

SERVICE FOR THE LORD’S DAY

March 23, 2025

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Everyone who thirsts:  
People: Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.  
Leader: All who are hungry for righteousness:  
People: Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.  
Leader: All who need the help of God:  
People: Come to the waters, seek the Lord, repent and return so that you may live.  
All: Let us worship God!

\*HYMN 65 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

\*PRAYER OF THE DAY

\*CALL TO CONFESSION

\*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we have grown complacent in our response to you. You set before us a rich feast of blessing, but we are drawn to lesser things that cannot satisfy. You call us to attend to urgent needs in the world, but we indulge our own desires. Our ways are not your ways; our thoughts do not ascend to your thoughts. Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives. Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire for a more fruitful life. Be patient, we pray, as we amend who we are, in the hope of becoming who you intend us to be. We ask this in the name of our Savior, your Son, Jesus Christ. 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

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
People: Thanks be to God. Isaiah 55:1-9

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Luke 13:1-9

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

SERMON Spared the Axe Rev. Beth Newman

OUR THANKFUL RESPONSE

CHORAL ANTHEM Call to Faith

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We are not alone, we live in God’s world. We believe in God who has created and is creating; who has come to us in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new; who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the Church, to celebrate God’s presence; to live with respect in creation; to love and serve others; to seek justice and resist evil; to proclaim Jesus’ message of hope, inclusion, and grace. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. 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 435 There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy

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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The Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession are from Feasting on the Word,  
Edited by Kimberly Long  
The Affirmation of Faith is adapted from the United Church of Canada

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 worshiping 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.

**DONATION FOR JANICE INABINETT:** There are envelopes in the bulletin for donations to Janice Inabinett, who lives beside the Church. Her home was severely damaged by fire Monday, March 17th.

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY:** The Wednesday Bible Study will be at 11:00 a.m. March 26th.

**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 drop a note 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](mailto:BCPC@bcpcusa.org); Website-[www.bcpcusa.org](http://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 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.*