

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

August 16, 2026
THE GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIPBased on Isaiah 56

Leader: Thus says the Lord: Maintain justice, and do righteousness, for soon my salvation will come.
People: We come seeking the Lord, longing for God’s ways and trusting in God’s grace.
Leader: To the outcast, the foreigner, and the lonely—God promises a place and a name better than sons and daughters, an everlasting name that shall not be cut off.
People: No one is shut out from the mercy of our God. We are welcomed with open arms.
Leader: For God declares: "Them I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer".
People: For God's house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations! Let us worship God together.
All: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 250In the Bulb There Is a FlowerPROMISE

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, your world cries out. The fruits of our disobedience are harming your creation. You tasked us to be good stewards of your creation and we have fallen short. You challenged us to love God and love our neighbor, and we have failed to show that love. You promise to bring all people joyfully together in a house of prayer on your holy mountain. We find ways to stay apart. Bring us together, O Lord. Empower us with a spirit of love for you and love for all our neighbors. Help us live lives of service to you so that all your children will know your peace. Forgive us when we fall short and continue to transform your world, leading us to your promised kingdom. In Jesus’ name. Amen.
Silent Prayer

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you all.
People: And also with you.

*GLORIA 582
Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen
World without end, without end. Amen. (3x)
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. Amen.

THE WORD

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALLBlessing of the Backpacks

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READINGIsaiah 56:1, 6–8

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN 435There’s a Wideness in God’s MercyIN BABILONE

SECOND SCRIPTURE READINGGenesis 45:1-15

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMONA Better QuestionRev. Beth Newman

OUR THANKFUL RESPONSE

CHORAL ANTHEM

ELDER INSTALLATION

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITHFrom the Confession of 1967

God’s sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God’s love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God’s love. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; 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 THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*THE DOXOLOGY 609
Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God in Jesus, fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia alleluia!

*PRAYER AFTER THE OFFERING

*HYMN 372O for a WorldAZMON

THE SENDING

*BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

May the love of God go with you from this place.
May your hours and days show forth his praise.

*Rise in body or spirit.

Music and streaming copyright through CCI

Leading in worship today:
Pastor: Rev. Beth Newman
Music Director: Kathy Wiggins
Elder of the Month: Lisa Monnat

Announcements

WELCOME VISITORS! If you are worshipping here for the first time today, Welcome! We are glad to have you join in our worship service.

SUNDAY SERVICE: Sunday service is at 11:00 am in the Sanctuary. It is also on Facebook and YouTube Live Stream.

SUNDAY MORNING CLASS: Pastor Beth leads a class on Sunday mornings in the Hut from 9:45 - 10:30 a.m. This class is discussion-based and open to any adult or teen who would like to come.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: Wednesday Bible Study will be canceled for August 19th due to a Mission Conference at Montreat.

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACK: The Blessing of the Backpack will be Sunday, August 16th.

ASHEVILLE TOURISTS BASEBALL GAME: The Asheville Tourists ball game is Friday, August 21st. The ticket price is \$13.00 each, since we did not have 20 people sign up we do not get the discounted price. You can pick up your ticket(s) in the office next week.

EIGHTH DAY OF CREATION: Registration and set-up for the fall artwork exhibit will be Saturday, September 5th from 12:00 noon until 4:00 p.m. If you have an entry and are not available during this time please contact Melanie Lambert.

FLOWER CHART: There is a Flower Chart in the narthex, on the left as you enter the main door. If you would like to bring flowers for our Sanctuary, write your name and telephone number under the month and date. If you would like to donate them in honor or memory of someone, please drop a note in the offering plate.

The Flowers for today were donated by Martha Rich in honor of her parent's anniversary.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

Communion - Every first Sunday of the month.

Choir Practice - Every Sunday at 9:45 am. Anyone is welcome. Please join us!

Back Porch Bible Study - Sundays from 9:00 to 10:30 a.m. at the home of Martha Rich. For more information, call Martha at 770-851-6852.

Bible Study: Every Wednesday at 11:00 am in the Parlor.

Session Meeting - Session meetings are the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.

Women's Breakfast - Every Thursday at 8:00 a.m. at Everett Street Diner except for the second Thursday of each month, when the location will be decided on.

Men's Breakfast - Every Thursday at 8:00 a.m. at The Tuck & Table.

Daily Change Offering - Every second Sunday of each month.

Presbyterian Women - The second Tuesday of every month at 1:00 p.m. You can come early, bring your lunch, and have fellowship.

Coffee & Fellowship - Every first Sunday after worship service.

Food Pantry - Every Monday 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. and every Saturday 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon.

Manna Market Wednesdays - Manna distributes every other Wednesday at the Church Food Pantry for anyone who wishes to pick up food.

AA Meetings - Monday at noon, Tuesday at 5:30 p.m. and the last Tuesday of each month in the Fellowship Hall from 4:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., Thursday at noon, Friday at 6:30 p.m., and Saturday at 7:00 p.m in the Fellowship Hall.



This is a QR Code and can be scanned by your phone's camera. If your phone does not have this capacity, you can download an app. This code is linked to the church's Paypal account.

BCPC Elders: Patty Ambrosino (Church Grounds), Collin Caldwell (Clerk), Merle Carroll (Elder Elect), Bill Helwig (Worship Committee), Bob Jordan (Building & Grounds), Dan Manley (Community Outreach), Lisa Monnat (Personnel), Melanie Lambert & Diana Ranson (Congregational Life) Carol Sussman (Finance/ Treasurer)

BCPC Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Beth Newman

Music Director: Kathy Wiggins

Office Administrator: Elise Bryson

Custodians: Michael & Daniel Cochran

Email-BCPC@bcpcusa.org; Website-www.bcpcusa.org

[Facebook-www.facebook.com/BrysonCityPresbyterianChurch](https://www.facebook.com/BrysonCityPresbyterianChurch)

[Paypal.me/lovebcpc](https://www.paypal.me/lovebcpc)

Bryson City Presbyterian Church August 16, 2026



**311 Everett Street, PO Box 549, Bryson City, NC 28713
828-488-2480**

Mission Statement of Bryson City Presbyterian Church

We seek to follow Jesus Christ as we . . .

Engage and encourage one another in worship and fellowship

Learn together as we grow in discipleship and

Reach out in love.