

Sunday, November 15, 2020

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER (*in unison*)

We praise you, we worship you, we adore you.
You hold the heavens in your hand, all stars rejoice in your glory.
You come in the sunrise and the song of morn
and bless the splendor of the noonday.
The stars in their courses magnify you, day and night tell of your glory.
Your peace blows over the earth and the breath of your mouth fills all space.
Your voice comes in the thunder of the storm
and the song of the wind whispers of your majesty.
You satisfy all things living with your abundance
and our hearts bow at your presence.
Accept us, your children, Eternal God, and hearken to our prayer.
Bend over us, Eternal Love, and bless us to be your church. Amen.

HYMN 686

God of Our Life

SANDON

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 17:22-34

Agnes W. Norfleet

SERMON

The Good Search
Eighth in a Series on the Acts of the Apostles

Agnes W. Norfleet

ANTHEM

A Prayer of the Middle Ages
Sanctuary Choir Staff Singers

Howard Hanson

We declare unto all the ages as the greatest marvel, ere there were hills and trees or the mighty ocean, ere the sunlight shone forth, or the moon cast its beams, when naught was, from end to end, there wert Thou, O God, Thou almighty God, from time unknown to time unknown, eternal God, Thou almighty God, Thou who madest Heaven and Earth, give through Thy holy blessing faith unending, give to us wisdom, prudence and strength, give through Thy holy blessing faith unending that Thy will we may do. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

Leigh DeVries

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

MINISTRY MOMENT - ADVENT GIFT MARKET

Mary Bassett

HYMN 318

In Christ There Is No East or West

ST. PETER

Announcements

LOOKING FOR A CHURCH HOME? Consider learning more about being in community here by attending our “Discover BMPC” orientation classes on Mondays, Dec. 7 and 14 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom conference call. These two classes provide an opportunity to become acquainted, ask questions, and learn more about our church, our Presbyterian heritage, and our mission. Inquirers welcome. FranklynPottorff@bmpc.org.

ADVENT GIFT MARKET. Although we cannot have an in-person Opening Day Market this year, you still may participate in this creative and meaningful gift-giving program. Orders for inserts and greeting cards may be placed via the AGM website — www.BrynMawrAGM.com — or by mailing/dropping off the order form enclosed in this year’s [catalog](#). Orders may be placed in the secure black mailbox immediately adjacent to the Radnor Street Parking lot. Filled orders may be picked up from a bin labeled “Advent Gift Market” outside the BMPC Chapel door. Donors will be notified when orders are ready, usually 1-2 days after receipt of the order; when requested, insert cards may be downloaded and printed from your home computer. Contact: [Marian Chitester](#).

2020 ADVENT DEVOTIONAL AVAILABLE. As we celebrate the seasons of Advent and Christmas, you are invited to use the Advent Devotional, which includes scripture, at-home Advent candle-lighting liturgies, and daily reflections written by members of our congregation. You can access the devotional in the following ways: [Download a PDF](#) of the devotional to print at home or read on your computer or mobile device; [sign up](#) to receive an email with the daily reflection; or pick up a printed copy of the devotional from the shelves outside the Chapel entrance. Contact [Rebecca Kirkpatrick](#).

CHRISTMAS FLOWER DONATIONS. Contributions may be given in three categories for listing in the Christmas Eve bulletin: “In memory of,” “In honor of,” or “In celebration of (marriage, retirement, birth, baptism).” Monies received are used year-round for our floral decorations and Deacons’ Flower Ministry. You may fill out an [online](#) donation form, or pick up a printed copy of the form in a bin outside the BMPC Chapel entrance. The deadline for donations is Sun., Dec. 6. If you need a copy of the form mailed to you, contact Sarah Miciek at 610-525-2821 or SarahMiciek@bmpc.org.

This Sunday

SUNDAY DISCUSSION GROUP. 9:00 a.m., via Zoom conference call. The group has begun a discussion of Jemar Tisby’s book, *The Color of Compromise: The Truth about the American Church’s Complicity in Racism*. [Click here](#) for more information about the class. For the Zoom link, contact [Rebecca Kirkpatrick](#).

FILLING THE WELL. 9:00 a.m., via Zoom conference call. This Sunday class for women is an opportunity for conversation, learning and mutual support. The group has begun a conversation on Ben Myers’ book, *The Apostles’ Creed: A Guide to the Ancient Catechism*. [Click here](#) for more information about the class. For the Zoom link, contact [Rebecca Kirkpatrick](#).

WOMEN IN THE BIBLE. Sundays through Nov. 22 and Dec. 6, 11:15 a.m., via Zoom conference call. The names and stories of women in scripture often have been neglected — left out of the lectionary and absent from our conversations about biblical models of faith. During these four weeks we will explore the themes and significance of eight biblical women. Taken in pairs, these women introduce the practice of reading and understanding women in the Bible; they give us tools for reading and interpreting the whole of scripture. For more details on this class taught by the [Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick](#), and for the Zoom link, check out the [class page](#).

This Week

CHAPEL OPEN TO MEMBERS FOR INDIVIDUAL PRAYER. BMPC members are welcome to pray silently in the Chapel on Tuesdays from 8:00 – 9:00 a.m. and Thursdays from 1:00 – 5:30 p.m. You are invited to sign in when you enter the Chapel, leaving your contact information. Prayer guides are available to lead your devotion and to mark your seat as having been occupied when you leave. Masks and social distancing required!

TAI CHI CLASSES. Improve your balance, regain serenity, join friends! Class meets virtually every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m. via Zoom. For information and to sign up, contact Rich McKenzie, teacher at BMPC for 16 years, at rmcktaichi@yahoo.com or 610-873-0604.

FACEBOOK LIVE CONCERT SERIES. Join us as we continue to broadcast live concerts via [BMPC's Facebook page](#) on Tuesdays at noon. Our next concert on Nov. 17 features Edward Landin Senn, organ. [Stephanie Speakman](#).

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: ROOT CAUSES AND REFLECTIONS ON FIVE YEARS OF MISSION. Fri., Nov. 20, 9:00-10:00 a.m., via Zoom conference call. Join the Senior Adult Council in welcoming the Rev. Cathy Chang and Juan Lopez Carrasco who will discuss their efforts to prevent human trafficking and forced labor and address the underlying issues of systemic poverty and human rights. More than 21 million people worldwide are victims of human trafficking; forced labor victims have been found most often in construction, mining, fishing, agriculture, restaurants, and domestic work.

Since 2015, Cathy and Juan have served as mission co-workers for Presbyterian World Mission, PC (USA), and they work with Asian churches, non-governmental organizations and other world partners to address these forms of modern slavery. Cathy, a former pastoral resident at BMPC, her husband Juan and their daughter Aurélie live in Manila, Philippines. Their ministry is supported by BMPC's Worldwide Ministries Committee and Presbyterian Women. For the Zoom link, contact BrianBallard@bmpc.org.

Upcoming

ADVENT VESPER SERVICES. BMPC will livestream Advent Vesper services beginning Sun., Nov. 29 at 4:00 p.m. You are invited to view these services via [BMPC's Facebook page](#), the [BMPC YouTube channel](#) or the [livestream page](#) on the church website.

Caring and Sharing

BMPC HUNGER FUND — NO TURKEY COLLECTION. Due to COVID-19 considerations, the BMPC Hunger Committee is not collecting turkeys this holiday season; instead, we ask that you contribute to the BMPC Hunger Fund. These funds will be used to help those in need during the holidays as well as throughout the year. BMPC Hunger Ministries have continued supporting local food pantries during the pandemic, thanks to the generosity of our members. We know that the need to support the food insecure in Greater Philadelphia will continue for months and years to come. Please give today via our [online giving page](#) or mail a check to BMPC, 625 Montgomery Ave., Bryn Mawr, PA 19010, with Hunger Fund written on the memo line of your check.

CHRISTMAS ANGELS. The holiday season will be a bit different this year, but Christmas will come to the children and youth served by Gemma Services (formerly theVillage). You can make the holidays special for these young people by bringing gift cards and *unwrapped gifts* to the Drive-thru Drop Off between the Sanctuary and Chapel on Sun., Dec. 6, from 1:00-3:00 p.m. You also may drop off gift cards in BMPC's secure mailbox at the entrance facing the Radnor Street parking lot, or by appointment. Please note: *Delivery to Gemma's campus is by appointment only.* All gifts are due by Fri., Dec. 11.

Due to the pandemic, Gemma prefers gift cards from Target, Walmart, Amazon, Visa, Giant, Marshalls/TJ Maxx, Burlington Coat Factory, Foot Locker, Five Below and Best Buy. Increments of \$25 are ideal. You also may buy a gift for a child (Legos, toiletry gift sets, Rubik's Cubes, makeup, cards and card games, board games, squishies, basketball or football, remote controlled cars) or from [Gemma's Amazon Wish List](#). Contact: [Betty Wu](#).