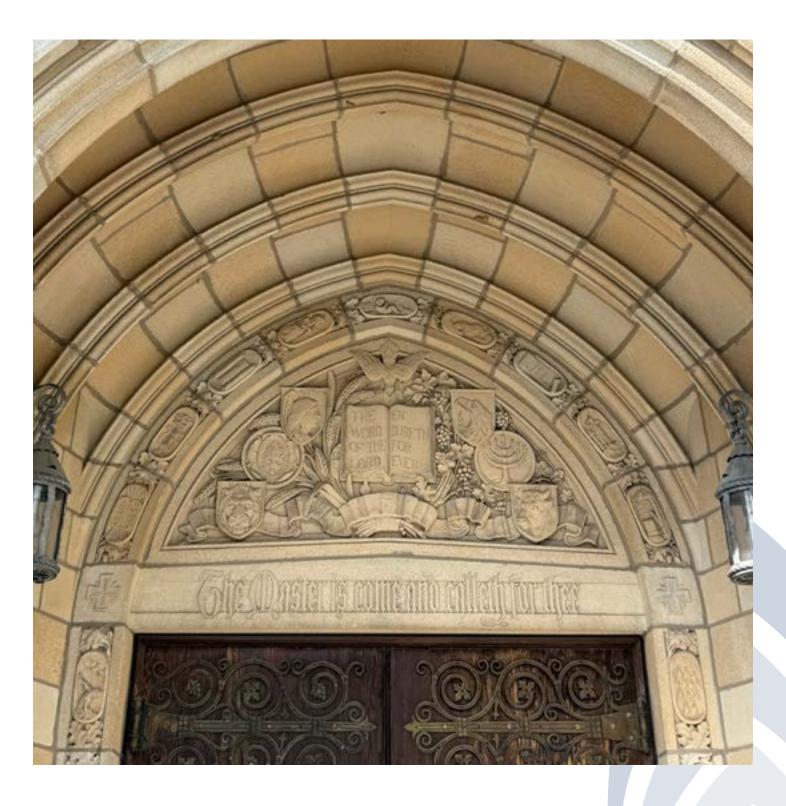


# **Reformation Sunday**

Sunday, October 26, 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 C Major, BWV 547

J. S. Bach

Jeffrey Brillhart, organist

WELCOME Rebecca Kirkpatrick

Please stand, if able.

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One Beloved, let us love one another,

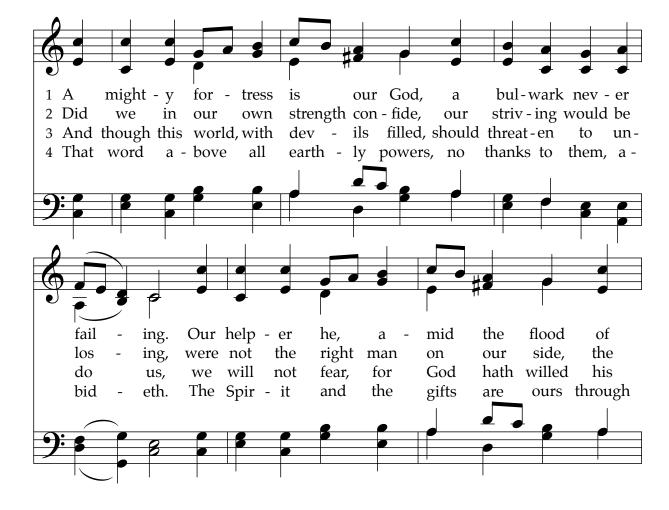
All because love is from God.

One If we love one another, God lives in us,

All and God's love is perfected in us.

## HYMN 275 A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN' FESTE BURG





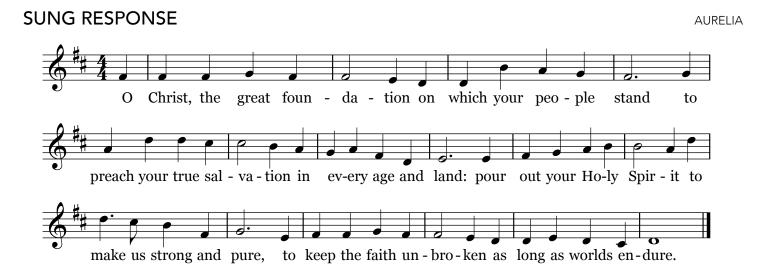
#### CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All Loving God, we offer our praise for your wonderful gifts to us – for your love that sustains us and binds us together as your people; for your power that fills the earth and brings new life; for your peace that takes away fear and brings hope. Forgive us, O God, when we fail to trust your presence in our lives and for the world. Help us to serve you and be the church of Christ with gladness and joy.

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.



# **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

Melanie Hardison

#### FIRST LESSON Psalm 46

(pg. 517 in pew Bible)

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea, though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved; God will help it when the morning dawns. The nations are in an

uproar; the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice; the earth melts. The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge. Come, behold the works of the Lord; see what desolations he has brought on the earth. He makes wars cease to the end of the earth; he breaks the bow and shatters the spear; he burns the shields with fire. "Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth." The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

ANTHEM Achieved is the Glorious Work from "The Creation" Franz Joseph Haydn Achieved is the glorious work; Our song let be the praise of God. Glory to his name for ever. He sole on high exalted reigns. Hallelujah.

## SECOND LESSON John 15:4-5, 9-12

(pg. 109 in pew Bible)

Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

As the Father has loved me, so I have

One The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

Agnes W. Norfleet

loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

SERMON Where Love Abides
Sacred Texts for Beloved Community Series

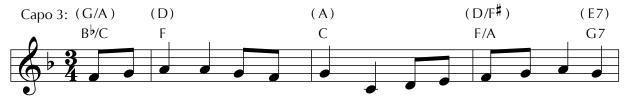
Agnes W. Norfleet

# Response to the Word

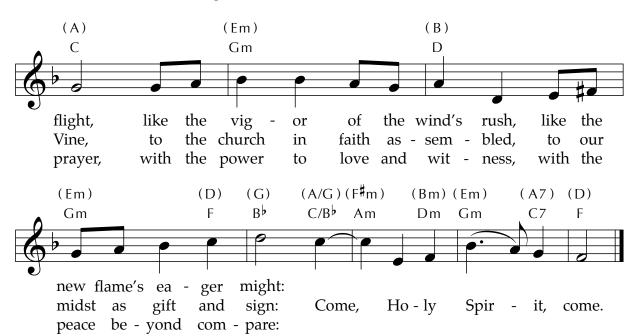
Please stand, if able.

# HYMN 285 Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

**BRIDEGROOM** 



- 1 Like the mur-mur of the dove's song, like the chal-lenge of her
- 2 To the mem-bers of Christ's bod y, to the branch-es of the
- 3 With the heal-ing of di vi sion, with the cease-less voice of



#### PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Andy Greenhow

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

Andy Greenhow

## **OFFERTORY ANTHEM** We Gather Together

Stephen Paulus

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing; he chastens and hastens his will to make known; the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing; sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own. Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining, ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine; so from the beginning the fight we were winning thou, Lord, was at our side: all glory be thine! We all do extol thee thou leader triumphant and pray that thou still our defender will be. Let thy congregation escape tribulation: thy Name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

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.

### LITANY OF DEDICATION

Melanie Hardison

One The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it.

All We are stewards of creation, entrusted with God's gifts.

One You call us to share joyfully, O God, with all of our resources.

All We freely give our time, talent, and treasure for this good work.

One We dedicate our offering and these pledges to you, as an act of faithfulness.

All Help us to use them to further your work in the world. Amen.



CHORAL RESPONSE Jeffrey Brillhart

Amen for Agnes

#### CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF THE REV. DR. AGNES W. NORFLEET

Peggy Gregg Janet Haas Jeffrey Brillhart

PRESENTATION OF LOVE OFFERING

Dottie Bowen, Clerk of Session

POSTLUDE "Final" from Symphonie I, Op. 14

Louis Vierne

Jeffrey Brillhart, organist

# **Worship Notes**

#### SANCTUARY FLOWERS

Given by BMPC to honor the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet and in gratitude for her faithful leadership and service at BMPC and to celebrate her outstanding ministry in The Presbyterian Church (USA).

#### **CHAPEL GARDEN FLOWERS**

Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of J. Brian Walsh.

#### **TODAY'S MUSIC**

As with all services of Worship, the music offered by the choirs and instrumentalists continually seeks to add further commentary and supplementary substance to the arc of the service. Today is no exception. We thank, with all our hearts, Agnes for her exemplary service to this incredible congregation and community. Haydn's "Achieved is the Glorious Work" from "The Creation," a masterwork depicting the creation of the world as depicted in the Book of Genesis, fits neatly, as we celebrate Agnes' decades in ministry, and all she has done for this place. Stephen Paulus' setting of "We Gather Together," sung at the Offertory is a great way to bookend this sermon series, reminding us that though transitions may be challenging, this congregation will resiliently continue forth into the future, as it always has done; but not without giving gratitude, and thanks for the work of those who have made it such a place to be.

James Kealey, Co-Director of Music & Fine Arts

#### 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** 

Agnes

#### **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 <a href="mailto:bmpc.org">bmpc.org</a>.

#### 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 <a href="www.bmpc.org/live">www.bmpc.org/live</a> 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**

The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet's Final Sunday. Sun., Oct. 26, at 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary. Join us as we celebrate Agnes' 13 years of faithful leadership and ministry. The service will include special tributes and the presentation of a love offering as we send Agnes and Larry off to North Carolina with gratitude and affection. A festive reception will follow in Congregational Hall and the Gymnasium to honor Agnes and her family.

## Bryn Mawr Gives Love. Stewardship 2026.

Today is Dedication Sunday where we offer up to God a portion of our time, talents, and treasure to support the work and ministry of BMPC in 2026. God shapes us in community to send us out in service to the world. Please place your completed pledge cards in the offering plate or you may pledge or donate online: <a href="www.bmpc.org/gift">www.bmpc.org/gift</a> You may also contact our Finance Director, <a href="SarahMiciek@bmpc.org">SarahMiciek@bmpc.org</a> Thank you in advance for your generosity.

#### **UPCOMING & ONGOING**

# Which Medicare Drug Plan is Best for You?

Mon., Oct. 27, 10:00 a.m., Witherspoon Parlor. The Medicare Open Enrollment Season ends on December 7. This is a vital time to compare plans to be sure which will be the best for you in 2026. BMPC member Louisa Mygatt, a volunteer Medicare counselor, leads a workshop on how to make a drug plan comparison online. The workshop is open to all, so bring your laptop, your list of medications, and your questions.

Reflections on the Camino. Mon., Oct. 27, 1:00 p.m., Fullerton Room. For centuries, millions of Christians and other pilgrims have trekked the Camino de Santiago, or the Way, to the shrine of the apostle James in the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela in Galicia, Spain. Pilgrim panelists Susan Bravo, Kathy Kreider, Joan LaLeike, Cindy Pierce, and Pam Haynes Walsh will describe and reflect on their individual experiences on this journey. Registration is not required but is appreciated. Contact <a href="mailto:TiaraHarris@bmpc.org">TiaraHarris@bmpc.org</a> by October 26.

Halloween Silent Film with Live Organ Accompaniment. Fri., Oct. 31, 8:00 p.m., Chapel. Join us for a special Halloween event featuring the 1923 silent film classic "The Hunchback of Notre Dame" with live organ accompaniment. BMPC Organ Scholar Daniel Carroll will bring the film to life with an improvised score, recreating the authentic silent-era movie experience. Carroll, a nationally recognized young organist from the Curtis Institute of Music, is known for his expressive playing and award-winning improvisation. Don't miss this thrilling evening of music, film, and popcorn concessions in the Chapel!

All Saints' Sunday. Sun., Nov. 2, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary. This All Saints' Sunday, our Sanctuary Choir will lift their voices in a moving celebration of faith and remembrance. Through stirring anthems and reflective hymns, we'll honor the saints who have gone before us and rejoice in the promise of eternal life. Come and be part of this beautiful service of worship, music, and community.

Member Perspectives: Artists of BMPC Gallery Opening. Sun., Nov. 2, 11:15 a.m., Gallery. Join us after worship for the opening of Member Perspectives: Artists of BMPC, a curated exhibit celebrating the creativity of our congregation. Featuring diverse works by BMPC artists, both seasoned and emerging, the show highlights how art expresses faith, emotion, and imagination. Come celebrate the beauty and talent within our church community.

Anti-Racism Prayer Walk to Bryn Mawr College. Sun., Nov. 2, 11:30 a.m. You are invited to gather in front of the Sanctuary following our All Saints service, as we walk together to view a new memorial on Bryn Mawr College's campus. "Don't Forget to Remember (Me)" is a braided clay and illuminated-glass pathway installation by artist Nekisha Durrett. This memorial honors and reclaims the overlooked contributions of Black staff from the early 20th century while symbolically retracing the journey of the college's first Black female graduate. Contact RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org

Weekday School Open House. Sun., Nov. 2, 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Come learn about the BMPC Weekday School. Families exploring preschool options and Weekday School alumni are encouraged to visit, meet teachers, explore classrooms, and learn more about our mission and class offerings. Contact Weekdayschool@bmpc.org

Sign Up for the Christmas Eve Pageant. Sign up by Mon., Nov. 3, if your child wants to participate in the 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Service on Wed., Dec. 24. Our youngest participants must be at least three years old (our sheep!). Registration required: <a href="mailto:bit.ly/">bit.ly/</a>

<u>ChristmasParticipant2025</u> Volunteers needed! Contact <u>MaryRichards@bmpc.org</u>

The Labyrinth Ministry. Tues., Nov. 4, 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. All are invited to walk our Chartres canvas labyrinth on Election Day. Our theme for November is peace and gratitude, although any intention is welcome. Quiet your mind, calm your anxieties, welcome insight, and reduce stress. If your group is over five people, kindly let <a href="mailto:KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org">KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org</a> know ahead of time.

Holy Leisure Potluck. Fri., Nov. 7, 6:00 p.m., Home of Barbara Cobb, Wayne. Join us for a potluck and discussion, "Rooted in Community, Moving Toward Wellness," led by BMPC's new parish nurse, Colleen Catania. Colleen will give a heartfelt introduction into her journey, role, and vision for holistic wellness within our congregation, with an interactive discussion about the benefits of movement and caring for ourselvesbody, mind, and spirit- with gratitude and connection. RSVP online with a shared food item at: <a href="mailto:bit.ly/HolyLeisureNov2025">bit.ly/HolyLeisureNov2025</a> Contact <a href="mailto:bmpc.holy.leisure@gmail.com">bmpc.holy.leisure@gmail.com</a>

Theologian In Residence, Anna Carter Florence. Sat., Nov. 8, 10:00 a.m. and Sun., Nov. 9, 11:15 a.m., Congregational Hall. Join us for our annual lecture series featuring Homiletics Scholar Anna Carter Florence. Anna is known for her creative reading and explorations of scripture, and in both gatherings will help us experience and understand the Bible in new and imaginative ways.

**Youth Positive Parenting Series.** Sun., Nov. 9, 6:00 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Join us for

this month's session of our Youth Positive Parenting Series, led by experts from the Middleton Counseling Center. This month's focus is on Technology — understanding the challenges youth face in navigating digital life today. Designed for parents of 6th–12th graders, the series offers practical strategies for positive parenting, with concurrent programming for youth. Adults will meet in Witherspoon Parlor. Contact AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org

Glow in the Dark Capture the Flag. Sun., Nov. 9, 6:00 p.m., Gym & Harcum College Lawn. Current 6th-12th graders are invited to the annual Glow in the Dark Capture the Flag event. Arrive at 6:00 p.m. in the gym for pizza and 6:30 p.m. for the games. Registration required: <a href="mailto:bit.ly/GlowCTF2025">bit.ly/GlowCTF2025</a> Contact Andy Greenhow@bmpc.org

Meet and Greet. Tues., Nov. 11, 10:00 a.m., Converse House Parlor. Join us in extending a warm welcome to Melanie Hardison, our new Pastor for Congregational Care. This will be an opportunity to meet informally with Melanie, share light refreshments, and learn about her ministry. Please register by Nov. 7 with <a href="mailto:TiaraHarris@bmpc.org">TiaraHarris@bmpc.org</a>

**LGBTQ @ BMPC.** Wed., Nov. 19, 7:00 p.m., Converse House Parlor. Come as you are and find connection in a welcoming, affirming space for all. This biweekly gathering (first and third Wednesday evenings each month) offers a judgment-free environment to build community, share experiences, ask questions, and receive support. For more information or to connect with our volunteer facilitators, contact <a href="mailto:RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org">RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org</a>

# Middle School Retreat at Johnsonburg. Fri., Dec. 5 - Sun., Dec. 7. Students in grades 6-8 are invited to a Middle School

Retreat at Johnsonburg Camp & Retreat Center. The cost is \$175, with scholarships available. Register by Thurs., Nov. 20: <u>bit.</u> <u>ly/MiddleSchoolRetreat2025</u> Contact <u>AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org</u>

#### **CARING AND SHARING**

Turkey Collection. Help ensure every family has a Thanksgiving meal this year. The Hunger Committee is collecting frozen turkeys (up to 15 lbs.) for distribution throughout November. Donations should be received by Wed., Nov. 19, but early contributions are especially appreciated to help meet community needs. Turkeys may be dropped off in the Ministries Center, using any of the freezers located downstairs. Contact JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org

Front Desk Volunteers Needed. Be a welcoming presence for members and visitors! Front Desk Receptionists greet guests, answer and transfer calls, and use our online church directory. Shifts are flexible—just two hours or more—and a brief screening helps ensure a good fit. If you're comfortable with people, phones, and computers, this could be a wonderful way to serve. Contact LizEllis@bmpc.org

## Join Us in the Fight Against Hunger.

Through the BMPC Hunger Fund, our congregation supports more than eighteen food pantries and feeding programs in Greater Philadelphia and helps provide over 1,000 casseroles each year. Your gifts make this possible and strengthen the work of our partners serving neighbors in need. Give using the white Hunger Envelopes in your pew rack or make a one-time or recurring gift online: <a href="mailto:onrealm.org/bmpc/give/hunger">onrealm.org/bmpc/give/hunger</a>

# Calendar

#### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

8:30 a.m.	Sunday Morning Discussion Group, Cannon Room
8:45 a.m.	Childcare (infant - age 5), Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101
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
9:00 a.m.	Flora & Fauna Exhibit, Gallery
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 in Worship (Gr. 6-12), Sanctuary
10:15 a.m.	Sunday School K-5th Grade, Ed. Bldg.

11:15 a.m. Farewell Reception Honoring the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet, Congregational Hall and Gymnasium

#### **MONDAY, OCTOBER 27**

10:00 a.m. Which Medicare Drug Plan is Best for You?, Witherspoon Parlor
1:00 p.m. Pilgrim Reflections on the Camino de Santiago, Fullerton Room
7:00 p.m. Anti-Racism Committee Meeting, Cannon Room

7:00 p.m. Monday Night Study, Witherspoon Parlor

7:30 p.m. Fit4Mom, Gymnasium

## TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28

9:00 a.m. Members' Show Artwork Drop Off, Gallery
9:00 a.m. Yoga for Life (hybrid), Gymnasium
10:30 a.m. TaiChi (hybrid), Gymnasium
11:30 a.m. Parkinson's Support Group, Cannon Room

1:00 p.m. Dance for Parkinson's Disease, Gymnasium

6:00 p.m. Bells of Bryn Mawr Rehearsal, Rehearsal Room

6:45 p.m. BMPC Tutoring Program, Ed. Bldg. Hall

#### WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 29

10:00 a.m. Coffee Cup Bible Study, Cannon Room

4:30 p.m. Piano Class A, Fine Arts Center

4:30 p.m. Wednesday Connection Group, Converse House Parlor

5:00 p.m. Chorister Rehearsal, Rehearsal Room

5:00 p.m. Junior Chorister Rehearsal, Ed. Bldg. Hall

5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Congregational Hall

6:00 p.m. Piano Class B, Fine Arts Center

7:00 p.m. Student Serve, Gymnasium Youth Lounge

#### THURSDAY, OCTOBER 30

9:30 a.m. Singing for Life Rehearsal, Rehearsal Room

2:00 p.m. Visiual Arts Committee Meeting, Gloucester Room

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

#### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

8:00 p.m. "Hunchback of Notre Dame" Silent Film with Organ Accompaniment, Chapel

### SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

7:00 a.m. Fit4Mom, Gymnasium

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

9:30 a.m. Sanctuary Choir Dress Rehearsal, Sanctuary

#### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 2

8:00 a.m. Worship with Communion, Chapel

10:00 a.m. Worship with Communion and Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary and Livestreamed

The Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick 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 <a href="mailto:bit.ly/">bit.ly/</a>
<a href="mailto:BMPCGiveOnline">BMPCGiveOnline</a> 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**



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# **Worship Staff**

Agnes W. Norfleet, Pastor

Andy Greenhow, Associate Pastor for Youth & Their Families

Melanie Hardison, Associate Pastor for Congregational Care

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