

Sunday, December 13, 2020

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Franklyn C. Pottorff

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING PRAYER *(in unison)*

Merciful God,
you come into our midst longing for communion with us,
becoming one of us.
Break our resistance to life with you,
show us the path toward just relations
and bring us into your unimaginable peace.
In these sad and challenging days
of increasing illness around us,
illumine our darkness with your inextinguishable light
giving us high hopes for the future. Amen.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

David, Leah, Jackson, and Sebastian Jones

HYMN 109

Blest Be the God of Israel

MERLE'S TUNE

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1:5-25

Agnes W. Norfleet

SERMON

Zechariah

Agnes W. Norfleet

Third in Advent Series on Annunciations

ANTHEM

“O Thou that Tellest” from Messiah
Sanctuary Choir Staff Singers
Misoon Ghim, mezzo-soprano
Luigi Mazzocchi, violin

G.F. Handel

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain. O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the cities of Judah, behold your God! Arise, shine, for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

CALL TO OFFERING

Rachel Pedersen

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.

HYMN 134

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

BENEDICTION

Agnes W. Norfleet

POSTLUDE

Fantasia in G minor

J.S. Bach

Announcements

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE. Given the rise in COVID-19 cases in the Philadelphia area, BMPC will not be offering in-person Christmas Eve services this year. A prerecorded service will be available on the [church website](#) and shared in our weekly [BMPC eNews](#) at 10:00 a.m. on Christmas Eve.

ADVENT ISSUE OF THE MESSENGER. Copies are available in a bin outside the Chapel entrance. You also can read it [online](#).

ADVENT GIFT MARKET. Although we are unable to accept in-person AGM orders this year, we invite you to place orders for inserts and greeting cards 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, we invite you 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](#).

This Sunday

SUNDAY DISCUSSION GROUP. 9:00 a.m., via Zoom conference call. The group is discussing 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](#).

RAINBOW REINDEER GAMES. The Rainbow Reindeer Games for BMPC Youth will be held from 2:00-4:00 p.m. on the front lawn. Contact [Mary Richards](#) with any questions.

ADVENT VESPER SERVICES. BMPC will continue to livestream Advent Vesper services on Sundays 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.

This Week

ADVENT STORY PATH LABYRINTH. Walking a labyrinth during Advent provides a meaningful way to journey to Bethlehem. The labyrinth is offered in the Chapel during the Chapel's open hours: Tuesdays from 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. and Thursdays from 1:00 - 5:30 p.m. A booklet of scripture verses and poems will be available to guide you as you journey through Advent.

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 Dec. 15 features Irene Moretto, Temple University harpsichordist. [Stephanie Speakman](#).

Next Sunday

LONGEST NIGHT LABYRINTH. Sun., Dec. 20, 11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m., candlelit from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m., on the front lawn, weather permitting. You are invited to walk the labyrinth and receive the offer of light on this longest night. Masks and social distancing are required.

LONGEST NIGHT SERVICE. Sun., Dec. 20, 4:00 p.m., Livestreamed. The Christmas season can be a difficult time of year for many people. This service includes scripture readings, hymns, prayer, and a brief meditation for those who approach the holidays with grief, pain, or uncertainty. All are invited to view the service via [BMPC's Facebook page](#), the [BMPC YouTube channel](#) or the [livestream page](#) on the church website.