



Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, September 21, 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 Prelude and Fugue in F Minor, Op. 7

Marcel Dupré

Daniel Carroll, organist

WELCOME

Rachel Pedersen

Please stand, if able.

CALL TO WORSHIP

One May the peace of God rest upon our busy lives so that we may be quieted into prayer.

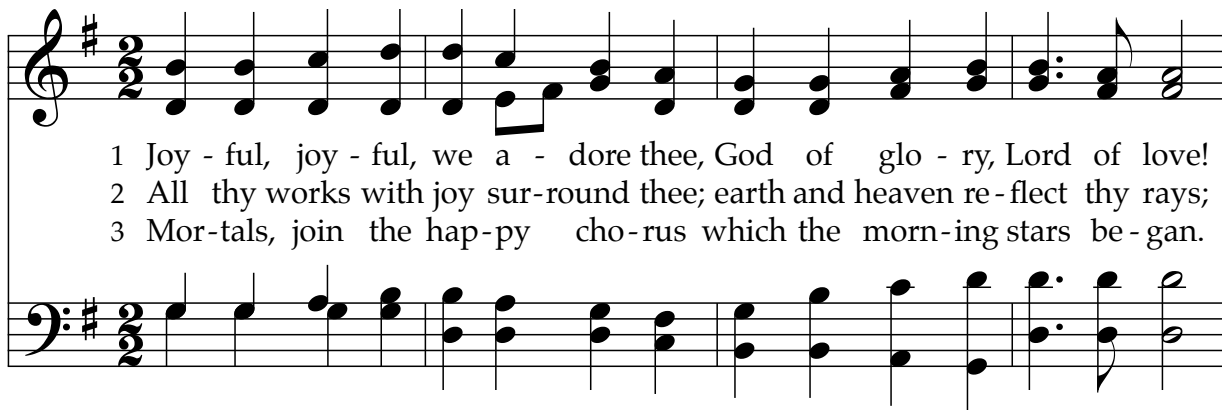
All **May the love of God inspire us to serve and love others.**

One May the grace of God seek out our needs for healing and forgiveness.

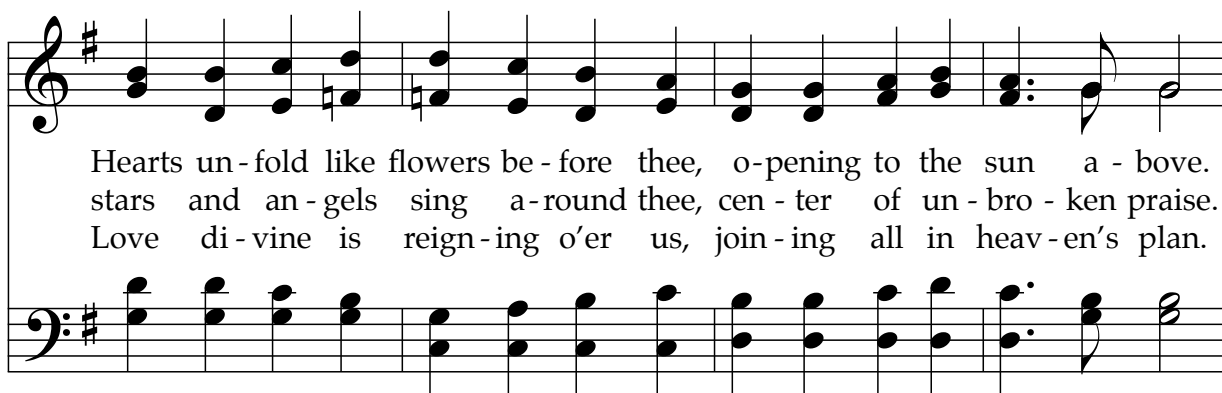
All **May the restless gospel set our hearts afire to serve God without fear.**

HYMN 611 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

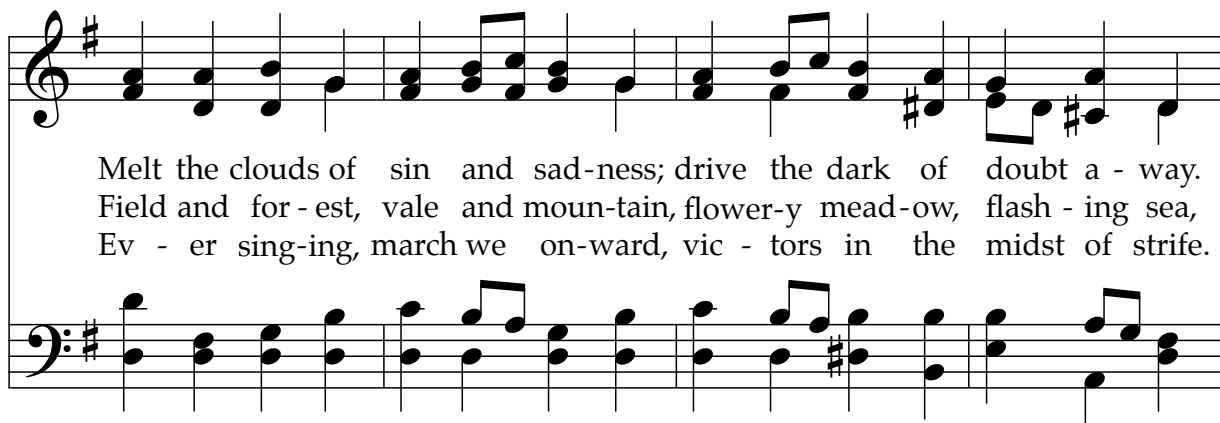
HYMN TO JOY



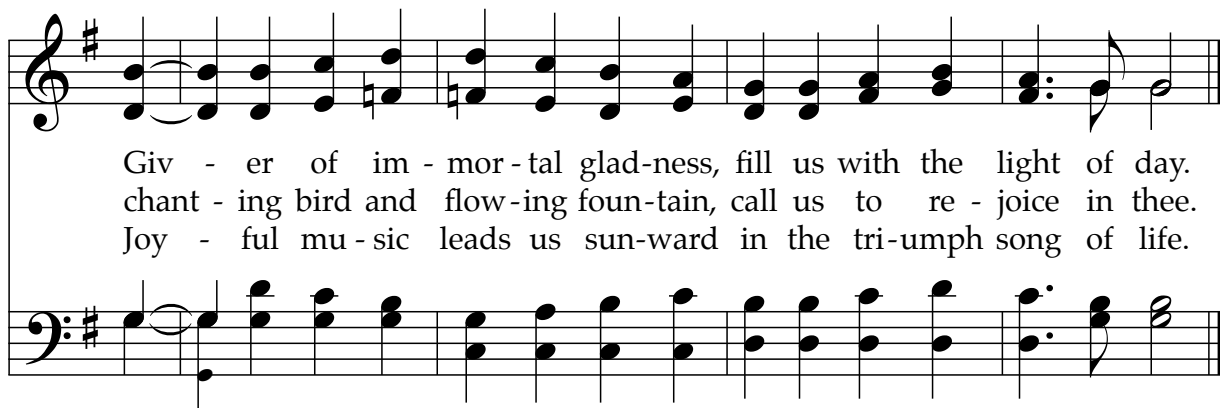
1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee; earth and heaven re-lect thy rays;
3 Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan.



Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, o-pening to the sun a - bove.
stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
Love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, join-ing all in heav-en's plan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way.
 Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash - ing sea,
 Ev - er sing-ing, march we on-ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife.



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 Joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All **O God, you have given us all that you have promised, and more, so that we are blessed beyond measure. You have equipped us to be bold disciples, in word and deed, as we seek your way. We confess that we are often afraid to follow Christ into the risky places of discipleship. We fail to work for justice, to further your peace, and to show forth your compassion. Forgive us, and strengthen us to be faithful and bold members of your church for the sake of the world you so love.**

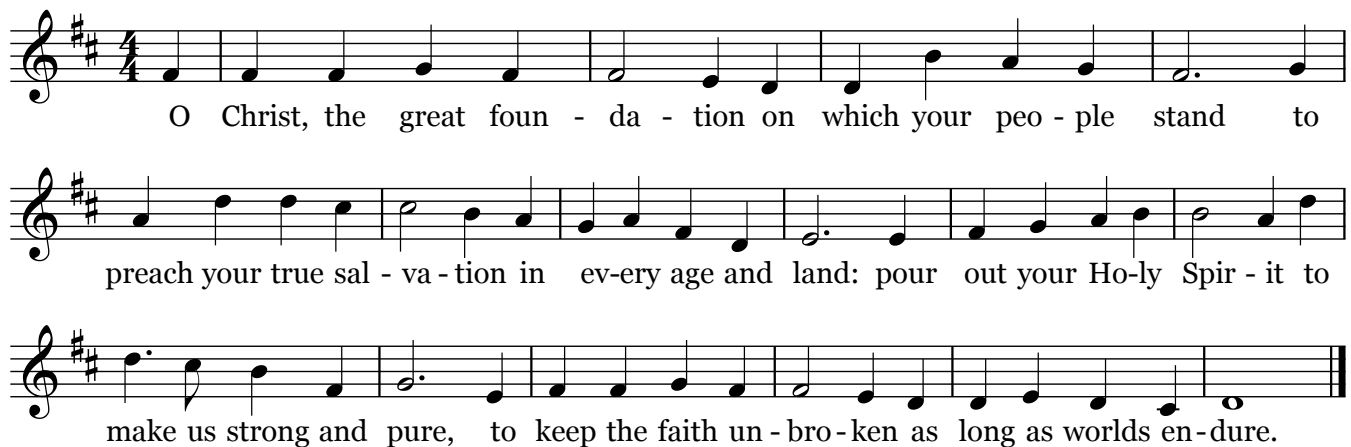
A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

SUNG RESPONSE

AURELIA



O Christ, the great foun - da - tion on which your peo - ple stand to
preach your true sal - va - tion in ev-ery age and land: pour out your Ho-ly Spir - it to
make us strong and pure, to keep the faith un - bro - ken as long as worlds en-dure.

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



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

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 43:1-7

(pg. 672 in pew Bible)

But now thus says the Lord, he who
created you, O Jacob, he who formed

you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have
redeemed you; I have called you by

name; you are mine. When you pass through the waters, I will be with you, and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Cush and Seba in exchange for you. Because you are precious in my sight and honored and I love you, I give people in return for

you, nations in exchange for your life. Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

ANTHEM How Lovely are the Messengers

Felix Mendelssohn

How lovely are the messengers that preach us the gospel of peace! To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words, throughout the lands their glad tidings.

SECOND LESSON Matthew 14:22-36

Agnes W. Norfleet

(pg. 16 in [pew Bible](#))

Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you,

command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret. After the people of that place recognized him, they sent word to that whole surrounding region, and people

brought all who were sick to him and
begged him that they might touch

even the fringe of his cloak, and all
who touched it were healed.

One The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Do Not Fear*

Agnes W. Norfleet

Sacred Texts for Beloved Community Series

Response to the Word

Please stand, if able.

HYMN 775 I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

WALK WITH ME

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me;
2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

I want Je - sus to walk with me;
in my tri - als, Lord, walk with me;
when I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me;

all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
when my heart is al - most break - ing,
when my head is bowed in sor - row,



AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

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 Do Not Be Afraid

Philip Stopford

Kara Goodrich, soprano

Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by your name; you are mine. When you walk through the waters, I'll be with you; you will never sink beneath the waves. When the fire is burning all around you, you will never be consumed by the flames. When the fear of loneliness is looming, then remember I am at your side. When you dwell in the exile of a stranger, remember you are precious in my eyes. You are mine, O my child, I am your Father, and I love you with a perfect love.

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

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

HYMN 463 How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

1 How firm a foun - da - tion, ye saints of the Lord,
2 "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dis-mayed,
3 "When through the deep wa - ters I call thee to go,
4 "When through fi - ery tri - als thy path - way shall lie,
5 "The soul that on Je - sus hath leaned for re - pose,

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent Word!
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;
the riv - ers of sor - row shall not o - ver - flow;
my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be thy sup - ply;
I will not, I will not de - sert to its foes;

What more can be said than to you God hath said,
I'll strength - en thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
for I will be near thee, thy trou - bles to bless,
the flame shall not hurt thee; I on - ly de - sign
that soul, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,



BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

Agnes W. Norfleet

POSTLUDE "Carillon de Westminster," from Pièces de Fantaisie (Op. 54, No. 6)

Louis Vierne

James Kealey, organist

Worship & Music Notes

SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Given to the glory of God and in honor of Richard W. Knecht.

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).

ANTHEM NOTE

Among all 19th Century composers, there was probably no one who composed as much choral music as Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); and the breadth of his output was truly amazing: from short a cappella works to giant oratorios filling a whole evening. And, in all of the works, his mastery at composing for “the choral instrument” was unequalled by anyone else in the century. The music seems to sing itself and make a chorus sound beautiful.

“How Lovely are the Messengers” comes from Mendelssohn’s oratorio “St. Paul” and depicts the two “messengers”, Paul and Barnabus. At this point in the oratorio, Paul has been converted and he, along with Barnabus are sent out into the world to preach the good news. The anthem begins with a duet, representing the two preachers. With the words “To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their world”, the full choir joins.

PLAYING THE CARILLON

Brian Middleton

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.

Announcements

TODAY

Church Officer Nominations.

Recommendations for Elders, Deacons, Trustees, and Nominating Committee Members-at-Large are due today 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.

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, 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.

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.

Installation of Our New Associate Pastor. Sun., Sept. 21, 4:00 p.m., Chapel. Join us as we joyfully celebrate the installation of the Rev. Andy Greenhow as our Associate Pastor for Youth and Their Families. All are warmly invited to attend and to stay for a reception following the service.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

What the Church Has to Learn from

Internet Conspiracism. Sun., Oct. 5, 11:15 a.m., Fullerton Room. The rise of conspiracy theories on the internet presents many difficult challenges, especially for churches called to proclaim truth. This conversation will be led by the Rev. Andy Greenhow, who argues that through reclaiming the weirdness of our Christian tradition and loving those struggling to find community, the church can begin to address the harm done by internet conspiracism.

Blessing of the Animals. Sun., Oct. 5, 4:00 p.m., Front Lawn. Gather for fellowship, singing, scripture, prayers, and individual blessings of companion animals.

The Labyrinth Ministry. Tues., Oct. 7, 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. All are invited to walk our Chartres canvas labyrinth. Quiet your mind, calm your anxieties, welcome insight and reduce stress. If your group is over five people, kindly let KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org know ahead of time.

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

Sunday Morning Discussion Group. Starting Sun., Sept. 14, 8:30 a.m., Cannon Room. Join us as we explore the 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. 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 it 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,

Microaggressions in the Church. Sun., Sept. 28, 11:15 a.m., Congregational Hall. Join Dr. Cody Sanders, of Luther Seminary, for a powerful conversation based on his book *Microaggressions in Ministry*, exploring how subtle acts of exclusion and bias show up in faith communities. This class will invite us to reflect on our own practices and learn how to cultivate more just, inclusive, and compassionate spaces for all. This class is sponsored by the BMPC Anti-Racism Committee.

Mind, Body, Spirit: The What, Why, and How of Managing Anxiety. Wed., Oct. 1, 8, 22, 7:00 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Feeling anxious has become an increasing issue for many of us. We will explore a variety of solutions, including mindset management tools, meditation, contemplative prayer, and breathwork, among others, to allow us to self-manage anxious feelings. This class will be taught by BMPC member Terry Charlton. Contact, KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org

Doing Good Together Service Day. Thurs., Oct. 2, 9:00 a.m., BMPC Campus & Offsite. On Yom Kippur, help neighbors near and far during a day of service for 1st-7th Graders. 1st-3rd Graders will stay on campus from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. 4th-7th Graders will go off-site to work with our mission partners from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Registration required by Sept. 26: bit.ly/DoingGoodTogether2025 Contact MaryRichards@bmpc.org

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

Fall Food Drive. Sun., Sept. 28. The Hunger Committee invites the congregation to bring non-perishable donations to the Narthex 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

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. New members are especially encouraged to join! If interested, contact MargoBennett@comcast.net

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

Calendar

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

- 7:45 a.m. Childcare (infant - age 5), Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101
- 8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**
- 8:30 a.m. Sunday Morning Discussion Group, Cannon Room
- 8:45 a.m. Art@9, Ed. Bldg., Rm. 102
- 8:45 a.m. Digging Deeper, Witherspoon Parlor
- 8:45 a.m. Filling the Well, Ed. Bldg., Rm. 105
- 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. Youth Gathering (Gr. 6-12), Gymnasium
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School K-5th Grade, Ed. Bldg.
- 11:15 a.m. Atrium Cafe, Atrium
- 11:15 a.m. The Role of Jesus in Islam, Fullerton Room
- 11:15 a.m. Be a Chorister for a Day, Fine Arts Center
- 4:00 p.m. **Installation Service for the Rev. Andy Greenhow, Chapel**
- 5:00 p.m. Installation Reception, Congregational Hall

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 22

- 7:00 p.m. Anti-Racism Committee Meeting, Cannon Room
- 7:30 p.m. Fit4Mom, Gymnasium

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- 9:00 a.m. Yoga for Life (hybrid), Gymnasium
- 10:30 a.m. TaiChi (hybrid), Gymnasium
- 1:00 p.m. Dance for Parkinson's Disease, Gymnasium
- 6:00 p.m. BMPC Tutoring Program Tutor Training, Ed. Bldg. Hall
- 6:00 p.m. Handbell Ensemble Rehearsal, Fine Arts Center

Calendar

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

- 10:00 a.m. Coffee Cup Bible Study, Cannon Room
- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
- 4:30 p.m. Wednesday Connection Group, Converse House Parlor
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Congregational Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Student Serve, Gymnasium Youth Lounge
- 7:00 p.m. Outreach Committee Meeting, Cannon Room

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Fine Arts Center

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

- 11:00 a.m. **Elizabeth Forrest Memorial Service, Chapel**

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

- 7:00 a.m. Fit4Mom, Gymnasium
- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Connection Group, Converse House Parlor
- 10:00 a.m. Searching for Still Waters Bereavement Group, Converse House Parlor

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

- 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

Daniel Carroll, Organ Scholar