

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

December 28, 2025

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS
PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather to worship the Word made flesh,
who fled from the wrath of human powers into Egypt.

People: The God we worship was a refugee.

Leader: We remember the children, from the time of Christ to today,
caught in the cross-fires of fear and greed.

People: The God we worship was a refugee.

Leader: We gather to dream and build a better world
where all children grow up, all exiles return home.

People: The God we worship was a refugee.

All: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 133 O Come, All Ye Faithful

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Emmanuel, God with us,
scripture tells us that you were a refugee,
but we love to forget that information.
We love to forget every act of gun violence.
We love to forget how many people go hungry,
or how many students do not have access to good education.
We love to forget the injustices in our world that feel too big for us to face.
But you are a God who refuses to forget.
So today we pray: make it impossible for us to overlook the stories of those in need.
Make it impossible for us to sweep injustice under the rug.
Open our eyes along with our hearts, so that the anger we feel around injustice might fuel a fire for action.
With hope for a better tomorrow we pray. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON
Church family,...
... the good news of the gospel:
On our best days and on our worst days, we belong to God.
We are invited into community. We are held in God’s grace. We are forgiven. And we are sent to serve.
Thanks be to God for a love like that. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE 15 All Creatures of Our God and King v.4

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: Friends, the peace and joy of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pass the peace to one another.

*GLORIA 113 (chorus)
Glo- - -ria in excelsis Deo!
Glo - - - ria in excelsis Deo!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Thank you God for the Word.
To those who seek your truth, may they hear your Word clearly.
To those who hear your Word clearly, may they speak of love fervently.
Thank you God for the Word.
Amen.

THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 148

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SUNG RESPONSE 15 All Creatures of Our God and King v.1

SING WITH JOY (Open Sing) Choose Christmas Hymns between 108-156

SCRIPTURE READING atthew 2:1-23

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN 154 Jesus Entered Egypt

SING WITH JOY (Open Sing) Choose Christmas Hymns between 108-156

OUR THANKFUL RESPONSE

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
The one sufficient revelation of God
is Jesus Christ,
the Word of God incarnate,
to whom the Holy Spirit
bears unique and authoritative witness
through the Holy Scriptures,
which are received and obeyed
as the word of God written.
Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.27

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
...Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer

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

*DOXOLOGY 15 All Creatures of Our God and King v.6

*PRAYER AFTER THE OFFERING

*HYMN 132 Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

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.

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Liturgy from Sanctified Arts Written by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed and Call to Worship for
December 28, 2025.
Cover Art - “Refugees: Holy Family” Kelly Latimore, 2018

Leading in worship today:
Elder: Bill Helwig
Music Director: Kathy Wiggins
Elder of the Month: Lisa Monnat
Readers: Diana Ranson, Ron Miller, Ben Harrison, Carol Sussman

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 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 at 11:00 a.m. in the Parlor.

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.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

Communion - The first Sunday of each month.

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

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

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

Session Meeting - Tuesday, January 12th at 5:30 pm

Women's Breakfast - Thursdays at 8:00 am at Mountain Perks, except for the second Thursday of each month, location to be decided.

Men's Breakfast - Thursdays at 8:00 am. in the Fellowship Hall.

Daily Change Offering - The second Sunday of each month.

Presbyterian Women - The second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 pm. Come early, bring your lunch, and have fellowship.

Coffee & Fellowship - Each first Sunday after worship service.

Food Pantry - Mondays 5:00- 7:00 pm, Saturdays 10:00 am - 12 pm.

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

AA Meetings - Mondays at noon, Tuesdays at 5:30 pm, Thursdays at noon, Fridays at 6:30 pm, and Saturdays at 7:00 p.m. The last Tuesday of each month from 4:30 - 7:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

“Feed My Sheep” - Thursdays 3:00 - 6:00 pm Food and Worship in the Fellowship Hall

Upcoming:

- Sunday, January 4, 2026 - Epiphany & Sharing of Star Words



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), Randy Bumgarner (Building & Grounds), Bill Helwig (Worship Committee), Bob Jordan (Building & Grounds), Dan Manley (Clerk), Lisa Monnat (Personnel), Martha Rich (Congregational Life), Carol Sussman (Finance)

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 December 28, 2025



**“Refugees: Holy Family”
Kelly Latimore, 2018**

**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.