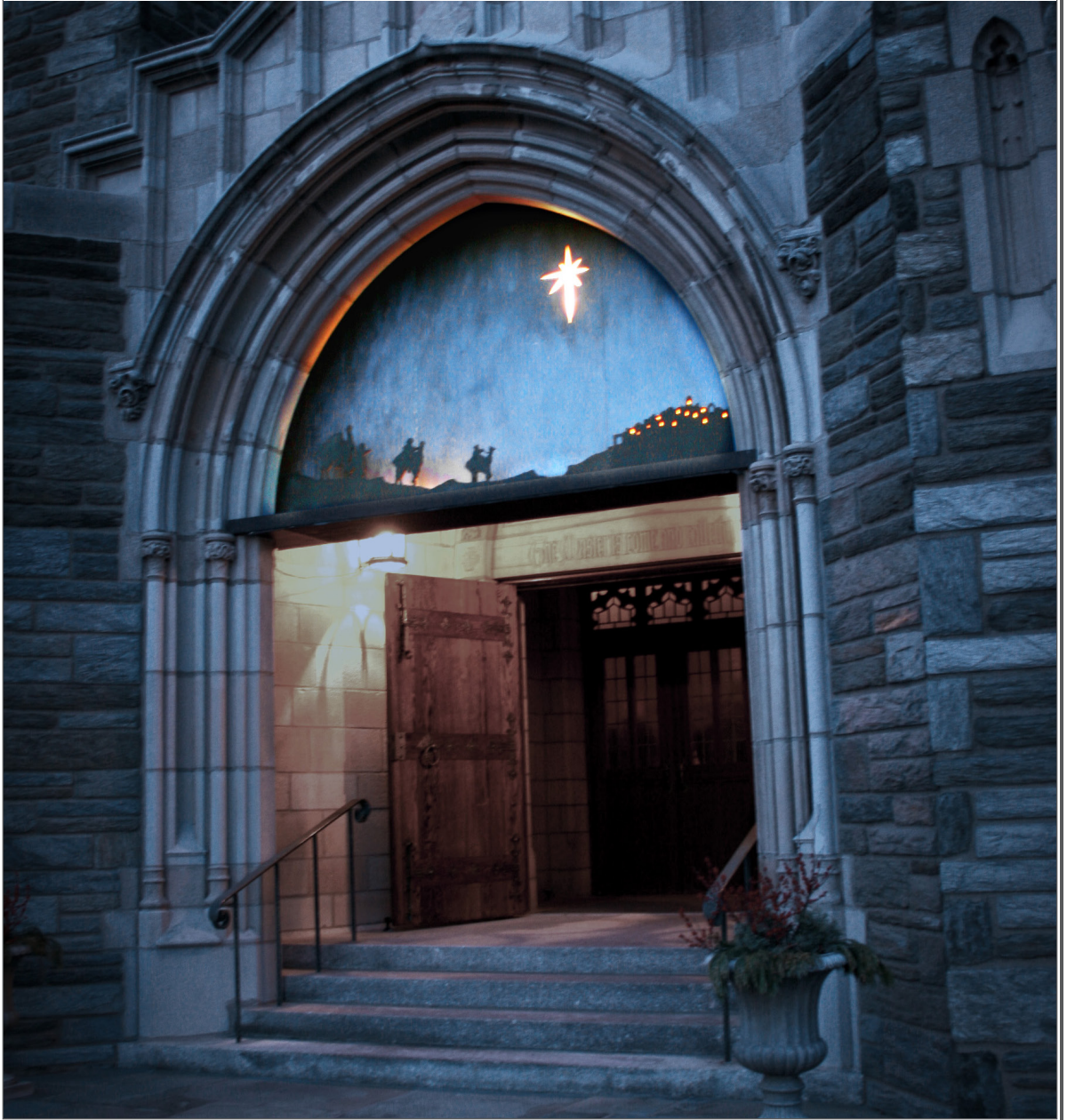


# *Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church*

Sunday, December 18, 2022 | 8:00 a.m., Chapel

Fourth 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 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 10:00 a.m. Sunday Worship Service is available to watch on our livestreaming 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 Monday.

## CHILDCARE AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

Childcare is available on Sundays from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for children ages six months and older. See Sunday School class information on this page. Please contact 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 Baptism and 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., Gymnasium

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### Advent Gift Market

11:00 a.m., Atrium

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### Atrium Café

11:00 a.m., Atrium

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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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### BMPC Members Art Exhibit

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

# GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

Franklyn C. Pottorff

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Tim Bickhart

One: People of faith, God stirs us to dream of the world  
God intends for all people.

**All: Where kindness and truth shall meet, and justice  
and peace shall kiss.**

One: The Savior of the nations comes to make a home among us,

**All: To illumine the whole creation and uphold humankind  
with loving kindness.**

One: We follow the God of ancient Israel, the God of Joseph and Mary,

**All: Praying God's glory will reign on the earth as in highest heaven.**

One: May this tiny flame hold back the darkness,

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

## † HYMN 105

People, Look East

BESANÇON

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Promising God, you encourage us with signs of your coming and urge us to keep watch, but we get distracted by our own inner compass that points to lesser things. Forgive our diversions from the path you set before us, and restore us to follow where you lead. May we bow before your manger with transformed hearts and bold gifts of service for the sake of your coming kingdom.

*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!

# HEARING THE WORD

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Tim Bickhart

FIRST LESSON      Isaiah 7:10-16 (*p. 636 in pew Bible*)

SECOND LESSON      Matthew 1:18-25 (*pg. 1 in pew Bible*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

*At Great Risk*  
Journey to Bethlehem Advent Series

Agnes W. Norfleet

# RESPONSE TO THE WORD

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Franklyn C. Pottorff

*You are invited to come forward, using the center aisle, to partake of the Lord's Supper by intinction (dipping a piece of bread into the cup); return to your seat using the side aisle.*

*Gluten- and casein-free elements are on the center table.*

*You are invited to bring your offering when you come forward.*

## THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

## 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.

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Agnes W. Norfleet

† HYMN 134 Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

### † SENDING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

†

“I am the resurrection and the life.”

Aurora S. Grifone ~ December 10, 2022

Richard S. Dillion ~ December 12, 2022

## WORSHIP NOTES

### RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AT 10:00 A.M.

Carter Matthew & Olivia Grace Abrams  
Son & Daughter of Natalie McGann & David Abrams

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### ASSISTING WITH COMMUNION

Tim Bickhart, Deacon

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### USHERING

Tom Willcox



## **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.** Annual pledges constitute a majority of our budget and are vital to the ministries and programs that BMPC offers. Please consider a pledge for 2023. With your support, Hope Grows Here! You can pledge by completing a pledge card in the pews and dropping it in the offering plate, by mailing your pledge card to the church office, or by making a pledge online at [www.bmpc.org/giving](http://www.bmpc.org/giving). 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 receive 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.*** 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, lead this final discussion about the different historical and theological interpretations of the most iconic passages from the Book of Isaiah.

**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>.

## **This Week**

**ADVENT HARPSICHORD RECITAL.** Tues., Dec. 20, noon, Sanctuary. Anna Kislitsyna, Alexandr Kislitsyn, and Torsten Fras, perform a free 30-minute recital on BMPC's William Dowd harpsichord.

**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 the 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).



## **Upcoming**

**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 today, 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: new sweatpants, sweaters, socks, gloves, scarves, hats or underwear in any size. The collection runs through the end of December. [AliciaFranklin@bmpc.org](mailto:AliciaFranklin@bmpc.org).

# Calendar

## Sunday, December 18

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.	New Members Breakfast, Congregational Hall 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 Baptism and 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 Advent Gift Market, Atrium Family Fellowship, Ed. Bldg. Lobby Advent Story Path Labyrinth, Children's Chapel
11:15	a.m.	Advent, Isaiah and Our Jewish Neighbors, Fullerton Room
11:30	a.m.	Rainbow Reindeer Games, Gymnasium
1:00	p.m.	Christmas Pageant Rehearsals, Sanctuary

## Monday, December 19

4:30	p.m.	Christmas Pageant Rehearsals, Sanctuary
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## Tuesday, December 20

8:30	a.m.	RePose Yoga, Gymnasium
10:30	a.m.	Tai Chi, Gymnasium and Virtual
12:00	p.m.	Advent Harpsichord Recital Series, Sanctuary
4:00	p.m.	Wee Christmas, Sanctuary
7:00	p.m.	Stewardship Meeting, Gloucester Room

### Wednesday, December 21

10:00	a.m.	Coffee Cup Bible Study, Cannon Room Yoga206 Bone Boost, Gymnasium
12:00	p.m.	<b>Aurora S. Grifone Memorial Service, Chapel</b>
4:30	p.m.	Candlelit Rope Labyrinth for Longest Night, Ed. Bldg.
4:45	p.m.	Christmas Pageant Rehearsals, Sanctuary
5:30	p.m.	Wednesday Night Dinner, Congregational Hall
5:45	p.m.	Youth Chorale, Fine Arts Center
6:30	p.m.	Handbell Ensemble, Fine Arts Center
7:00	p.m.	<b>Longest Night Service, Sanctuary</b>

### Thursday, December 22

11:00	a.m.	Artist's Gathering, Fine Arts Center
7:00	p.m.	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Fine Arts Center

### Friday, December 23

No Events Scheduled.

### Saturday, December 24

7:00	a.m.	Saturday Morning Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
3:00	p.m.	Christmas Eve Service Warm-Up, Fine Arts Center
4:30	p.m.	<b>Family Christmas Eve Service with Nativity, Sanctuary</b>
7:30	p.m.	<b>Christmas Eve Service of Lessons &amp; Carols, Sanctuary</b>

### Sunday, December 25

10:00	a.m.	<b>Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary, and Livestreamed Service on <a href="http://www.bmpc.org">www.bmpc.org</a></b> The Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick will preach.
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## **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  
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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