

**Bryson City Presbyterian Church**

December 13, 2020

Third Sunday of Advent

**Prelude**      *Angels We Have Heard on High*      arr. Birkhead

**Welcome**

**The Lighting of the Advent Candle of Joy**

Light one candle for joy.  
Because the world is broken and the wait is long,  
but our joy cannot be contained.  
Like a toddler, toppling the thrones of power with  
a gleeful swipe,  
Joy pierces our silence with song  
interrupts our sighing with laughter  
unshackles our fumbling feet to dance.  
“My soul magnifies the Lord,” she whispers,  
“and my Spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.”  
So we light one candle, because it only takes one:  
Christ with us.

**One Candle is Lighted**      Mary Anne Parrott

Come festively sing while awaiting the birth  
Join angels in dancing from heaven to earth.  
Wave banners of good news, lift high thankful praise.  
One candle is lit for the joy of these days.

(Worshippers are invited to sing at home to the tune of *Away In a Manger*.)

**Prayer of the Day**

Holy God of Joy,  
We rejoice in the reality of who you are.  
We live within the joy of your love for us.  
Our contentment comes and goes.  
Our happiness ebbs and flows.  
Our feelings depend upon our circumstances,  
our physical health, our brain chemistry.  
But our joy is deeply rooted  
in our identity as your beloved children.  
And we give you thanks. Amen.

**Silent Confession and Assurance of Pardon**

**Scripture**      Luke 1: 39-56

**Musical Meditation**      *Silent Night*      arr. Lanier

**Sermon**      *Mary’s Song*      Rev. Beth Newman

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**Pastoral 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.

**Closing Hymn**      *Away In a Manger*      MUELLER

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.  
(Worshippers are invited to sing at home.)

**Sending**

**Choral Benediction**

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

**Postlude**      *Good Christians All Rejoice*      arr. Lanier

The Advent Candle liturgy was written by  
Rev. Karen Ware Jackson.

Worship Leaders: Beth Newman-Transitional Pastor, Rachel Lackey-Minister of Music, Kyle Colley-Elder, Cathy Arps-Musician

## The Mission of the 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.*

Please remember our church during this challenging time. Donations can be made online at [www.paypal.me/lovebcpc](http://www.paypal.me/lovebcpc). There are also links on our Facebook page and website.

If you are more comfortable mailing a check, please mail it to BCPC, PO Box 549, Bryson City, NC 28713

Thank you for helping to keep our church running so vital ministries like the Giving Spoon, Manna Pop Up Market, the Food Pantry and AA can continue serving others.

#### YTD Financials

Unrestricted Giving	\$123,674
Expenses	\$122,617
Excess/Deficit	\$ 1,057

Please call the church office at 828-488-2480 and leave a message if a need arises. Please check our Facebook page and website for more information.

#### BCPC Elders

Mark Brannon, Collin Caldwell, Drew Campbell, Becky Claxton,  
Kyle Colley, Cathy Evans, Dawn Letterman, Carol Sussman

#### BCPC Staff

Transitional Pastor – Rev. Beth Newman  
Minister of Music & Adm. Assistant – Rev. Rachel Lackey  
Custodian – Renee Mercer



## Bryson City Presbyterian Church

311 Everett Street, P.O. Box 549, Bryson City, NC 28713  
828-488-2480

Email – [bcpc@bcpcusa.org](mailto:bcpc@bcpcusa.org); Website-[www.bcpcusa.org](http://www.bcpcusa.org)  
Facebook-[www.facebook.com/brysoncitypresbyterianchurch](http://www.facebook.com/brysoncitypresbyterianchurch)  
On-line Giving-[www.paypal.com/lovebcpc](http://www.paypal.com/lovebcpc)