

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

December 8, 2024

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader:In a world that is lonely,
People:We will save a seat for you.
Leader:In a world that is anxious,
People:We will light candles against the gloom.
Leader:In a world that is weary,
People:We will sing songs of joy and truth.
Leader:I am not alone.
People:We are not alone.
Leader:For in this place, God is weaving us together.
All:Let us worship God!

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*HYMN 104O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we acknowledge that we have tried to make our own way. We have heard the call to turn back, to repent, but we forget that grace sustains us, not our own efforts. Help us to be reminded of the everlasting truth that we do not have to go it alone. We are not alone. Where we go, you go. Grant us humble, softened hearts. Show us new ways to live in community, trusting that we are held in grace. 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 113 (chorus)

Glo- - -ria in excelsis Deo!
Glo - - - ria in excelsis Deo!

THE WORD

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALLDaily Change Offering

FIRST SCRIPTURE READINGEcclesiastes 4: 9-12

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

*HYMN 93Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

SECOND SCRIPTURE READINGRuth 1

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

SERMONWe Can’t Go It AloneRev. Beth Newman

OUR THANKFUL RESPONSE

CHORAL ANTHEM

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in a with-us God: a God who walks with us in the valley, dances with us on the mountaintop, sings with us through the night and rejoices in the morning. We believe that this with-us God wired us for relationship, saying to creation on the very first week, “Humans should not be alone.” Therefore, in an effort to be who God called us to be, we strive to live like the Trinity—connected, united, and centered. We believe in the power of community. We commit to learning each other’s names. We choose to journey with each other, like Ruth with Naomi. And we remember that no one can go through life alone. Thanks be to God, for lighting our way. 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

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

*PRAYER AFTER THE OFFERING

*HYMN 105People, Look East

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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Cover Art: “From the Three” by Hannah Garrity from Sanctified Art
Liturgy adapted from Sanctified Art

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

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.

ADVENT SCHEDULE



- Sunday, December 1st - First Sunday of Advent
- Wednesday, December 4th - Wreathmaking 4:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, December 11th - Church Potluck & Singing 5:30 p.m.
- 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
- Sunday, January 5, Celebration of Epiphany and Sharing of Star Words

CHRISTMAS CANTATA PRACTICE: Sundays, 9:15 am

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 - August 18th after worship service.

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., and Saturday at 7:00 p.m.

Al-Anon Meeting- Tuesday 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

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 8, 2024



**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.