

# SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

## First Sunday of Advent

December 1, 2024

### THE GATHERING

#### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### PRELUDE

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God says,  
**People: "Do not be afraid."**  
Leader: God says,  
**People: "I have called you by name."**  
Leader: God says,  
**People: "You are precious and honored in my sight."**  
Leader: At the beginning of this season,  
**People: At the start of this week,**  
Leader: At the top of this hour  
**People: May we wrap ourselves in these words.  
May we begin again.**  
**All: Let us worship God!**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Diana Ranson & Ron Miller

\*HYMN 82 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

#### \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

#### \*CALL TO CONFESSION

#### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Affirming God, your first words to creation were words of love. You looked at this earth and said, "It is good." You spoke affirmations through the prophets. You spoke blessings over Mary. You spoke belonging through Christ. At every turn, you have reiterated that we are a blessing, made in your image, held in your love. Forgive us for forgetting this truth. Forgive us for measuring our worth by society's measuring stick instead of yours. We believe. Help our unbelief. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

*Time for silent confession*

#### \*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

#### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

\*GLORIA 113 (chorus)

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

### THE WORD

#### TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL

#### FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 43: 1-7

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

#### SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. Luke 1:26-38  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *You Are A Blessing* Rev. Beth Newman

### OUR THANKFUL RESPONSE

#### CHORAL ANTHEM

#### \*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in a blessing God who calls us Beloved. We believe that this blessing showed up in the life of Mary, and was also bestowed upon the hemorrhaging woman, the poor in spirit, the children, the crowds, the Jews, the Gentiles, the faithful and the doubting. So in faith, we trust that God's blessing, like ripples on the water, forever reaches toward us. And with wild hope, we believe that because of this blessing, we are covered in love. We are more than enough. Thanks be to God! Amen.**

#### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

#### THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord be with you.  
**People: And also with you.**  
Leader: Lift up your hearts.  
**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**  
Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

#### 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.**

#### BREAKING OF THE BREAD & COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

#### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

#### OFFERTORY

#### \*THE DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts.  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

#### \*PRAYER AFTER THE OFFERING

\*HYMN 98 *To a Maid Whose Name Was Mary*

### 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.*

#### \*POSTLUDE

*\*Rise in body or spirit.*

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Leading in worship today:  
**Pastor:** Rev. Beth Newman  
**Music Director:** Kathy Wiggins  
**Guest Musician:** Katherine Whitehouse  
**Elder of the Month:** Dan Manley

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Liturgy: Sanctified Art*

## Announcements

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

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

**SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR YOUTH AND TEENS:** Middle and High School youth are invited to a conversation about scripture beginning in the youth room at 10:00.

**COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP:** Join us in the Fellowship Hall for Coffee and Fellowship after worship service.

## ADVENT SCHEDULE



- Sunday, December 1st - First Sunday of Advent
- Wednesday, December 4th - Wreathmaking 4:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, December 11th - Church Potluck & Singing
- Sunday, December 15th - Christmas Cantata at 11:00 a.m.
- Sunday, December 22nd - Christmas Caroling 2:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, December 24th - 5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Moravian Love Feast
  - Wednesday, December 25th Christmas Day
- Sunday, December 29th at 11:00 a.m. - Casual Lessons and Carols

## CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

**Communion** - Every first Sunday of the month.

**Choir Practice** - Every Sunday at 9:45 a.m. Join us! Cantata Practice: 9:15.

**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 a.m.

**Session Meeting** - Session Meeting every month.

**Women's Breakfast** - Every Thursday at 8:00 a.m. at Mountain Perks 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. in the Fellowship Hall.

**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.

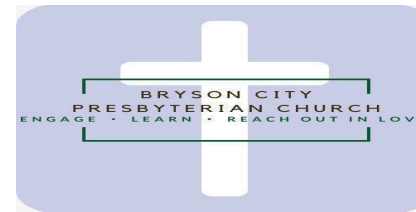
**Coffee & Fellowship** - Every first Sunday after worship service.

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

**Welcome 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 5:30 p.m., Thursday at noon, Friday at 6:30 p.m., Saturday at 7:00 p.m., and last Tuesday of each month Fellowship Dinner 4:30 p.m. until 7:00 p.m.

**Al-Anon Meetings** - Second Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.



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), Sammi Birchfield (Discipleship & Community Outreach), Mark Brannon (Chair), Bill Helwig (Worship Committee), Bob Jordan (Building & Grounds), Dan Manley (Building & Grounds), Lisa Monnat (Personnel), Martha Rich (Congregational Life), Carol Sussman (Finance)

## BCPC Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Beth Newman

Music Director: Kathy Wiggins

Office Administrator: Elise Bryson

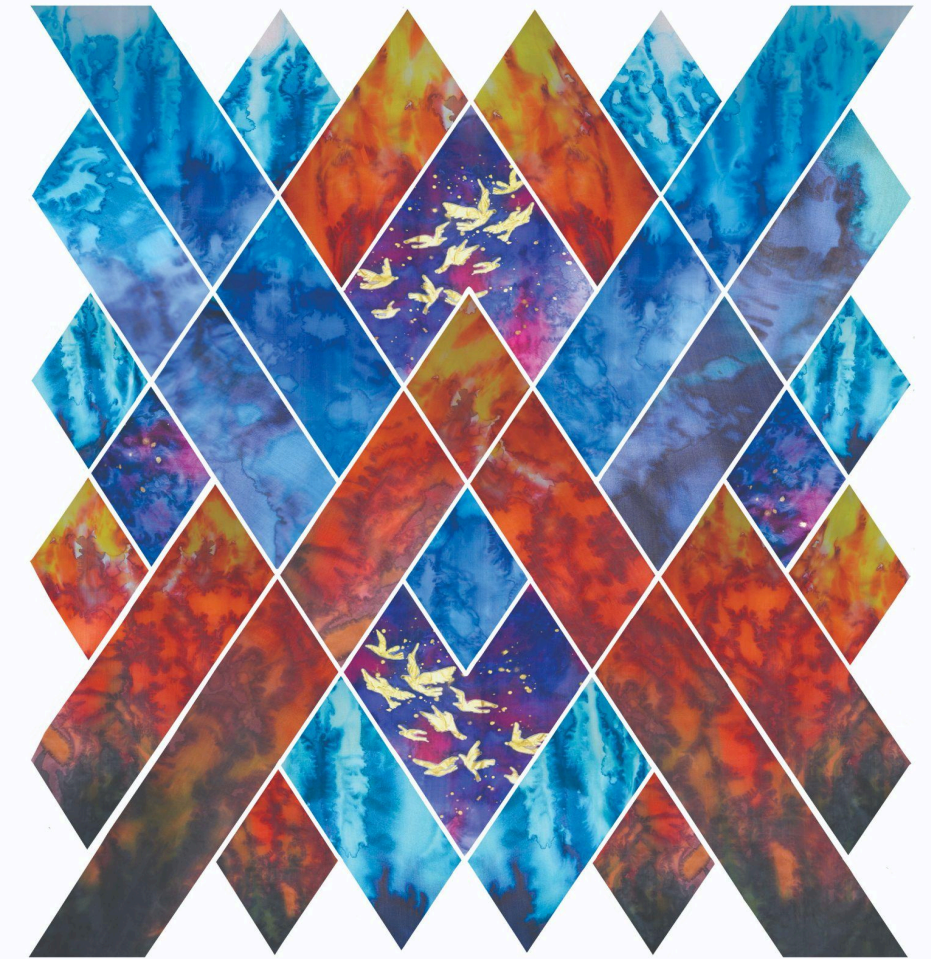
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[Paypal.me/lovebcpc](https://www.paypal.me/lovebcpc)

# Bryson City Presbyterian Church December 1, 2024



*Lisle*

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.*