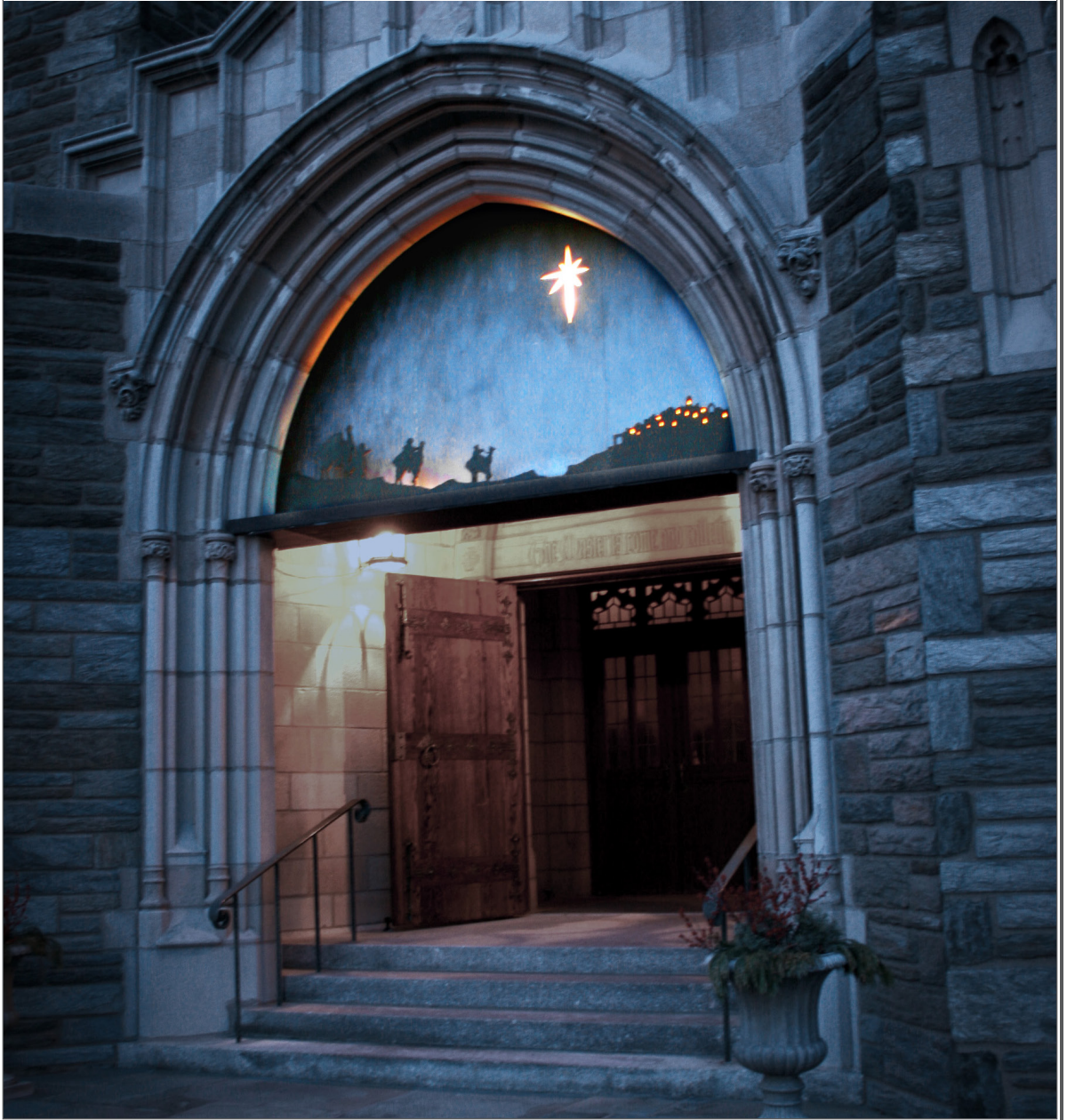


# *Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church*

Sunday, December 11, 2022 | 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

Third Sunday of Advent



# WELCOME

## 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 outside the Sanctuary doors following the Worship Service. All of our programs, ministries, and opportunities for mission are open to everyone. Come join us!

## LIVESTREAMED CHURCH SERVICES

In addition to in-person worship, the Sunday Worship Services are available to watch live at 10:00 a.m. on our live-streaming page: [www.bmpc.org/livestream](http://www.bmpc.org/livestream). For your convenience, the service also will be posted on our Worship Services page on the following day.

## CHILDCARE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

Childcare is available on Sundays from 8:00 a.m. to noon for children ages six months and older. See Sunday School class information on this page. Please contact Pastor Rachel, [RachelPedersen@bmpc.org](mailto:RachelPedersen@bmpc.org) or Childcare Coordinator Rebecca Kellich at [childcare@bmpc.org](mailto:childcare@bmpc.org) with any questions.

## WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER

Subscribe to our BMPC eNews by visiting our website: [www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org).

## Today's Schedule

### Childcare (infant - age 5)

7:45 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.  
Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101

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### Worship with Sanctuary Choir

10:00 a.m.

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### Sunday School Classes

#### Age 2 - PreK

10:00 a.m., Ed. Bldg.

#### Grades K - 5

10:00 a.m., Worship in Sanctuary  
10:15 a.m., Ed. Bldg.

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### Youth Gathering

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

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### Atrium Café

11:00 a.m., Atrium

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### BMPC Members

#### Art Exhibit

9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.,  
Art Gallery, Ministries Center

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### Advent, Isaiah and Our Jewish Neighbors

11:15 a.m., Fullerton Room

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### Rainbow Reindeer Games

11:30 a.m., Gymnasium

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### "Messiah" Sing-In

3:00 p.m., Sanctuary

# GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

**PRELUDE**      Noël: Où S'en vont Ces gais bergers      Claude-Bénigne Balbastre

**WELCOME**      Brian K. Ballard

**ADVENT INTROIT**      O Lord, How Shall I Meet You      VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN

O Lord, how shall I meet you, how welcome you aright?  
Your people long to greet you, my hope, my heart's delight!  
O kindle, Lord most holy, a lamp within my breast,  
To do in spirit lowly all that may please you best.

*Please remain seated during Advent Introit.*

**LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH**      Long Family

One: People of faith, the Lord is our strength, our song, and our salvation.

**All: We journey toward Bethlehem to offer the gifts of our lives.**

One: For long years, the children of God have embarked on a pilgrimage;

**All: We travel with saints of ages past toward the light of God's redeeming love.**

One: We trust our path is illumined by the promise of a Savior,

**All: Who will cause righteousness and praise to resound before the nations.**

One: May this tiny flame hold back the darkness,

**All: And lead us forward in hope to God's glorious light.**

† **HYMN 88**      O Come, O Come, Emmanuel      VENI EMMANUEL

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

God of love, you invite us to a path of faithful service, and yet we have not always used our gifts for the common good. We have been impatient, neglected to share with those most in need, and failed to hold fast to what is true. Restore us to journey down your holy way, doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with you.

*A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.*

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**SUNG RESPONSE**      On Those Who Sit In Darkness

MERLE'S TUNE

On those who sit in darkness the sun begins to rise, the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes. God guides the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace. O Bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

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

## **PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

Rachel Pedersen

**SENDING HYMN**      Go Now, Children, with Our Blessing

Go now children with our blessing, to love and serve the lord. May God Bless you, May God guard you, May the light of God shine upon you, and may God be gracious to you, May the presence of God be with you. May the presence of God be with you, and give you peace.

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

**FIRST LESSON**      Isaiah 35:1-10 (*p. 663 in pew Bible*)

**ANTHEM**

Behold, Emmanuel

arr. Diane Loomer

Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a Son. And his name be called Emmanuel. Come, Emmanuel, and free enslaved Israel, who cries in exile, deprived of the Son of God. Rejoice, Israel, Emmanuel will be born for you. O come, thou branch of Jesse, draw the quarry from the lion's claw, from the dread caverns of the grave, from nether hell thy people save. Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to thee, Israel. Come, rising bright, to meet us. Dispel the night fog and the harsh darkness of the night. Rejoice, Emmanuel shall come to us, o Israel. Come, Emmanuel, and free enslaved Israel. Behold, Emmanuel.

**SECOND LESSON**      Matthew 2:1-12 (*pg. 2 in pew Bible*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*Down the Holy Way*  
Journey to Bethlehem Advent Series

Agnes W. Norfleet

† **HYMN 84**

Creator of the Stars of Night

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM



# RESPONSE TO THE WORD

† **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** *(in unison)*

Franklyn C. Pottorff

Jesus came as a child,  
born of a woman as is every child,  
yet born of God's power as was no other child.  
He lived as a Jew among Jews.  
He announced to his people  
the coming of God's rule of justice and peace on earth.  
We believe that the coming of Jesus  
was itself the coming of God's promised rule.  
Through his life, death, and resurrection,  
he initiates the relationship between God and the human race  
that God always intended.

~ from *A Declaration of Faith*

## 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.

## INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

**OFFERTORY ANTHEM**    E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come    Paul O. Manz

Peace be to you and grace from Him who freed us from our sins; Who loved us all and shed His blood that we might saved be. Sing Holy to our Lord, the Lord, Almighty God, who was and is and is to come; Sing Holy Lord! Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein, rejoice on earth, ye saints below, for Christ is coming soon! E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come, and night shall be no more; They need no light, nor lamp, nor sun, for Christ will be their All!

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

†	<b>DOXOLOGY</b>		GREENSLEEVES
	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. This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing; Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!		
†	<b>PRAYER OF DEDICATION</b>		Rebecca Kirkpatrick
†	<b>HYMN 125</b>	Before the Marvel of This Night	MARVEL
	<i>Verse 1 is sung by the choir only</i>		
†	<b>BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE</b>		Agnes W. Norfleet
	<b>POSTLUDE</b>	Praeludium C dur	J.S. Bach

## **WORSHIP NOTES**

### **RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AT NOON**

Grace Kennedy Schoeman  
Daughter of Michaela and Gary Schoeman

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### **PLAYING THE CARILLON**

Brian Middleton

## **Christmas Eve Services**

**CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE.** 4:30 p.m., Sanctuary and Livestreamed. Family Service with Nativity Tableau and musical leadership by BMPC's Children's Choir, Youth Chorale and the Bryn Mawr Festival Brass. Prelude begins at 4:15 p.m. Infant and toddler childcare available without reservations from 3:45-5:45 p.m. in the Education Building, Room 101.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS.** 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary and Livestreamed. Carols and anthems led by BMPC's Sanctuary Choir and Mainline Musicians. The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach. Prelude begins at 7:10 p.m.

# Announcements

**VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY.** We are looking for volunteers to serve at our reception desk on the ground floor of the Ministries Center during weekdays. This position serves as a “minister of first impressions,” helping to answer phones and welcome guests who visit our campus or church offices. To learn more, please contact Liz Ellis, [LizEllis@bmpc.org](mailto:LizEllis@bmpc.org).

**FAMILY AND FRIENDS CHOIR FOR CHRISTMAS EVE!** Family and friends are invited to rehearse and learn a simple setting of “Ding, Dong! Merrily on High” to sing together with both the Children’s Choir and Youth Chorale at the 4:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Family Service. Open to siblings, parents, college students home from school, and more! Please contact Edward Landin Senn to express your interest or ask any questions: [EdwardLandinSenn@bmpc.org](mailto:EdwardLandinSenn@bmpc.org).

**STEWARDSHIP UPDATE.** Thank you to everyone who has made a pledge for 2023! Your thoughtful and generous support of our ministries and programs makes it possible for hope to grow here and in the community and in the world. If you have not yet made a pledge, we ask that you prayerfully consider how you would like to support our work in the coming year. You may complete a pledge card found in the pews and place it in the offering plate, mail the pledge card from home, or pledge online: <https://www.bmpc.org/giving/annual-stewardship>. Thank you!

## Today

**ADVENT GIFT MARKET.** 11:15 a.m., Atrium. AGM provides the opportunity to purchase alternative gifts at Christmas for friends and family in support of a wide variety of partners around the world. AGM representatives will be present in the Atrium before and after worship to place orders as well as answer questions about mission groups and their chosen projects. Orders also may be placed online: [www.brynmawragm.com](http://www.brynmawragm.com).

**UNTO US A CHILD IS BORN: ADVENT, ISAIAH AND OUR JEWISH NEIGHBORS.** Today and Sunday, Dec. 18, 11:15 a.m., Fullerton Room. Drawing upon the insights from Tyler Mayfield’s book, *Unto Us A Child is Born: Advent, Isaiah and our Jewish Neighbors*, the Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick and Rabbi David Straus, former senior rabbi at Main Line Reform Temple, will lead a three-week conversation about the different historical and theological understandings of the most iconic passages from the Book of Isaiah. [RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org](mailto:RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org).

**RAINBOW REINDEER GAMES.** 11:30 a.m., Gymnasium. All youth (grades 6-12) are invited to join in the fun, games, and color powder shenanigans we have planned for our Rainbow Reindeer Games this year! To register, visit <https://bit.ly/Rainbowgames>.

**MESSIAH SING-IN.** 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Lift up your voices with the Singing City Choir and the BMPC Sanctuary Choir as we sing choruses from this timeless oratorio. Featuring Elizabeth Weigle, soprano; Valerie Haber, soprano; Misoon Ghim, mezzo-soprano; Siddhartha Misra, tenor; Nicholas Provenzale, baritone; and Nate Zullinger, conductor. Tickets are \$21 for adults and \$11 for students and may be purchased through the Singing City Choir website: <https://bit.ly/BMPCMessiah>.

## **This Week**

**ADVENT HARPSICORD RECITALS.** Tuesdays, Dec. 13 and 20, noon, Sanctuary. Featuring Kathleen Scheide, Anna Kislitsyna, Alexandr Kislitsyn, and Torsten Fras, performing free 30-minute recitals on BMPC's William Dowd harpsichord.

**FALL YOGA206 BONE BOOST SESSION.** Wednesdays, 10:00 a.m., through Dec. 21, Gymnasium. Geared to persons proactive about strengthening bones or those with bone-loss medical conditions. Participants age 50+ must be able to safely sit on and rise from a mat. Cost: \$91. COVID-19 vaccination required. For information, email Abby Contract at [YOGA206@icloud.com](mailto:YOGA206@icloud.com).

**QUIET PRAYER IN ADVENT.** Wed., Dec. 14, 7:00 - 7:45 p.m., Middleton Center, Room 200. Amidst the busyness of the Advent season, this is a time for contemplative guided prayer which will include Scripture readings, space for reflection, and a time of communal silence. Caring Ministry team members and Deacons will lead these sessions. [KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org](mailto:KikiMcKendrick@bmpc.org).

**ADVENT STORY PATH LABYRINTH.** Walking a labyrinth during Advent provides a meaningful way to journey to Bethlehem. The small labyrinth is open daily during Advent, Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.; Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.; and Sunday, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. in the Chapel. An Advent labyrinth booklet is available.



## **Upcoming**

**WEE CHRISTMAS.** Tues., Dec. 20, 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Designed for children ages 2 - 5 years and their families, this special retelling of the Christmas Story allows our youngest members to hear and participate in the story of Jesus' birth. Helpers are welcome! [MaryRichards@bmpc.org](mailto:MaryRichards@bmpc.org).

**LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE.** Wed., Dec. 21, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary and via livestream. This contemplative worship service is for anyone yearning for comfort amid personal grief and hope for a more peaceful world. A meditation by the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will be accompanied by prayer, the singing of carols and lighting candles to lead us through darkness toward healing and wholeness. A labyrinth on the Education Building Lawn invites walkers following the service, weather permitting.

**CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH ALUMNI PARTY.** Tues., Dec. 24, 6:00 p.m., Youth Lounge. Worship on Christmas Eve is made even more special by seeing those who grew up at BMPC and now are back home for the holidays. All are encouraged to attend! [LeighDeVries@bmpc.org](mailto:LeighDeVries@bmpc.org).

**ADD THIS SPECIAL EVENT TO YOUR 2023 CALENDAR!** Sun., Jan. 8, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary and Atrium. Join us in celebrating Jeffrey Brillhart's 40 years of service to BMPC during the 10:00 a.m. worship and a reception in the Atrium following the service. At noon a luncheon will be served in Congregational Hall to celebrate Jeff's four decades; limited seating is available at \$20 per person. RSVP deadline: Dec. 18. Contact [PatrickHowley@bmpc.org](mailto:PatrickHowley@bmpc.org) or [EdwardLandinSenn@bmpc.org](mailto:EdwardLandinSenn@bmpc.org) for details.

## **Caring and Sharing**

**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING.** Supporting past, present and future leaders! A Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s, this Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges that serve communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Look for offering envelopes in the pew holders on Dec. 11 and 18, or note "Christmas Joy" on the memo line of your check.

**REFUGEE VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES.** The BMPC Refugee Support Team is seeking volunteers in their ongoing work with local refugee families. Opportunities include English language conversation practice, tutoring for elementary school children, employment mentoring, and transportation assistance. Families are located in Bryn Mawr, Ardmore and Overbrook. If you wish to become involved in this vital and rewarding work, contact [RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org](mailto:RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmpc.org).

**SUPPORTING IMMIGRANTS AND ASYLUM SEEKERS IN PHILADELPHIA.** In partnership with West Kensington Ministries, the BMPC Refugee Support Team is collecting items needed to support immigrants and asylum seekers who are being transported from the southern border to Philadelphia. The following items may be dropped off in the collection bin in the Ministries Center vestibule near the church offices. Donations of new sweatpants, sweaters, socks, gloves, scarves, hats or underwear in any size are needed. The collection runs through the end of December. [AliciaFranklin@bmpc.org](mailto:AliciaFranklin@bmpc.org).

## **Calendar**

### **Sunday, December 11**

7:45	a.m.	Childcare (Birth-Kindergarten), Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101
8:00	a.m.	<b>Worship with Communion, Chapel</b>
8:30	a.m.	Sunday Morning Discussion Group, Cannon Room
8:45	a.m.	Filling the Well, Ed. Bldg., Children's Library
9:00	a.m.	Art @ 9, Ed. Bldg., Rm. 102 Sunday School, Virtual
10:00	a.m.	Sunday School Ages 2, 3, and Pre-K, Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101 <b>Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary, and Livestreamed Service on <a href="http://www.bmpc.org">www.bmpc.org</a></b> Youth Gathering, Gymnasium
10:15	a.m.	Sunday School K - 5th Grade, Ed. Bldg.
11:00	a.m.	Atrium Café, Atrium Family Fellowship, Ed. Bldg. Lobby Advent Story Path Labyrinth, Children's Chapel Rainbow Reindeer Games, Gymnasium
11:15	a.m.	Advent, Isaiah and Our Jewish Neighbors, Fullerton Room
12:00	p.m.	Baptism Service, Chapel
3:00	p.m.	Handel's "Messiah" Sing-In, Sanctuary

## Monday, December 12

7:00 p.m. Discover BMPC Class, Witherspoon Parlor

## Tuesday, December 13

8:30 a.m. RePose Yoga, Gymnasium  
9:15 a.m. Y-Group Coffee and Advent Workshop Prep, Ed. Bldg., Rm . 102  
10:30 a.m. Tai Chi, Gymnasium and Virtual  
12:00 p.m. Advent Harpsichord Recital Series, Sanctuary  
1:00 p.m. Dance for Parkinson's Class, Gymnasium  
2:30 p.m. Parkinson's Support Group, Cannon Room  
7:00 p.m. Session Meeting, Fullerton Room

## Wednesday, December 14

10:00 a.m. Coffee Cup Bible Study, Cannon Room  
Men's Study Group, Converse Parlor & Library  
Yoga206 Bone Boost, Gymnasium  
4:45 p.m. Wednesdays Together, Sanctuary  
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinners, Congregational Hall  
5:45 p.m. Youth Chorale, Fine Arts Center  
6:00 p.m. Property Committee Meeting, Gloucester Room  
6:30 p.m. Handbell Ensemble, Fine Arts Center  
7:00 p.m. Quiet Prayer for Advent, Middleton Center, Room 200

## Thursday, December 15

10:00 a.m. Thursday Book Group, Virtual  
11:00 a.m. Artist's Gathering, Fine Arts Center  
7:00 p.m. Hunger Committee Meeting, Gloucester Room

## Friday, December 16

No Events Scheduled.

## Saturday, December 17

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

## Sunday, December 18

8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**  
10:00 a.m. **Worship with Baptism & Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary,  
and Livestreamed Service on [www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org)**  
The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.

## **Worship Staff**

**Agnes W. Norfleet**, Pastor

**Brian K. Ballard**, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care & Senior Adults

**Leigh DeVries**, Associate Pastor for Youth & Their Families

**Rebecca Kirkpatrick**, Associate Pastor for Adult Education & Mission

**Rachel Pedersen**, Associate Pastor for Children & Family Ministry

**Franklyn C. Pottorff**, Associate Pastor for Congregational Life & Stewardship

**Jeffrey Brillhart**, Director of Music & Fine Arts

**Edward Landin Senn**, Assistant Director of Music

## **Contact Information**



Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church  
625 Montgomery Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

610-525-2821 • [www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org)

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[www.instagram.com/BrynMawrPres](https://www.instagram.com/BrynMawrPres)

[www.twitter.com/BrynMawrPres](https://www.twitter.com/BrynMawrPres)

[www.youtube.com/user/brynmawrpres](https://www.youtube.com/user/brynmawrpres)

24/7 Answering Service for Pastoral Emergencies: 610-525-2821

The Middleton Center: 610-525-0766 • [info@middletoncenter.org](mailto:info@middletoncenter.org)

The Weekday School (Preschool): 610-525-2821, ext. 8840