

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

February 23, 2025

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Love bids us come,
to be ourselves, just as we are.
People: **God welcomes all, strangers and friends
God’s love is strong and it never ends.**
Leader: Christ bids us come,
to become all that we can be.
People: **God welcomes all, strangers and friends
God’s love is strong and it never ends.**
Leader: God bids us come,
to be energized, renewed and inspired.
All: **Let us worship the living, loving God!**

*HYMN 250 *Hymn of Promise*

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, you have come to us in Christ to lead us in the way of wholeness, yet we sometimes prefer the unhealthy outcomes of our broken world. Forgive us. You command us to love not only our neighbors, but even our enemies, yet we sometimes fail to love even those who are closest to us. Pardon us. You invite us to make peace, yet we sometimes add to the world’s discord instead. Have mercy on us, and renew us in the ways Jesus taught. Through Christ we pray.....

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 ALL

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 37: 1-11, 39-40

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

*HYMN 792 *There is a Balm in Gilead*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 6: 27-38

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

SERMON *How On Earth?* Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt

OUR THANKFUL RESPONSE

CHORAL ANTHEM *God of Great and God of Small*

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in God, our Creator, who gives us steadfast love, shares with us our joy, and sustains us in our suffering.

We follow Jesus Christ, Son of God, Son of woman.

His life is our model, his resurrection is our hope; in him the Word became flesh; in him we are offered forgiveness from sin, renewal from failure, reconciliation from brokenness, release from despair.

We are guided by the Holy Spirit, God’s presence in the world.

By the Spirit we are joined in Christ’s body, the church, and called to celebrate God’s love, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, to share with him in Baptism and to eat at his Table.

We affirm our covenant to live in community, to walk together in faith and hope, to care for one another with love, and to serve our neighbors with compassion.

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 high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia alleluia!*

*PRAYER AFTER THE OFFERING

*HYMN 346 *For the Healing of the Nations*

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:
Guest Pastor: Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt
Music Director: Kathy Wiggins
Guest Musician: Katherine Whitehouse
Elder of the Month: 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: The Sunday morning class will meet in the from 9:45 - 10:30 a.m. The Wired Word news will be the topic of discussion.

FLOWER CHART: There is a Flower Chart in the narthex. If you would like to bring flowers for our Sanctuary please write the date, your name and telephone number under the month.

BIBLE STUDY: Bible Study is cancelled for Wednesday, February 26th.

“FINISHING STRONG”: Rev. Dr. Steve Runholt will hold a class here April 5th from 10am until 2pm on how to prepare for life’s final stages. More information will be forthcoming.

BLAST FROM THE PAST: April 9th will be a dinner featuring recipes from an old church cookbook. A copy of the cookbook is in the narthex. Please put your name beside the recipe you would like to fix. Only one name beside each recipe.

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 - Every third Tuesday at 5:30 p.m.

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), 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

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

Bryson City Presbyterian Church February 23, 2025



**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.