

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

August 20, 2023

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God is like a mother hen who protects her little chicks.
People: God is like a caring daddy who listens really well.
Leader: God is like a teacher who smiles and says, "Try again."
People: God is like a best friend who plays and shares with you.
Leader: God is like a mommy who kisses all your hurts.
People: God is like the air...right there, but you can't see it.
Leader: God is like a child who loves to have surprises.
People: God is like us...sometimes crying, sometimes laughing.
Leader: God's love is like a teddy bears'...ready for snuggling at night.
People: God's love is like all these things, and much, much more!
All: Let us give thanks for the love of God for all of us!
All: Let us worship God.

*HYMN 15 *Creatures of our God and King* LASST UNS ERFRUEN

PRAYER OF THE DAY

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Dear God, you give us children for enjoyment and for hope.
But often we fail our children and lose our dreams.
We all say children have the right to peace and love.
But we fail to stop the violence around us.
We say that children should be educated.
But we really mean our children, not somebody else's.
We say that children should be protected.
But we don't work hard enough to do that.
We say that children should be well fed and cared for.
But so many children go hungry everyday.
We say that we follow Jesus.
But we don't prioritize the children like Jesus did.
Forgive them Lord, and help them do better.
Forgive us Lord, and help us do better.**

Time for silent confession

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*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

Matthew 18: 2-5

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

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 13: 31-35

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

SERMON

Mother Hen God

Rev. Margie Stansell

OUR THANKFUL RESPONSE

CHORAL ANTHEM

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

(Montreat Youth 2023)

We fully trust in God, the Almighty, the Holy Spirit, and Jesus, a child of God.

God is the Creator of all things, including humans, animals, heaven, earth and the universe. God loves every person and creates them in the image of God.

We see God clearly in people who represent godly ways. We experience God in nature and in life, but God is complex and larger than life.

We strive to make a difference in the world in small ways, by doing more than saying. The best way to live is to live goodness. To be is to act and to live in accord with the driving force of the Holy Spirit.

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 377 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* HOUSTON

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 CCLI

Leading in worship today:

Guest Pastor: Rev. Margie Stansell
Interim Musician: Marna Dodson
Elder of the Month: Drew Campbell

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: There will not be a Nursery this Sunday. Activity bags are available in the narthex.

GUEST PASTOR: We are glad to welcome Rev. Margie Stansell back to lead our service today.

SESSION MEETING: There will be a Session Meeting on Zoom Thursday, August 24th at 7:00 PM.

FAMILY RETREAT: The William Black Lodge retreat will be August 25th through the 27th. An email will be sent to those attending with last minute information.

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.

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 unless otherwise scheduled.

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	\$104,483
Operating Expenses	\$ 96,823
Operating Excess/Deficit	\$ 7,660

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 Musician: Marna Dodson

Office Administrator: Elise Bryson

Nursery: Josie Parker

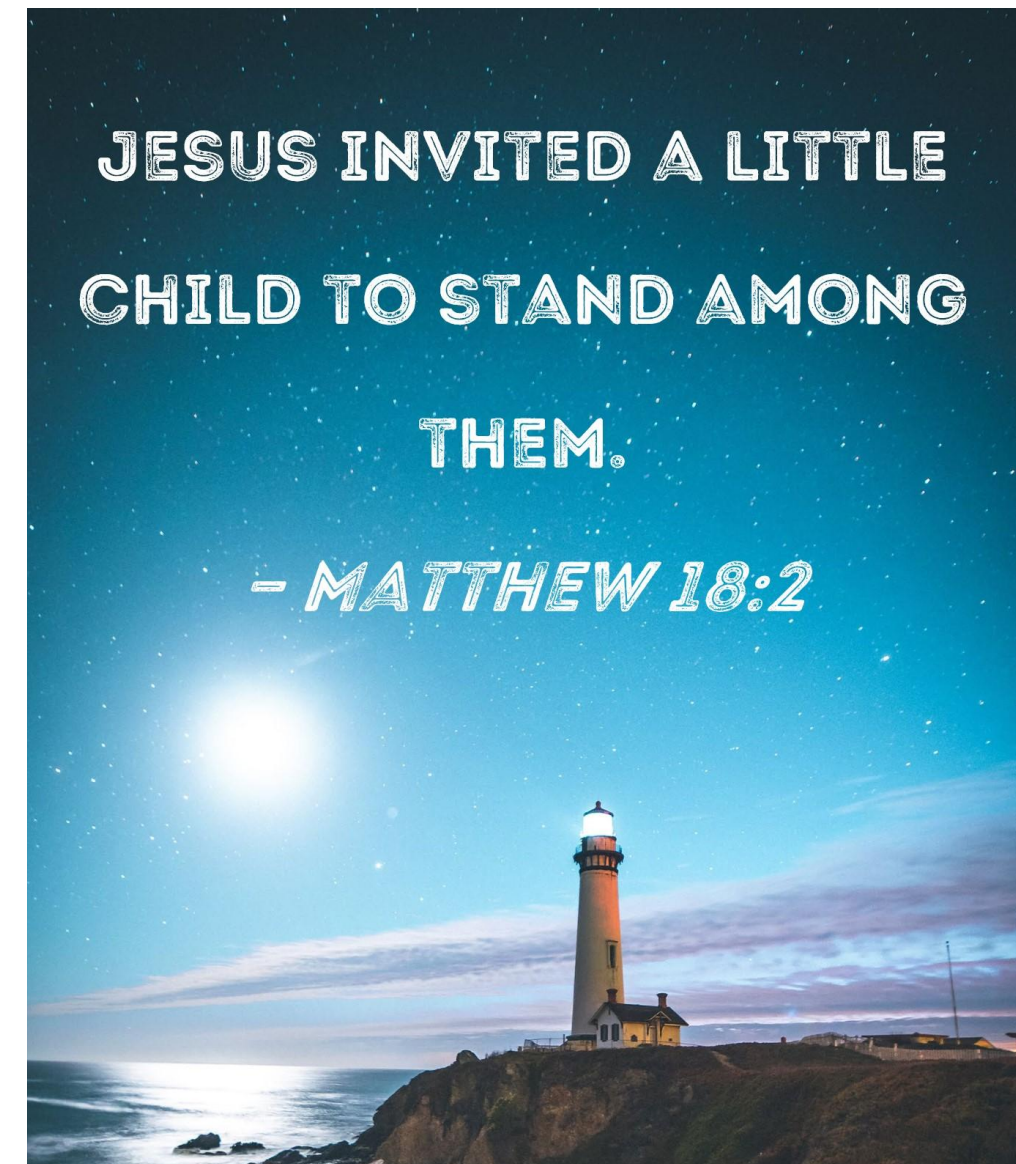
Custodian: Renee Mercer

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
August 20, 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.