



***Bryn Mawr  
Presbyterian Church***

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December 8, 2019  
8:00 a.m., Chapel  
Second Sunday of Advent

# WELCOME TO BMPC

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

### **Childcare (infant - age 5)**

7:45 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Fullerton Room, Ministries Center

### **8:00 a.m. Worship, Chapel**

#### **Filling the Well**

8:45 a.m., Converse House  
Parlor

#### **Art @ 9**

Ages 3 - Grade 5

8:45 a.m., Conference Room

### **10:00 a.m. Worship, Sanctuary**

Sunday School

### **Christmas Concert:**

#### **"Magnificat"**

4:00 p.m., Sanctuary

### **Prime Time Party**

6:00 p.m., Merion Tribute House

*See calendar at back of bulletin for  
a complete schedule.*

**NEW HERE?** We are pleased that you are joining us as we worship God this morning. Information about our programs is available near the main entrance. We invite you to participate in any of our programs, ministries and mission opportunities, as they are open to all.

**JOIN US FOR FELLOWSHIP.** Stop by the Ministries Center Court for coffee between 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. and join us for coffee and fellowship in the Gymnasium after the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service.

**TO ASSIST YOU DURING WORSHIP.** Children's bulletins with crayons may be found near the main entrance. If you are unable to come forward for Communion, please let an usher or server know, and Communion will be brought to you.

Subscribe to our BMPC eNews by adding your email address to the Fellowship Register. For additional information about today's schedule, see the calendar at the back of this bulletin.

[www.BMPC.org](http://www.BMPC.org)

# GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME

Brian K. Ballard

## CALL TO WORSHIP

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Flo Zeller

One: The Advent wreath is a circle with no beginning and no end.

**All: It is a symbol of God's unending love and faithfulness.**

One: We trust that God comes to us with justice and righteousness,

**All: To reconcile us to God and one another.**

One: The day is surely coming when nation shall not lift up sword against nation.

**All: Neither shall we learn war anymore.**

One: Jesus said, "My peace I give to you. I do not give as the world gives;

**All: Do not let your hearts be troubled  
And do not let them be afraid."**

One: We are ready to welcome the Prince of Peace!

**All: May this candle shine in our midst as God's love for the world.**

† HYMN 93

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

TRURO

## CALL TO CONFESSION

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

O God, in the wilderness you sent a messenger to prepare human hearts  
for the coming of Christ.

Then Jesus of Nazareth came among us in person  
so that we could behold the face of God.

We rejoice that through the centuries your presence among your people  
has brought hope and joy.

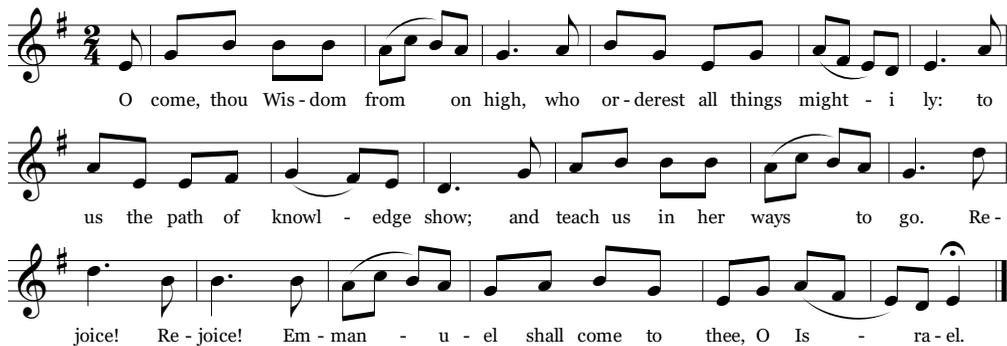
Yet, we have closed our eyes to glory in our midst, expecting little and hoping for less.  
Forgive us when we fail to discern your presence with us.

Renew our spirits, so that we may receive the fullness of your grace,  
be illumined by your truth, and share your love through Jesus Christ.

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

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE



O come, thou Wis-dom from on high, who or-derest all things might - i ly: to  
us the path of knowl - edge show; and teach us in her ways to go. Re -  
joyce! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

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## HEARING THE WORD

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Flo Zeller

**FIRST LESSON**

Isaiah 11:1-9 (*p. 640 in pew Bible*)

Flo Zeller

**SECOND LESSON**

John 1:1-18 (*p. 91 in pew Bible*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

**One:** The Word of the Lord.

**All:** **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

*The Word Became Flesh*

Agnes W. Norfleet

Second in Advent Series on the Radical Hope of the Carols

† **HYMN 108**

Of the Father's Love Begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

# RESPONSE TO THE WORD

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Brian K. Ballard

*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 AND 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 348**                      Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending                      HELMSLEY

† **SENDING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

## POSTLUDE

## **Worship Notes**

### **SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
Maurice L. Clancy

### **CHAPEL GARDEN FLOWERS**

Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
Jean Taylor

### **ASSISTING WITH COMMUNION**

Elder Flo Zeller

### **USHERING**

Elder Tom Willcox

### **WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS**

at 10:00 a.m. Service

Barbara Bickhart, Robert Bickhart, Terry Charlton,  
Anne Graf, Elizabeth Griffith, Richard Griffith,  
Denise Jones, Jonathan Jones

### **ADVENT SERMON SERIES**

In the sweet familiarity of the carols we sing, do we still hear the radical hope they proclaim? This series considers how the biblical texts and carols together prepare us to receive the amazing in-breaking power of God, as we attend anew to *Joy to the World*, *Of the Father's Love Begotten*, *'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime* and *O Little Town of Bethlehem*.

### **BULLETIN COVER**

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## Announcements

**CHRISTMAS EVE FAMILY SERVICE.** 4:30 p.m., Sanctuary. Family Service with Nativity Tableau (infant and toddler childcare available without reservations in the Ministries Center).

**CHRISTMAS EVE COMMUNION SERVICE.** 8:30 p.m., Sanctuary. Candlelight Service with Communion with the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet (childcare available without reservations in the Ministries Center). Prelude begins at 8:00 p.m.

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS.** 11:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols with the Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet. Prelude begins at 10:30 p.m.

**BOOK CENTER CHRISTMAS SPECIALS!** Great selection of books for children and adults! Visit our table during coffee and fellowship in the Gymnasium.

## Today

**ADVENT GIFT MARKET.** 11:00-12:30 p.m., Gymnasium. Representatives are available to receive AGM orders. To order online: <http://bit.ly/2019AdventGiftMarket>.

**CHRISTMAS ANGELS.** Unwrapped gifts are due today and may be placed under the Christmas Angels tree in the Ministries Center. If you still wish to share the spirit of Christmas, tags are available on the tree or sign up online: <http://bit.ly/2019BMPCAngels>. Five to eight gifts per child may be dropped off by Fri., Dec. 13 to theVillage, 452 South Roberts Rd., Rosemont. Betty Wu, [bmpcangels@gmail.com](mailto:bmpcangels@gmail.com).

**THE PROPHETS IN ADVENT.** Today and Dec. 15, 11:15 a.m., Chapel. Dr. Tim Horner, Assistant Professor at Villanova University, offers classes on the Season of Advent and how the prophets called for justice then and now.

**GATHERING OF MEDICAL PROFESSIONALS.** 11:15 a.m., Congregational Hall. The BMPC Mission Council invites all medical professionals, including those who are retired, for a brainstorming session on how our church might engage in medical mission and outreach to the local community. This is part of a larger conversation on what mission and outreach might look like in our newly-renovated spaces. A light lunch will be served.

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT: "MAGNIFICAT."** 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Celebrate the Christmas season with all BMPC choirs, accompanied by the Brandywine Brass. This concert also features works by Anton Bruckner, Paul Halley, Gerald Finzi, Franz Biebl, Elizabeth Poston, William Dawson as well as congregational carol singing. A free-will offering supports Prevention Point Philadelphia, a nonprofit organization working to fight the opioid crisis by providing harm-reduction services in the Philadelphia area.

**PRIME TIME ADVENT PARTY FOR SINGLES AND COUPLES AGE 50+.** 6:00-8:00 p.m., Merion Tribute House.

## ***This Week***

**ADVENT STORY PATH LABYRINTH.** Offered in the Chapel during December. Chapel is open for walkers Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

**Y-GROUP MEETING.** Tues., Dec. 10, 9:15-11:00 a.m., Congregational Hall. Join us for fellowship during our Gratitude Coffee Hour. Abby Pottorff, [ygroupbmpc@gmail.com](mailto:ygroupbmpc@gmail.com).

**ADVENT HARPSICHORD RECITALS.** Tuesdays, Dec. 10 and 17, 12:00 p.m. Temple University harpsichord students Silvanio Reis and Anna Kislitsyna perform 30-minute recitals on BMPC's William Dowd Memorial Harpsichord. A free-will offering supports theVillage, one of BMPC's mission partners that promote the healing of the spirits of children, families, and communities broken by violence, neglect, addiction, poverty, mental illness, racism, and other serious societal problems.

**EVENING OF QUIET PRAYER.** Wed., Dec. 11, 6:30-7:15 p.m., the Middleton Center, Rm. 202, second floor of Converse House. Join us for an evening of gentle prayer, candlelight and thoughtful conversation. Patricia Danzon, spiritual director, along with the Rev. Brian Ballard and Deacon David Heaton, facilitate prayers, readings, contemplative music and a time of sharing. [BBallard@bmpc.org](mailto:BBallard@bmpc.org).

**Y-GROUP COOKIE SWAP AND GIFT COLLECTION.** Thurs., Dec. 12, 7:00 p.m., home of Annie Lee. Annual cookie swap and gift collection for children and youth served by theVillage. Abby Pottorff, [ygroupbmpc@gmail.com](mailto:ygroupbmpc@gmail.com).

**CASSEROLE BLITZ.** Sat., Dec. 14, 8:30 a.m. 'Tis the season to cook! Join the Hunger Committee in the Ministries Center to prepare casseroles for area shelters. Bring the family; children must be at least 4 years old. Register with Sandie Nicholson, [sandiekev@verizon.net](mailto:sandiekev@verizon.net).

## ***Next Sunday***

**DIGGING DEEPER.** Sun., Dec. 15, 8:45 a.m., Main Line Adult Day Center, Living Rm., 1st Floor. Wrap-up study of "The Evolution of Faith" led by the Rev. Franklyn Pottorff.

**YOUTH UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER FEST.** Sun., Dec. 15, 4:00-6:00 p.m., Gymnasium. A joyful evening of food, fellowship and fun. We'll have music, holiday snacks, games, conversation and other awesome Christmas festivities. Wear your favorite ugly Christmas sweater and bring a white elephant gift under \$20. Register: [MaryRichards@bmpc.org](mailto:MaryRichards@bmpc.org).

## ***Upcoming***

**DIMENSIONS IN LITERATURE.** Tues., Dec. 17, 2:00 p.m., Converse House Parlor. Discuss *Mrs. Sherlock Holmes: The True Story of New York City's Greatest Female Detective and the 1917 Missing Girl Case That Captivated a Nation* by Brad Ricca. [EricThorJohnson@gmail.com](mailto:EricThorJohnson@gmail.com).

**GREAT DECISIONS.** Tues., Dec. 17, 2:30 p.m., Rosemont Presbyterian Village Entertainment Center. Discuss the “State of the State Department and Diplomacy.” Marilyn Irwin, marirwin@aol.com.

**A WEE CHRISTMAS.** Tues., Dec. 17, 4:00 p.m., Sanctuary. Designed for children ages 2 - 5 and their families, this special retelling of the Christmas story allows our youngest members to hear and participate in the story of Jesus’ birth. MaryRichards@bmpc.org.

**LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE.** Wed., Dec. 18, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary. This special worship service is for anyone who finds joy and celebration difficult to experience during the Christmas season. Scripture readings, the singing of carols, a brief meditation by the Rev. Brian K. Ballard, and a time of prayer to express our yearnings for healing and wholeness are intended to lead us through the long darkness. A labyrinth set up on the front lawn invites walkers following the service, weather permitting.

**CHRISTMAS EVE YOUTH ALUMNI GATHERING.** Tues., Dec. 24, 9:30 p.m., Witherspoon Parlor. Worship on Christmas Eve is made even more special by meeting with those who grew up at BMPC and now are home for the holidays. Join old friends after the 8:30 p.m. and before the 11:00 p.m. services. MaryRichards@bmpc.org.

## ***Caring & Sharing***

**CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING.** Support 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 that provides critical financial support to church workers and their families and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges that serve communities of color. Look for offering envelopes in the pew holders on Dec. 15 and 22, or note “Christmas Joy” on the memo line of your check.

**COLD WEATHER IS UPON US! UPCOMING COLLECTIONS OF WINTER CLOTHES.** In January we are collecting winter coats for Broad Street Ministry and hats, gloves and scarves for children who attend the Tutoring Program. Donations may be placed in the collection bins located near the entrance to the Ministries Center.

**FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED.** Donations have been low, and the need is great. Place donations in baskets in the Narthex or in the food cupboard in the hallway next to the elevators in the Ministries Center. Financial donations also may be made using Hunger Envelopes in the pew holders or by noting “Hunger” on the memo line of your check.

## ***Save the Date***

**HIGH SCHOOL SABBATH RETREAT.** Fri., Jan. 24 - Sun., Jan. 26, North Bay Adventure Camp, Md., offers a weekend where youth can enjoy hiking, zip lines, small group fellowship, and worship together. Cost: \$299. Feel free to invite friends! Register online at [www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org) > Calendar > Open Registrations. Scholarship assistance readily available for all trips and events. MaryRichards@bmpc.org.

# *This Week's Calendar*

*For more information, visit our website at [www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org),  
call the church office, or contact [communications@bmpc.org](mailto:communications@bmpc.org).*

## Today, December 8

- 7:45 a.m. Childcare, Fullerton Room  
8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**  
8:45 a.m. Filling the Well, Converse House Parlor  
Art @ 9, Conference Room  
9:00 a.m. Session Meeting to Receive New Members, Congregational Hall  
10:00 a.m. **Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary**  
Sunday School for age 2, Gloucester Room  
Sunday School for age 3, Witherspoon Parlor  
Sunday School for Pre-K, Middleton Center, Rm. 200  
Grades K - 5 Begin Worship in the Sanctuary  
Youth Gathering (Grades 6-12), Gymnasium  
10:15 a.m. Sunday School for Grade K, Middleton Center, Rm. 202  
Sunday School for Grades 1 & 2, Congregational Hall  
Sunday School for Grade 3, Middleton Center, Rm. 301  
Sunday School for Grades 4-5, Converse House Parlor  
10:30 a.m. Grades 6 & 7 Connection Group, Main Line Adult Day Center  
Grade 8 Confirmation, Loft  
Grades 9 & 10 Connection Group, Gymnasium Stage  
Grades 11 & 12 Connection Group, Pastors' Conference Room  
11:00 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship, Gymnasium  
Advent Gift Market, Gymnasium  
11:15 a.m. The Prophets in Advent, Chapel  
Mission Council Brainstorming Lunch, Congregational Hall  
11:30 a.m. Tintinnabulators, Fine Arts Center  
4:00 p.m. Christmas Concert, Sanctuary  
6:00 p.m. Prime Time Advent Party, Event is Off Campus

## Monday, December 9

- 8:00 a.m. Advent Labyrinth, Chapel

## **Tuesday, December 10**

- 8:00 a.m. Advent Labyrinth, Chapel  
9:00 a.m. Repose Yoga, Gymnasium  
9:15 a.m. Y-Group Gratitude Coffee Hour, Congregational Hall  
10:30 a.m. Tai Chi, Gymnasium  
12:00 p.m. Advent Harpsichord Recital, Sanctuary  
1:00 p.m. Dance for Parkinson's Disease, Gymnasium  
2:30 p.m. Parkinson's Support Group, Congregational Hall  
6:45 p.m. Tutoring, Congregational Hall  
7:00 p.m. Session Meeting, Fine Arts Center

## **Wednesday, December 11**

- 8:00 a.m. Advent Labyrinth, Chapel  
10:00 a.m. Women's Coffee Cup Bible Study, Congregational Hall  
Men's Study Group, Converse House Parlor  
4:45 p.m. Wednesdays Together (Grades K-5), Fine Arts Center  
5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Congregational Hall  
5:45 p.m. Youth Chorale (Grades 6-12), Fine Arts Center  
6:30 p.m. Quiet Prayer, Middleton Center, Rm. 202  
Property Committee Meeting, Converse House Parlor  
7:00 p.m. Student Serve, Loft

## **Thursday, December 12**

- 8:00 a.m. Advent Labyrinth, Chapel  
9:15 a.m. Senior Exercise Class, Gymnasium  
10:00 a.m. Artists' Gathering, Fine Arts Center  
7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 19, Gymnasium  
Sanctuary Choir and Bryn Mawr Chamber Singers, Fine Arts Center

## **Friday, December 13**

- 8:00 a.m. Advent Labyrinth, Chapel  
4:00 p.m. Children's Spanish Class, Gloucester Room and Witherspoon Parlor

## **Saturday, December 14**

- 7:45 a.m. Saturday Morning Mens' Group, Converse House Parlor  
8:00 a.m. Advent Labyrinth, Chapel  
8:30 a.m. Casserole Blitz, Congregational Hall  
9:00 a.m. Second Saturday Divorce Support, Middleton Center, Rm. 203  
10:00 a.m. Searching for Still Waters Bereavement Group, Middleton Center, Rm. 202

## **Sunday, December 15**

- 8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**  
10:00 a.m. **Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary**  
The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.  
Sunday School for age 2 - Grade 12.

## Renovations Update

**Daytime Traffic Patterns:** Each weekday from 7:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m., the driveway between the Chapel and the Sanctuary will be *one way*, with cars exiting onto Montgomery Avenue. This adjustment allows for the safe movement of children from the Weekday School during drop-off and pick-up. Please use the driveway between the Ministries Center and the Sanctuary to enter the campus from Montgomery Avenue during these weekday hours.

For more renovation updates, please visit us at:  
[www.bmpc.org/welcome/renovation-updates](http://www.bmpc.org/welcome/renovation-updates)

*This box will be updated regularly to keep you informed about how the renovation process is impacting our ministries and programs.*



## 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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610-525-2821

[www.bmpc.org](http://www.bmpc.org)

[Facebook.com/BrynMawrPres](https://www.facebook.com/BrynMawrPres) • [Instagram.com/BrynMawrPres](https://www.instagram.com/BrynMawrPres)

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

Main Line Adult Day Center: 610-527-4220

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

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