

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

March 12, 2023

Third Sunday in Lent

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *Be Still, My Soul* arr. Scoring

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus met the blind man at the city gate.
People: Jesus met the crowds at the edge of the sea.
Leader: Jesus met the leper in his pain.
People: And Jesus met the Samaritan woman in her isolation.

Leader: So with confidence we declare--
People: Jesus meets us here.
Leader: For we too are the blind and the broken, the hurting and the bleeding.
People: Jesus meets our scars, our fears, our prayers, and our dreams.

Leader: So you are welcome here.
People: All are welcome here.
All: Let us worship God.

*HYMN 479 *Ho, All Who Thirst* JACOB'S WELL

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, when it comes to our faith, we know we could learn from the Samaritan woman, who ran through the streets singing your name. So forgive us for the times when we remain silent about what our faith means to us. Forgive us for the times when we choose comfort over bravery. And forgive us for the times we shut people out, missing opportunities to run into you. Teach us to be brave like the Samaritan woman, and saturate our thirst for that which leaves us thirsty. With hope and gratitude we confess. With hope and gratitude we pray. Amen.

Time for silent confession

*ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

THE WORD

TIME FOR THE CHILD IN US ALL Daily Change Offering

SCRIPTURE READING John 4: 5-42

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

SERMON *No Shame in That* Rev. Beth Newman

OUR THANKFUL RESPONSE

CHORAL ANTHEM *Come to Me and Rest* Larson

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Brief Statement of Faith, PCUSA

We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. In sovereign love God created the world good and makes everyone equally in God's image, male and female, of every race and people, to live as one community. But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator. Ignoring God's commandments, we violate the image of God in others and ourselves, accept lies as truth, exploit neighbor and nature, and threaten death to the planet entrusted to our care. We deserve God's condemnation. Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation. In everlasting love, the God of Abraham and Sarah chose a covenant people to bless all families of the earth. Loving us still, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant. Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child, like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.

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 *His Eye Is On the Sparrow* arr. Chesser

*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 161 *Woman in the Night* NEW DISCIPLES

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.*

POSTLUDE *Aeolian Fanfare* Callahan

**Rise in body or spirit.*

Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession by Sarah Are, A Sanctified Art
Cover Art: *Through Samaria* by: Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Leading in worship today:
Pastor: Rev. Beth Newman
Minister of Music: Rachel Lackey
Elder of the Month: Martha Rich

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 Sunday School 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.

BOOK STUDY: The Book Study will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 2:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to join us as we discuss the book by Kate Bowler *Everything Happens for a Reason and other Lies I've Loved*. Kate is the keynote speaker for the Montreat Women's Conference in August.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING: There will be a brief congregational meeting after worship service Sunday, March 26th to elect a nominating committee. Drew Campbell will chair this committee.

EASTER LILIES: If you would like to donate a lily in honor or memory of someone there are order forms in the narthex or the church office. We will use them to decorate the Sanctuary on Easter Sunday.

SAVE THE DATE: The Church Retreat at William Black Lodge will be August 25th through the 27th. More details will be forthcoming.

CHURCH ACTIVITIES:

Communion - Every first Sunday of the month.

Choir Practice - Every Sunday at 9:45 a.m.

Bible Study - Every Wednesday at 11:00 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.

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.

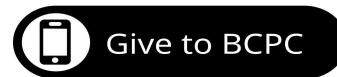
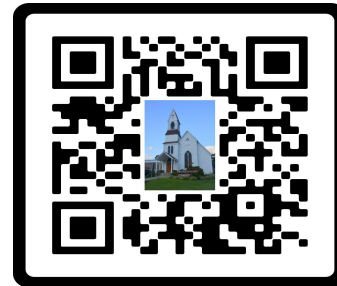
Crafting with Jackie - Every first and third Wednesday of the month from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

Manna Express - Fourth Friday of every month in the First Baptist Church parking lot from 10:00 a.m. until 12 noon.

Food Pantry - Every Tuesday 6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. and every Friday 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	\$35,206
Operating Expenses	\$28,022
Operating Excess/Deficit	\$ 7,184

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

Minister of Music: Rev. Rachel Lackey

Office Administrator: Elise Bryson

Nursery: Josie Parker

Custodian: Renee Mercer

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Presbyterian Church

March 12, 2023



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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.

Bryson City