

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

October 29, 2023

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Give praise to the Lord, our God;
Proclaim God's greatness; tell everyone what God has done.
People: The Lord is our God, faithful to a thousand generations!
Leader: Sing God's praises; tell all of the wonderful things God has done. Rejoice and give thanks! We belong to God.
People: The Lord is our God, faithful to a thousand generations!
Leader: Lean on God for help; worship God always.
People: The Lord is our God, faithful to a thousand generations!
All: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 317 *In Christ There is No East or West* MC KEE

PRAYER OF THE DAY

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, bring new life where we are worn and tired. New love where we have turned hard-hearted, forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded, and the joy and freedom of the Holy Spirit where we are prisoners of ourselves. We pray for mercy. Hear our prayers.

Silent Prayer

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

These are the words of Jesus. They are strong and true, so believe them:

"I have come that you may have life in all its fullness. Go in peace, your sins are forgiven; come, each one, and follow me."

Now God, help us to live as a forgiven people, visibly different, gloriously free, for Jesus sake. Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

*GLORIA PATRI 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. (Sing 3 times)
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

Proverbs 11: 23-25

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

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13: 1-9, 18-23

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

SERMON

The Generous Sower

Rev. Margie Stansell

OUR THANKFUL RESPONSE

CHORAL ANTHEM

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe that creation is inextricably linked. We belong to one another in an undeniable way. We are bone of bone and flesh of flesh, life breathed into dust. We believe that God invites us to live into that truth - to love without abandon, to see the good in one another, to trust that all belong to God. We know that the life of connection is easier said than done, which is why we gather in this space, week after week, generation after generation, to be reminded: We see God in each other. This we believe. 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.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER AFTER THE OFFERING

*HYMN 451 *Open My Eyes, That I May See* CLARA SCOTT

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.*

Cover Art: *The Sower* Painting by Liz Lemon Swindle
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Leading in worship today:

Interim Pastor: Rev. Margie Boyd Stansell

Interim Musicians: Marna Dodson and 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 SCHOOL FOR YOUTH AND TEENS: Middle and High School youth are invited to a conversation about scripture beginning in the youth room at 10:00.

NURSERY: Young children are invited to go to the nursery after the children's sermon. Activity bags are available in the narthex.

PASTOR APPRECIATION MONTH: October is Pastor Appreciation Month.

HALLOWEEN INFORMATION: The church will be setting up a booth on Everett Street to participate in the annual Trick or Treat. Volunteers are needed. Afterwards there will be a Lasagna Dinner in the Fellowship Hall.

UPCYCLE NIGHT: Friday, November 3rd will be Upcycle Night at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Bring your good to great items for exchange.

ALL SAINTS' DAY: All Saints' Day will be observed Sunday, November 5th.

ADDRESS FOR PASTOR BETH: The address for Pastor Beth is 3904 Ashford Trail NE, Brookhaven, GA 30319-1897 or % Ann Council, 3956 Granger Drive, Atlanta, GA 30341. She will give health updates on the Caring Bridge site.

BIRTHDAY POTLUCK: Wednesday, November 15th will be a Birthday Potluck at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. This will be a Soup and Sides Potluck.

BIBLICAL POTLUCK: Plans are ongoing for a Biblical Potluck. If you have ideas and/or recipes please contact Martha Rich. More information will be forthcoming.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

Communion - Every first Sunday of the month.

Choir Practice - Every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

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 Hut.

Game Night: Every first Friday of the month at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Session Meeting - The fourth Sunday of every month 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.

Giving Spoon - Every Monday 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. and every Thursday 3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

AA Meetings - Monday at noon, Tuesday 5:30 p.m., Thursday at noon, and Saturday at 7:00 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.

YTD Financials	
Unrestricted Giving	\$140,697
Operating Expenses	\$122,856
Operating Excess/Deficit	\$ 17,841

BCPC Elders: Mark Brannon, Drew Campbell, Kyle Colley, Cathy Evans, Martha Rich, Carol Sussman, Dan Manley, Bob Jordan, Sammi Birchfield

BCPC Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Beth Newman

Interim Pastor: Margie Stansell

Interim Musicians: Marna Dodson & Katherine Whitehouse

Office Administrator: Elise Bryson

Nursery: Josie Parker

Custodian: Renee Mercer

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 October 29, 2023



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.