



# *Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church*

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December 29, 2019  
10:00 a.m., Sanctuary  
First Sunday of Christmas

# WELCOME TO BMPC

## TODAY'S SCHEDULE

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

7:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.

Fullerton Room, Ministries Center

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

#### **Grades K - 12**

Holiday Worship Together

10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

### **Coffee & Fellowship**

11:00 a.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.

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**

The Nativity

Jean Langlais

**WELCOME**

Brian K. Ballard

† **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

**All: We who have lived in darkness — on us light has shined.**

One: For unto us a Child has been born:

He is named Wonderful Counselor and Mighty God.

**All: He is the Everlasting Father and Prince of Peace.**

One: Let us worship the Child who was born.

**All: Let us worship our Lord who redeems.**

† **HYMN 147**

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

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

Holy Incarnate God,

you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world,

to reveal your love for all people.

We confess that our sin and pride

hide the brightness of your light.

We turn away from the poor;

we ignore cries for justice;

we do not strive for peace.

Forgive us, O God;

that we may show forth your glory,

shining in the face of our Emmanuel.

*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.*

# PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

Brian K. Ballard

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

*During the Sending Hymn, children K - Grade 5 return to their pews.*



Go now, children with our blessing, to love and serve the Lord. May God  
bless you, May God guard you, May the light of God shine upon you, and may  
God be gracious to you. May the presence of God be with you. May the  
presence of God be with you, and give you peace.

**FIRST LESSON**

Isaiah 63:7-9 (*p. 693 in pew Bible*)

Brian K. Ballard

**ANTHEM**

Beannacht Leat, A Mhuire  
Sanctuary Choir

Paul Halley

Praise to you, O Mary; Praise to you, O Christ; Keep our souls from harm until we come to you again; Praise to you, O House of God, and may God's blessing surround us; May God's grace never leave us till we return to His temple. Bless us, O Mary, bless us, O Christ; Send your apostles to protect us on our way; I beseech you, O Virgin, and I pray to the only Son of the Maiden, that our friendship never be sundered and that we dwell with you forever.

**SECOND LESSON**

Hebrews 2:10-18 (*p. 219 in pew Bible*)

Franklyn C. Pottorff

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

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

**SERMON**

*Joining the Circus*

Franklyn C. Pottorff

† **HYMN 144**

In the Bleak Midwinter

CRANHAM

# RESPONSE TO THE WORD

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

Franklyn C. Pottorff

In the beginning was the Word,  
and the Word was with God,  
and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.

All things came into being through him  
and without him not one thing came into being.

What has come into being was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The Word became flesh and lived among us,  
and we have seen his glory,  
the glory as of a father's only son,  
full of grace and truth.

John 1:1-4, 9 adapted

## 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.

## OFFERING

## OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Shepherd's Carol  
Sanctuary Choir

William Billings

Methinks I see a heavenly host of angels on the wing; methinks I hear their cheerful notes, so merrily they sing. Let all your fears be banished hence, glad tidings I proclaim; for there's a Saviour born today and Jesus is his name. Seek not in courts or palaces, to Bethlehem repair and follow the star to see your God who lies in manger bare. The lowly child whom you will find is not of common birth, but second in the Trinity, the son of heaven and earth. Around the shepherds throng, exulting in the three-fold God and thus addressed their song. To God the Father, to Christ the Son and Holy Ghost adored, the first and last, the last and first eternal praise afford.

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

†	<b>DOXOLOGY</b>		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.		
†	<b>PRAYER OF DEDICATION</b>		Brian K. Ballard
†	<b>HYMN 113</b>	Angels We Have Heard on High	GLORIA
†	<b>BENEDICTION WITH CHORAL RESPONSE</b>		Franklyn C. Pottorff
	<b>POSTLUDE</b>	Improvisation	Jeffrey Brillhart

## *Worship Notes*

### **CHAPEL GARDEN FLOWERS**

Given to the glory of God and in loving memory of  
Henry Cordray

### **GREETING**

Members of our Usher Team

### **PLAYING THE CARILLON**

Paul McConnell, Jonathan Jones

### **BULLETIN COVER**

*Nativity Panel* © 2015 John August Swanson | Eyekons

## Announcements

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING.** Sun., Jan. 19, following the 10:00 a.m. worship service. The Session has called a Congregational Meeting for the purpose of electing church officers (Elders, Deacons and Trustees) and members of the 2020 Nominating Committee and for approving 2020 Pastoral Terms of Call. [MonicaDevane@bmpc.org](mailto:MonicaDevane@bmpc.org).

**REMINDER.** When you are changing batteries on Christmas decorations and gifts, bring the discarded ones to the Ministries Center. Our 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.

**ORGAN RECORDING FOR SALE.** Renowned organist Aaron Tan, a student of Jeffrey Brillhart, recorded a CD on our Rieger organ, and we have them for sale for \$15 each. The CD includes works by Jongen, Demessieux, Bonnal, Tchaikovsky, Karg-Elert, Bizet and Vierne. Cash payments or checks payable to Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church will be accepted. Contact [StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org](mailto:StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org) to purchase.

## This Week

**SPECIAL GUEST AT REFUGEE SUPPORT COMMITTEE MEETING.** Thurs., Jan. 2, 6:00 p.m., Congregational Hall. Cathryn Miller-Wilson, executive director of HIAS-Pennsylvania, a national organization with a distinguished history of providing legal and social services to low-income refugees and immigrants, will discuss the recent proposals to open new ICE facilities in the Philadelphia area.

**SANCTUARY CHOIR OPEN REHEARSAL.** Do you have questions about joining our Sanctuary Choir? On the first Thursday of every month we have an open rehearsal for visitors to drop in and try it out. Your next opportunity is Thurs., Jan. 2 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fine Arts Center. Contact [StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org](mailto:StephanieSpeakman@bmpc.org) if you plan to attend.

## Next Sunday

**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.

**EVERY FAMILY IS A STORY.** Sun., Jan. 5, 11:15 a.m., Chapel. The Rev. Debra Sutton, Middleton Center counselor and trauma specialist, leads us through a Family Systems approach to the Rev. Dr. Serene Jones' memoir, *Call It Grace*. Dr. Jones is our Theologian-in-Residence in late January, and her presentation is part of our celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Middleton Counseling Center.

## Upcoming

**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.

**Y-GROUP MEETING.** Tues., Jan. 14, 9:15-11:00 a.m., Congregational Hall. Spirituality in Family Life. Abby Pottorff, ygroupbmpc@gmail.com.

**HOLY LEISURE.** Fri., Jan. 17, 6:00-9:00 p.m., home of Barbara Cobb, Wayne. Join old and new friends for a potluck dinner and fellowship. The Rev. Margaret Somerville, Associate Pastor of Gladwyne Presbyterian Church, hosts our discussion, "Hold, Hands, Opening Hearts & Minds." Register: <http://bit.ly/HolyLeisureJan2020> and include your food or drink contribution.

**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

**CASSEROLE BLITZ.** Sat., Jan. 18, 8:30 a.m., Ministries Center Kitchen. Join the Hunger Committee in preparing meals for area shelters. Bring your family and friends (children must be over 4 years old) for a rewarding Saturday morning! Register with Sandie Nicholson, sandiekev@verizon.net.

**COLD WEATHER IS UPON US! 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.

**THANK YOU.** Your donations of frozen turkeys, hams and non-perishable food are *greatly* appreciated. During the past six weeks, the BMPC Hunger Committee distributed more than 50 turkeys and hams through our partner organizations. We continue to collect and distribute non-perishable food as well as funds donated through the Hunger Fund envelopes in the pews. Food scarcity persists in our community, and your ongoing support of the church's hunger ministry is much appreciated.

# **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 29**

7:45 a.m. Childcare, Fullerton Room  
8:00 a.m. **Worship with Communion, Chapel**  
10:00 a.m. **Worship with Sanctuary Choir, Sanctuary**  
11:00 a.m. Coffee & Fellowship, Gymnasium

## **Monday, December 30**

*No scheduled activities.*

## **Tuesday, December 31**

*No scheduled activities.*

## **Wednesday, January 1**

**Church Office Closed:** *For pastoral emergencies, call 610-525-2821.*

## **Thursday, January 2**

10:00 a.m. Artists' Gathering, Fine Arts Center  
6:00 p.m. Refugee Support Committee Meeting, Congregational Hall  
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir and Bryn Mawr Chamber Singers, Fine Arts Center

## **Friday, January 3**

*No scheduled activities.*

## **Saturday, January 4**

7:00 a.m. Saturday Morning Mens' Group, Converse House Parlor

## **Sunday, January 5**

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.  
Worship Together Sunday for Children & Youth in Grades 4 - 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**

625 Montgomery Avenue, Bryn Mawr, PA 19010

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