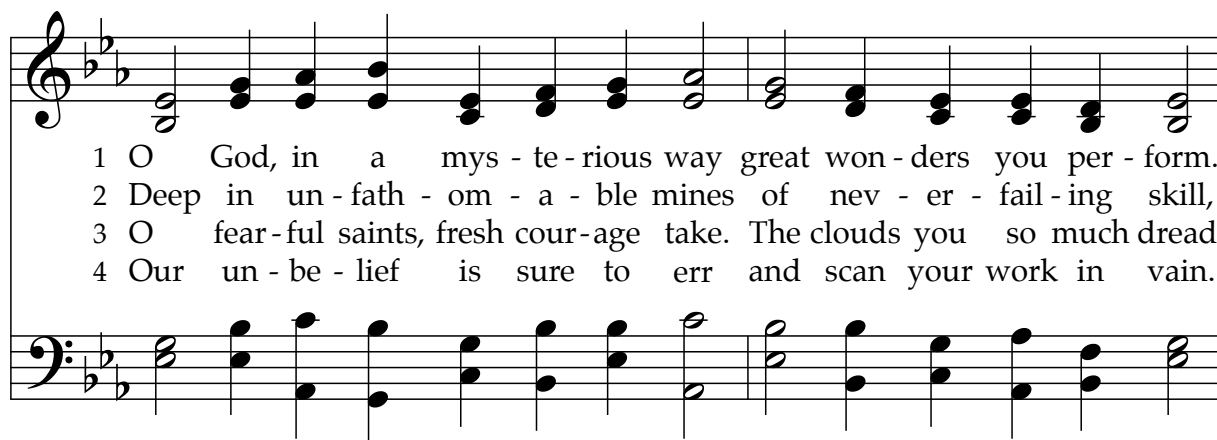
Agnes W. Norfleet

Response to the Word

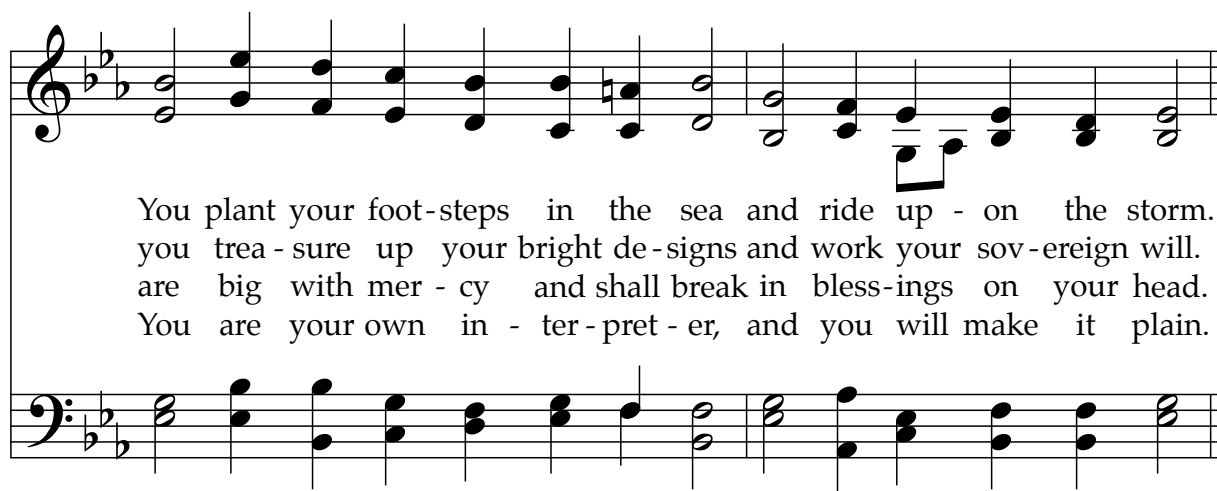
Please stand, if able.

HYMN 30 O God, in a Mysterious Way

DUNDEE



1 O God, in a mys - te - rious way great won - ders you per - form.
2 Deep in un - fath - om - a - ble mines of nev - er - fail - ing skill,
3 O fear - ful saints, fresh cour - age take. The clouds you so much dread
4 Our un - be - lief is sure to err and scan your work in vain.



You plant your foot - steps in the sea and ride up - on the storm.
you trea - sure up your bright de - signs and work your sov - ereign will.
are big with mer - cy and shall break in bless - ings on your head.
You are your own in - ter - pret - er, and you will make it plain.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Andy Greenhow

One You, O God, are supreme and holy.

All **You create our world and give us life. Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us. You are God.**

One You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure.

All **You came to us before we came to you. You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose again. You are with us now. You are God.**

One You, O God, are Holy Spirit.

All **You reconcile and heal; you overcome death. You empower us to be your gospel in the world.**

~ from A Liturgical Affirmation

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 "Hallelujah" from Mount of Olives Ludwig van Beethoven

Hallelujah unto God's Almighty Son. Praise the Lord, ye bright angelic choirs, in holy songs of joy. Praise the Lord in holy songs of joy. Man, proclaim his grace and glory. Hallelujah unto God's Almighty Son. Praise the Lord in holy songs of joy.

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

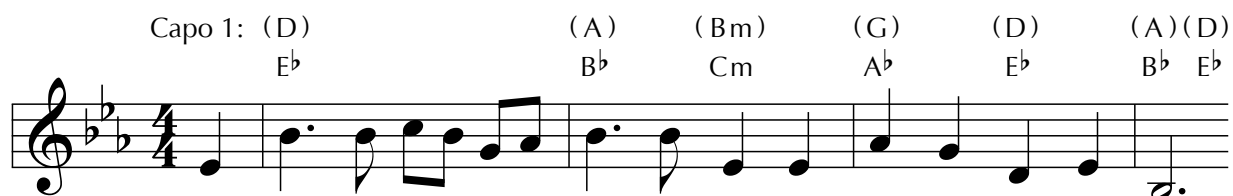
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

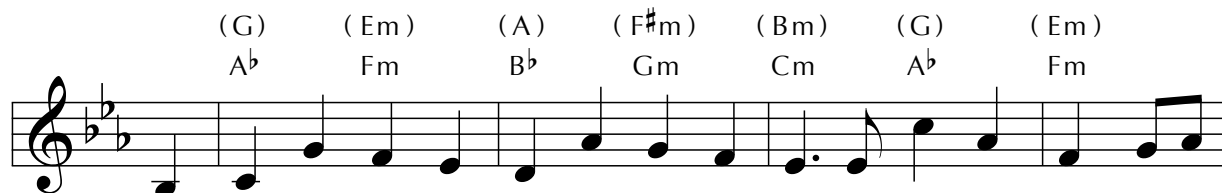
Andy Greenhow

HYMN 432 How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord

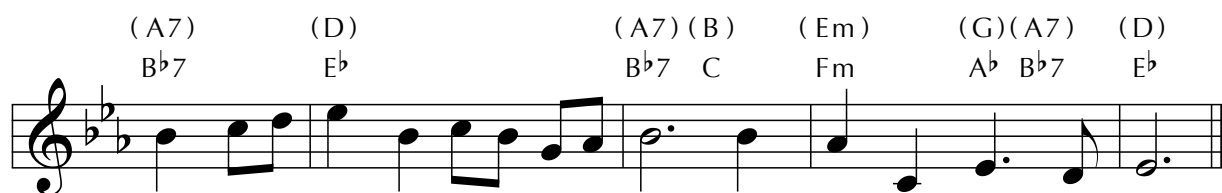
REPTON



1 How clear is our vo - ca - tion, Lord, when once we heed your call
2 But if, for-get - ful, we should find your yoke is hard to bear;
3 We mar - vel how your saints be-came in hin-dranc-es more sure:
4 In what you give us, Lord, to do, to - geth - er or a - lone,



to live ac-cord-ing to your word and dai - ly learn, re-freshed, re -
if world-ly pres-sures fray the mind and love it - self can - not un -
whose joy - ful vir-tues put to shame the ca-sual way we wear your
in old rou-tines or ven-tures new, may we not cease to look to



stored, that you are Lord of all and will not let us fall.
wind its tan-gled skein of care: our in-ward life re - pair.
name, and by our faults ob - scure your power to cleanse and cure.
you: the cross you hung up - on, all you en - deav-ored, done.

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

Agnes W. Norfleet

POSTLUDE "Final," from Symphony No. 6 (Op. 59)

Louis Vierne

James Kealey, organist

WELCOME TO BRYN MAWR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Welcome to Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church as we enter this vibrant season of gathering, growing, and reconnecting. In these weeks, our ministries come alive with opportunities to learn, serve, and share in fellowship. Whether you are returning after the summer or visiting for the very first time, we are grateful for your presence in this community of faith.

Together, we seek to follow Christ with open hearts and willing hands. Inside this bulletin, you'll find ways to participate in worship, programs, and mission. May this season be a time of renewal and joy as we journey together in faith.



The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet
Senior Pastor

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.

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 or Childcare Coordinator Erika Henry, 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 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.

Worship & Music Notes

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mary Elizabeth Marshall and John Thomas Crowther.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from a Liturgical Affirmation– *A New Zealand Prayer Book/Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa* (The Anglican Church in Aotearoa, New Zealand and Polynesia 1997).

PLAYING THE CARILLON

Rob Mygatt

BULLETIN COVER

BMPC Sanctuary. Photo by Dave Tavani.

Announcements

TODAY

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!

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

Casserole Blitz. Sat., Sept. 13, 8:30 a.m., Congregational Hall. Join us to make casseroles and friends at the Hunger Committee's Casserole Blitz! Enjoy this family-friendly activity (for children over age 5) working with fellow BMPC folks to support a good cause while preparing casseroles for area shelters. Upcoming Dates: Oct. 11. Please use our RSVP link to sign up: bit.ly/Blitz-RSVP

Flora & Fauna Gallery Talk. Sun., Sept. 14, 11:15 a.m., Gallery. Artist Alice Dustin will be in the gallery to discuss her new exhibition *Flora and Fauna*, a series of intimate, 6-inch-

square oil portraits reflecting her bond with animals and concern for the environment. Painted *alla prima*, the works feature pets, farm animals, and imagined creatures, with a portion of proceeds supporting climate action. Many of the works are for sale. To inquire about purchasing a piece, please email ToriFisher@bmpc.org

Digging Deeper. Sundays, Sept. 21 - Nov. 9, 8:45 a.m., Witherspoon Parlor. This fall's class will explore the topic, Creation, Covenant, and Christ: Genesis and Christian Belief. Jesus, his disciples, and the early church treasured the scriptures we call the Old Testament. Reading the book of Genesis along with early Christians, we will explore the ties between its themes – of creation and covenant, sin and redemption, suffering and providence – and the Church's developing understanding of God as known in Christ. This fall's class will be led by Dr. Joshua Yoder. To sign up and receive the reading packet for the class, contact JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org

The Role of Jesus in Islam. Sun. Sept. 21, 11:15 a.m. Fullerton Room. We are glad to welcome educator and interfaith advocate Naila Haider. Together, we will learn about key beliefs in Islam, including how Muslims understand God, the role of Jesus as a prophet, his miraculous birth, and his place in the story of faith alongside the Prophet Muhammad. We'll also explore how the Qur'an encourages respect across faiths and shared values.

Fall Food Drive. Sun., Sept. 28. The Hunger Committee invites the congregation to bring non-perishable donations to the Narthex on Sun., Sept. 28, 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 fruit or vegetables, canned beans, applesauce, dry pasta or macaroni and cheese, crackers, instant oatmeal (packets), granola bars, and single-serving snacks. To promote sustainability and at the request of our partner pantries, we encourage you to bring your donations in reusable grocery bags. Contact JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org for more information.

Soup Needed. We are replenishing our Soup Ministry supply! Please consider dropping off some soup of your favorite comforting recipe to be given to those in the congregation who need it. We have quart & pint containers with spill-proof lids and freezer-proof labels that you can pick up from the church. Please include the kind of soup, ingredients, and date made. For more information, please contact KathrynWest@bmpc.org

UPCOMING & ONGOING

BMPC's New Website Has Launched! We are excited to share that our new church website is live! Visit 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.

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

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

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

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@bmmpc.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.

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

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@bmmpc.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@bmmpc.org

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@bmmpc.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

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

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 to register. Questions? Contact LizEllis@bmpc.org

CARING AND SHARING

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 For more information, contact MaryRichards@bmpc.org

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

Calendar

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

- 7:45 a.m. Childcare (infant - age 5), Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101
- 8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**
- 8:45 a.m. Art@9, Ed. Bldg., Rm. 102
- 9:55 a.m. Sunday School Ages 2s, 3s, and Pre-K, Ed. Bldg.
- 10:00 a.m. **Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary & Livestreamed**
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Together Sunday (6-12), Sanctuary
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School K-5th Grade, Ed. Bldg.
- 11:15 a.m. Rally Day, Ministries Center
- 11:15 a.m. Flora & Fauna Exhibit Preview, Gallery
- 12:30 p.m. Interim Search Committee Meeting, Cannon Room

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

- 6:00 p.m. Foundation Board Meeting, Cannon Room

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

- 10:00 a.m. Outdoor Labyrinth Walk (until 7:00 p.m.), Front Lawn
- 10:30 a.m. TaiChi (hybrid), Gymnasium
- 6:00 p.m. Handbell Ensemble Rehearsal, Fine Arts Center
- 7:00 p.m. Session Meeting, Fullerton Room

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

- 9:30 a.m. Yoga206 Bone Boost, Gymnasium
- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
- 4:30 p.m. Wednesday Connection Group, Converse House Parlor
- 5:00 p.m. Joint Budget Management Committee Meeting, Cannon Room
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Congregational Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Student Serve, Gymnasium Youth Lounge

Calendar

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

- 11:00 a.m. Artists' Gathering, Fine Arts Center
- 5:30 p.m. Music and Fine Arts Council Meeting, Witherspoon Parlor
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Fine Arts Center

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

No events scheduled.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Connection Group, Converse House Parlor
- 8:30 a.m. Casserole Blitz, Congregational Hall
- 10:00 a.m. Searching for Still Waters Bereavement Group, Witherspoon Parlor
- 11:00 a.m. **Pam Crutchfield Memorial Service, Chapel**
- 12:00 p.m. Pam Crutchfield Memorial Service Reception, Congregational Hall

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

- 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.

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 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!



CONNECT WITH US



BrynMawrPres



BrynMawrPres



user/brynmawrpres

Worship Staff

Agnes W. Norfleet, Pastor

Andy Greenhow, Associate Pastor for Youth & Their Families

Rebecca Kirkpatrick, Associate Pastor for Adult Education & Mission

Rachel Pedersen, Associate Pastor for Children & Family Ministry

Jeffrey Brillhart, Director of Music & Fine Arts

James Kealey, Co-Director of Music & Fine Arts