



## Second Sunday of Christmas

Sunday, January 5, 2025

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary



# Gathering of God's People

Please note that online worshipers join the livestream at 9:50 a.m.

We invite you to prepare for worship in quiet reflection.

PRELUDE Jesu Bright and Morning Star

Dieterich Buxtehude

WELCOME

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

## CALL TO WORSHIP

**One** The light of God illumines the path that leads us to healing, hope and salvation.

**All** **The glory of God fills this space and exposes the gloom that stalks our souls.**

**One** The light of God shines with such brilliance that we marvel in awe.

**All** **The glory of God fills each temple of the Holy Spirit present today.**

**One** Light of God, Glory of God, we welcome you in this place.

Please stand, if able.

HYMN 141 On This Day Earth Shall Ring

PERSONENT HODIE

## CALL TO CONFESSION AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All** **Almighty and merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
and one another in both our actions and our inactions.  
We recognize that in Jesus, our light has come,  
yet we often choose to walk in the shadows, ignoring your gift of  
light. We have cooperated with destructive powers that have  
impacted those who are most vulnerable.  
Gracious God, forgive our sinfulness.  
Remove from us the veil of darkness  
which shrouds our lives.**

**Illumine us by your Word,  
so we may shine with the radiance of Christ's glory.**

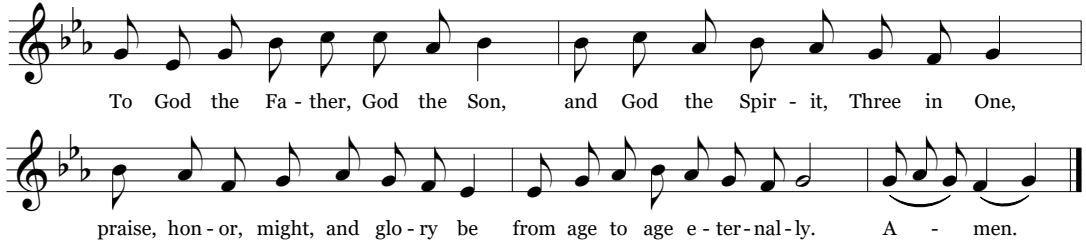
A moment of silence for personal reflection and confession.

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

### SUNG RESPONSE

CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM



To God the Fa - ther, God the Son, and God the Spir - it, Three in One,  
praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be from age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

## Proclamation of the Word

### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

Following the Children's Moment, children K - grade 5 depart for their Sunday School classes.

### SENDING HYMN Go Now Children With Our Blessing



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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Rebecca Kirkpatrick

FIRST LESSON Isaiah 60:1-6

(pg. 690 in pew Bible)

ANTHEM O Nata Lux

Morten Lauridsen

O born light of light, Jesus, redeemer of the world, mercifully deem worthy and accept the praises and prayers of your supplicants. Thou who once deigned to be clothed in flesh for the sake of the lost ones, grant us to be made members of your holy body.

SECOND LESSON Matthew 2:1-12

Kirby Lawrence Hill

(pg. 2 in pew Bible)

One                    The Word of the Lord.  
All                    **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Looking Up, Kneeling Down*

Kirby Lawrence Hill

## Response to the Word

Please stand, if able.

HYMN 97 Watchman, Tell Us of the Night

ABERYSTWYTH

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Andy Greenhow

**All        Jesus Christ stands at the center of the biblical record. The Bible is the account of God's word and action in history, together with his people's response in faith. It tells how the Lord has moved with Israel and the church towards the kingdom of God, his just and loving rule over all. It is the story of the one God, who is the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. That story is still unfolding and in faith we make it our own. It forms our memory and our hope. It tells us who we are and what we are to do. To retell it is to declare what we believe.**

**All 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 Behold a Star from Jacob

Felix Mendelssohn

Behold a star from Jacob shining, and a scepter from Israel rising to reign in glory over the nations. Like some bright morning star is He, the promise of the coming day, beyond the night of sorrow. Break forth, O Light! We, our joyful Hearts uplifting with thanksgiving, hail the brightness of Thy rising.

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

Please stand, if able.

DOXOLOGY 606 Praise God, from whom all Blessings Flow

OLD HUNDRETH

**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

Andy Greenhow

HYMN 152 What Star Is This, with Beams So Bright

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

Kirby Lawrence Hill

POSTLUDE In Thee is Joy

J.S. Bach

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"I AM THE RESURRECTION AND THE LIFE."

Louis C. Bechtle - December 22, 2024

Joan Honig- December 24, 2024

# WELCOME TO BRYN MAWR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

This is the time of the year when we celebrate the great God of all creation who chose to become one with us in the person of Jesus Christ. Each individual who joins our worship and work helps us embody the incarnate nature of being the church together. Whether you are a longtime member or a first-time visitor, you are welcome here! We hope that worship may be the entrée into deeper engagement of Christian formation, nurture, and outreach so that together we fulfill our calling as disciples of Jesus Christ.



The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet  
Senior Pastor

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## 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 in the Atrium following the worship service. All of our programs, ministries, and opportunities for mission are open to everyone. Learn more at [bmpc.org](http://bmpc.org).

## 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 Monday.

## CHILDCARE ON SUNDAY

Childcare is available on Sundays from 7:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for children ages six months and older. Please contact the Rev. Rachel Pedersen, [RachelPedersen@bmpc.org](mailto:RachelPedersen@bmpc.org) or Childcare Coordinator Erika Henry, [childcare@bmpc.org](mailto:childcare@bmpc.org) with any questions.

# Worship & Music Notes

PLAYING THE CARILLON

Nancy Lawrence Hill

## Announcements

### NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Belonging and Inclusion, A Conversation.** Sun., Jan. 19, 11:15 a.m., Congregational Hall. In the Spring of 2024, the BMPC Session approved a new “Commitment to Belonging and Inclusion” to help guide our church’s leaders, councils and committees as we move more fully into a welcoming and diverse congregation. Join the Anti-Racism Committee (ARC) in large and small group conversations about the statement, how it is being implemented and how it connects to all parts of our life together.

**Youth Summer Mission Trip.** Sun., July 6 – Fri., July 11, 2025. Current 5th-12th graders are invited to the Youth Summer Mission Trip at CROSS Missions in Charlotte, NC. Cost for first registrant is \$250. Each additional registrant (sibling or friend) is \$125. Scholarships are available. Register by Fri., Mar. 14 at [bit.ly/BMPCMissionTripNC](https://bit.ly/BMPCMissionTripNC) Contact [AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org](mailto:AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org) with any questions.

**Youth Summer Camp.** Sat., July 26 – Sat., Aug. 2, 2025. Current 6th-12th graders will travel to Montreat Conference Center in Montreat, NC for camp. Youth will learn about Jesus, connect with new and old friends from across the country, and play games. Registration cost is \$650. Scholarships are available. Register by Fri., Mar. 14 at [bit.ly/BMPCYouthCamp2025](https://bit.ly/BMPCYouthCamp2025) Contact [AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org](mailto:AndyGreenhow@bmpc.org) with any questions.

### UPCOMING

**The Labyrinth Ministry.** Tues., Jan. 7, 10:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. All are invited to walk our Chartres canvas labyrinth. Quiet your mind, calm your anxieties, welcome insight and reduce stress.

**Men’s Discussion Group.** Starting Jan. 8, 10:00 a.m., Converse House Parlor. All men are welcome to join this in-person study and discussion group that meets on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the program year. This winter we will read Lee

Stroble's classic book *The Case for Christ*. Retracing his own spiritual journey from atheism to faith, Lee Strobel, former legal editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, cross-examines a dozen experts with doctorates from schools like Cambridge, Princeton, and Brandeis who are recognized authorities in their own fields. The group will be led by the Rev. Kirby Lawrence Hill. To register and to find out how to purchase the book, contact [KirbyLHill@bmmpc.org](mailto:KirbyLHill@bmmpc.org)

**Strong Bones and Bone Health.** Thurs., Jan. 9, 16 and 23, 1:00 p.m., Zoom. Maintaining bone health is critical to overall health as we age. Joanne P. Fagerstrom, PT, CFP, and owner of Mindful Physical Therapy, uses a holistic approach to bone health and exercise in treating osteopenia and osteoporosis patients. Ms. Fagerstrom will offer a virtual program focusing on bone health and exercise, with special attention to osteopenia and osteoporosis. Please bring hand-held weights (1-3 lbs. or a weight you're comfortable with). This free program includes recordings for participants to review and practice exercises at their convenience. Register with [JenniferMcArthur@bmmpc.org](mailto:JenniferMcArthur@bmmpc.org) to receive the Zoom link and additional details.

**Sunday Morning Discussion Group.** Starting Sun., Jan. 12, 8:30 a.m., Cannon Room and via Zoom. For thousands of years, people have asked the question, "What is God really like?" There have been many answers. We will examine twelve from the book *Finding God*, which explores various ways that the Jewish tradition has sought after and encountered God. For information about joining the class, receiving the Zoom link, and purchasing a book, contact Paul MacMurray at [katrmac2@icloud.com](mailto:katrmac2@icloud.com)

**Filling The Well.** Starting Sun., Jan. 12, 8:45 a.m., Children's Library, Ed. Bldg. This Sunday morning class for women will study pastor Eugenia Gamble's book *Tending the Wild Garden: Growing in the Fruits of the Spirit*. Through biblical traditions and personal reflections, Gamble explores the ways that we can cultivate traits such as kindness, gentleness, hope, and joy in our lives. The Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick leads this class. For more information and to reserve a copy of the book, contact [RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmmpc.org](mailto:RebeccaKirkpatrick@bmmpc.org)



**Feminine Energy Gallery Opening and Artist Talk.** Sun., Jan. 12, 11:15 a.m., Gallery. Sister Helen David Brancato, the artist behind our new gallery exhibit, will be present in the gallery to speak about her works. This exhibit honors the courage and strength of women from diverse backgrounds and eras who lived with passion and compassion. Through these portraits, we celebrate their fidelity, endurance, and the many ways they shared their talents and gifts with the world.

**Confirmation Class Update.** In this year of pastoral transitions, our Confirmation program is in full swing, with 18 students preparing to join the church this coming May. Classes this year are being taught by the Rev. Rebecca Kirkpatrick and take place during the 10:00 hour alongside all of our youth Sunday School classes. Please keep our students, their families, and their mentors in your prayers this season.

## CARING AND SHARING

**Sanctuary Flower Donations.** Openings are available in January and February for donors who wish to give flowers in memory of or in honor of loved ones. After Sunday services, our Deacons deliver small arrangements of the flowers to homebound church members. Contact [SusanThorkelson@mac.com](mailto:SusanThorkelson@mac.com)

**Code Blue Volunteers Needed.** For the month of January, BMPC is hosting a Code Blue Shelter to house up to five men sleeping outside in Lower Merion on the coldest nights. Volunteers work in shifts between 8:30p.m. and 6:30 a.m. on nights the shelter is open. Visit [bit.ly/CodeBlueVolunteer](https://bit.ly/CodeBlueVolunteer) to sign up. Contact [JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org](mailto:JenniferMcArthur@bmpc.org) to receive the training video and more information.

# Calendar

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

- 8:45 a.m. Childcare (Birth-Kindergarten), Ed. Bldg., Rm. 101
- 8:45 a.m. Art@9, Ed. Bldg., Rm. 102
- 9:55 a.m. Sunday School Ages 2s, 3s, and Pre-K, Ed. Bldg.
- 10:00 a.m. **Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary and Livestreamed**
- 10:15 a.m. Sunday School K-5th, Ed. Bldg.
- 11:00 a.m. Family Fellowship, Ed. Bldg. Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Atrium Cafe, Atrium
- 11:15 a.m. Youth Ministry Council, Gym Youth Lounge

## MONDAY, JANUARY 6

No events scheduled.

## TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

- 9:00 a.m. RePose Yoga (hybrid), Gymnasium
- 10:00 a.m. Monthly Labyrinth Walk, Congregational Hall
- 10:30 a.m. Tai Chi (hybrid), Gymnasium
- 1:00 p.m. Visual Arts Committee Meeting, Gloucester Room

## WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

- 9:00 a.m. Yoga206 Bone Boost, Gymnasium
- 10:00 a.m. Coffee Cup Bible Study, Cannon Room
- 10:00 a.m. Wednesday Men's Group, Converse House Parlor
- 4:30 p.m. Wednesday Connection Group, Converse House Parlor
- 4:45 p.m. Beginners' Choir Rehearsal, Ed. Bldg. Hall
- 4:45 p.m. Children's Choir Rehearsal, Children & Youth Rehearsal Room
- 5:30 p.m. Wednesday Night Dinner, Congregational Hall
- 5:45 p.m. Youth Chorale Rehearsal, Children & Youth Rehearsal Room
- 7:00 p.m. Student Serve, Gym Youth Lounge
- 7:00 p.m. Worldwide Ministries Council Meeting, Cannon Room

# Calendar

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

- 9:45 a.m. FIT4MOM, Gymnasium
- 5:30 p.m. Music & Fine Arts Council Meeting, Witherspoon Parlor
- 6:00 p.m. Refugee Support Committee Meeting, Virtual
- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal, Rehearsal Room

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

- 9:45 a.m. FIT4MOM, Gymnasium

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

- 7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Men's Connection Group, Converse House Parlor
- 10:00 a.m. Searching for Still Waters Bereavement Group, Witherspoon Parlor

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

- 8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**
- 10:00 a.m. **Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary and Livestreamed**  
The Rev. Dr. Agnes W. Norfleet will preach.

## Giving

Your generosity can make a profound difference at Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church. Join us in spreading love and hope by giving at [bit.ly/BMPCGiveOnline](https://bit.ly/BMPCGiveOnline) or simply scan the QR code to the right. Every donation, no matter the size, fuels our mission to create a more faithful, just, and compassionate community. Together, let's make a lasting impact!



### CONNECT WITH US



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## Worship Staff

Agnes W. Norfleet, Pastor

Andy Greenhow, Interim Associate Pastor for Youth & Their Families

Rebecca Kirkpatrick, Associate Pastor for Adult Education & Mission

Kirby Lawrence Hill, Interim Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care & Senior Adults

Rachel Pedersen, Associate Pastor for Children & Family Ministry

Jeffrey Brillhart, Director of Music & Fine Arts

Edward Landin Senn, Assistant Director of Music