

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

March 16, 2025

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come as you are.
People: If you have deep faith or if your faith has run dry,
Leader: If you know every scripture or none at all,
People: If you have calloused hands and live your faith through good works,
Leader: Or if you kneel at Jesus’ feet with a million hungry questions.
People: Come as you are.
Leader: This is God’s house.
All: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 725 O Jesus I Have Promised

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, we long to do the “right” thing. We long to make the “right” choice. We long to stand on the “right” side of the dividing line. In our earnestness, we sometimes miss the sacred right in front of us. In our earnestness, we sometimes miss opportunities to show love. Show us how to hold our heart’s desire for perfection loosely. Show us how to lead with grace and love, over anything else. For even more than our desire to be right, we desire to be close to you. Show us the way. Amen.

Silent Prayer

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

*Response Chorus

Oh, how He loves you and me,
Oh, how He loves you and me.
He gave His life, what more could He give?
Oh, how He loves you; Oh how He loves me;
Oh, how He loves you and me.

THE WORD

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Philippians 3:17-4:1

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

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 10:38-42

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

SERMON The Better Part Rev. Beth Newman

OUR THANKFUL RESPONSE

CHORAL ANTHEM Call to Follow

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe in a Christ who teaches, sees, affirms, and celebrates all of who we are. We believe in a Christ who invites us to use our gifts for good and celebrates every step we take in that direction. We believe in a Christ who understands our anxieties and is gentle with our concerns. And we believe in a Christ who looks at us with undiluted love. The world will try to rank, rate, and declare winners, but we know love has no limit. So with God’s help, may we nurture our faith and do good work. 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 607
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. A-men.

*PRAYER AFTER THE OFFERING

*HYMN 324 For All The Faithful Women

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: Mary and Martha by Lauren Wright Pittman
The Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession and Affirmation of Faith are by Sarah Speed, A Sanctified Art.

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

The Choir will be singing selections from the Cantata Journey to Hope during the Lenten Season.

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 is leading 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. During the session of Lent we are studying spiritual disciplines.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS: Booklets are available in the narthex.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY: The Wednesday Bible Study for March 19th has been cancelled.

SESSION MEETING: There will be a Session Meeting Tuesday, March 18th at 5:30 p.m.

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 please 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 complete a form and drop it in the offering plate.

“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. A signup sheet is in the narthex.

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.

EASTER LILIES: If you would like to donate a lily in honor or memory of someone there are order forms in this bulletin and in the narthex. We will use them to decorate the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday and they can be taken home afterwards.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

Communion - Every first Sunday of the month.

Choir Practice - Every Sunday at 9:15 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.



Maundy Thursday Service

April 17th at 6:00 p.m.

Community Potluck & Worship

12:00 noon Monday the 14th and Friday the 18th at noon at the Bryson City Presbyterian Church - paper goods and drinks provided

Easter Sunday at BCPC

Sunday the 20th breakfast at 9:00 followed by Easter Egg Hunt

Easter Worship at 11:00 a.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](https://www.facebook.com/BrysonCityPresbyterianChurch)

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

Bryson City Presbyterian Church March 16, 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.