



***Bryn Mawr  
Presbyterian Church***

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December 15, 2019  
10:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
Third 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

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

#### **Age 2 - PreK Classes**

10:00 a.m., Ministries Center

#### **Grades K - 5 Classes**

10:00 a.m., Worship in Sanctuary

10:15 a.m., Ministries Center

#### **Grades 6 -12**

10:00 a.m., Gymnasium

10:30 a.m., Connection Groups

#### **Coffee & Fellowship**

11:00 a.m., Gymnasium

Advent Gift Market

#### **The Prophets in Advent**

11:15 a.m., Chapel

#### **Youth Ugly Christmas Sweater Fest**

4:00 p.m., Gymnasium

**NEW HERE?** We give thanks that you are joining us as we worship God this morning. We invite you to stop by and say hello to one of our pastors in the Narthex following the worship service. All of our programs, ministries, and opportunities for mission are open to everyone. Come join us!

**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.** Large print bulletins, back pillows and hearing assistance devices are available; ask an usher. Children's bulletins with crayons may be found near the main entrance.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL.** We are pleased to offer education opportunities for all ages, listed in this bulletin. **Grades K-5** worship with their families in the Sanctuary before being dismissed to Sunday School. If this is your first Sunday, please accompany your child to the Ministries Center.

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 OF GOD'S PEOPLE

PRELUDE

Sleepers, Awake! BWV 645

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

Brian K. Ballard

ADVENT INTROIT (*please remain seated*)

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Dan and Judy Sherry

One: The coming of the Lord draws near.

All: **The prophet Isaiah proclaims,  
“The Lord is our strength and salvation.”**

One: “Give thanks to the Lord and call upon the holy name of God.”

All: **Proclaim the mercy of the One who comes as one of us.**

One: Jesus was born among us full of grace and truth.

All: **Christ comes to reign over all creation in full glory.**

One: All the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

All: **We praise God with our whole being.**

One: We light these candles with hope in our hearts,

All: **That God's love for the world will shine through us for the world.**

† HYMN 84

Creator of the Stars of Night

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM

CALL TO CONFESSION

AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*in unison*)

God of majesty and glory, we are thirsty for your grace.

You made a way for us in the wilderness, and still, in our foolishness, we go astray. We  
hide our eyes from your presence.

We do not heed your call to discipleship as we should.

We do not hear your word as a message of truth for our time.

Forgive us, O God, and open our hearts to the good news we have heard,  
that our lives may be transformed by your love for the world.

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

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

† GLORIA PATRI (*in unison*)

Hymn 581

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the  
beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

*Children are invited to come forward for the Children's Moment.*

† Please stand, if able.

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# PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

## CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rachel Pedersen

### SENDING HYMN      Go now, Children, with Our Blessing

*During the Sending Hymn, children depart for their Sunday School classes.*



Go now, child-ren with our bless-ing, to love and serve the Lord. May God  
Bless you, May God guard you, May the light of God shine u-pon you, and may  
God be gra-cious to you. May the pre-sence of God be with you. May the  
pre-sence of God be with you, and give you peace.

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

Brian K. Ballard

### ANTHEM

Lost in the Night  
Sanctuary Choir

arr. Hal H. Hopson

Lost in the night do the people yet languish, longing for morning the darkness to vanquish, plaintively sighing with hearts full of anguish. Will not day come soon? Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow? Shall those who have light no light let us borrow, giving no heed to our burden of sorrow? Will you help us soon? Sorrowing wanderers, in darkness yet dwelling, dawned has the day of a radiance excelling, death's deepest shadows forever dispelling. Christ is coming soon! Light o'er the land of the needy is beaming; rivers of life through its deserts are streaming, bringing all peoples a Savior redeeming. Come and save us soon! Lord, come soon!

### SECOND LESSON      Matthew 11:2-11 (*p. 11 in pew Bible*)

Agnes W. Norfleet

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

*O Children of the Forest Free*  
Third in Advent Series on the Radical Hope of Carols

Agnes W. Norfleet

† HYMN 142

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

UNE JEUNE PUCELLE

# RESPONSE TO THE WORD

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

Franklyn C. Pottorff

We trust in God the Holy Spirit,  
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.  
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,  
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,  
and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.  
The same Spirit  
who inspired the prophets and apostles  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,  
engages us through the Word proclaimed,  
claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.  
In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage  
to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of people long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

*~ from A Brief Statement of Faith*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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

*Stewardship*

Elliot Dee

## OFFERING

Franklyn C. Pottorff

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Lo, In the Time Appointed  
Sanctuary Choir

Healey Willan

Lo, in the time appointed the Lord will come will come, the Lord will come; the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands: for the Lord God shall come into his everlasting kingdom; and upon the throne of David shall he reign forever. Alleluia.

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

† **DOXOLOGY**

Hymn 606

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.

† **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Franklyn C. Pottorff

† **HYMN 105**

People, Look East

BESANCON

† **BENEDICTION WITH CHORAL RESPONSE**

Agnes W. Norfleet

**POSTLUDE**

Grand jeu sur “Une jeune purcelle”

Michel Corrette

## **Worship Notes**

### **SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
Lore Kephart

### **GREETING**

Members of our Personnel Committee

### **PLAYING THE CARILLON**

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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### **ADVENT INTROIT**

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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.

**REMINDER.** When you are switching out batteries on Christmas decorations and gifts, bring the used ones to the Ministries Center. The Environmental Justice Committee disposes of batteries in a safe and environmentally-friendly way. Container is on the bottom shelf of the bookshelf next to the Reception Desk.

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

**ORGAN RECORDING FOR SALE.** Renowned organist Aaron Tan, a student of Jeffrey Brillhart, recorded a professional album on our Rieger organ, and we have CDs for sale for \$15 each. The album includes works by Jongen, Demessieux, Bonnal, Tchaikovsky, Karg-Elert, Bizet, and Vierne. Cash or check payments made out to Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church may be accepted. Contact StephanieSpeakman@bmpe.org to purchase.

## **Today**

**DIGGING DEEPER.** 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.

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

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

**YOUTH UGLY CHRISTMAS SWEATER FEST.** 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.

## ***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. and Saturday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**ADVENT HARPSICHORD RECITAL.** Tuesday, Dec. 17, 12:00 p.m. Temple University harpsichord student Anna Kislitsyna performs a 30-minute recital on BMPC's William Dowd harpsichord. A free-will offering supports the Village, 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.

**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.

**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.

## ***Upcoming***

**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.

**SUNDAY MORNING DISCUSSION GROUP.** Sundays, Jan. 5, 12, and 19, 8:45 a.m., Congregational Hall. The Rev. Dr. Paul MacMurray leads a study of the Sermon on the Mount (Matthew 5-7), Jesus' most important teachings in compact form.



**FAMILY CAREGIVER DEMENTIA WORKSHOP.** The Main Line Adult Day Center will host its fifth annual Family Caregiver Dementia Workshop on Sat., Jan. 11 from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. This free workshop provides a forum for individuals to learn new strategies for helping their relatives with dementia, such as how to make the home safer, resources for acquiring adaptive equipment, and strategies to promote participation in activities. Light lunch included. Space is limited. Registration required. LizDyke@mladc.com.

**MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. SPEAKER: THE REV. DR. CHARLES H. HOWARD.** Sun., Jan. 12, 11:15 a.m., Chapel. Dr. Howard, Chaplain at the University of Pennsylvania, is the editor of *The Souls of Poor Folk*, which explores new ways of considering homelessness and poverty; *The Awe and The Awful*, a poetry collection and Lenten Devotional; *Black Theology as Mass Movement*, a call to theologians to expand the reach of their theological work; and *Pond River Ocean Rain*, a small book about going deeper with a big God.

## ***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.

## ***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 today and on Sun, Dec. 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.

# *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 15

- 7:45 a.m. Childcare, Fullerton Room  
8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**  
8:45 a.m. Digging Deeper, Main Line Adult Day Center, First Floor  
Art @ 9, Conference Room  
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  
11:30 a.m. Tintinnabulators, Fine Arts Center  
4:00 p.m. Youth Ugly Christmas Sweater Fest, Gymnasium

## Monday, December 16

- 8:00 a.m. Advent Labyrinth, Chapel  
9:30 a.m. Clergy Colleague Group, Middleton Center, Room 202

## Tuesday, December 17

- 8:00 a.m. Advent Labyrinth, Chapel  
9:00 a.m. Repose Yoga, Gymnasium  
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  
2:00 p.m. Dimensions in Literature, Converse House Parlor and Library  
2:30 p.m. Great Decisions, Rosemont Presbyterian Village Ballroom  
4:00 p.m. A Wee Christmas, Sanctuary  
7:00 p.m. Trustee Meeting, Fine Arts Center

### **Wednesday, December 18**

- 8:00 a.m. Stewardship Committee Meeting, Converse House Parlor  
Advent Labyrinth, Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. Women's Coffee Cup Bible Study, Congregational Hall
- 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
- 7:00 p.m. **Longest Night Worship Service, Sanctuary**  
Student Serve, Loft

### **Thursday, December 19**

- 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 20**

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

### **Saturday, December 21**

- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Mens' Group, Converse House Parlor
- 9:00 a.m. Advent Labyrinth, Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. Baptism Workshop, Fullerton Room

### **Sunday, December 22**

- 8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**
- 10:00 a.m. **Worship with Baptism and 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