



Worship with us online  
this Advent season  
on Sunday mornings  
and Christmas Eve  
at [www.bmpcnc.org](http://www.bmpcnc.org)



# BLACK MOUNTAIN Presbyterian Church

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020

PRELUDE

*Trio on Genevan 42*

John Propitius

WELCOME

Michael Barker, *organist*

Mary Katherine Robinson

CALL TO WORSHIP

David Carter Florence

The poet, Wendell Berry, wrote:

“When despair for the world grows in me...

I come into the peace of wild things who do not tax their lives with forethought of grief.

I come into the presence of still water.”

**We think of the 23rd Psalm, “He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul.”**

We know full well that peace is elusive, and in some parts of the world, it is almost completely absent.

**Yet in this season of Advent, we trust that God is never absent from us.**

**God is always preparing something new.**

And even where there is war and discord, whether between countries,

within families, or within our own hearts, God is present, gently leading us to new possibilities.

**Therefore, let us worship the God who teaches us the peace that comes from justice, that we may walk in the light of Christ.**

CANDLE LIGHTING

The Candle of Peace

The Wiggs Family

HYMN

*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

Libby Barker, *song leader*



Come, thou long - ex - spect - ed Je - sus, born to  
Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a



set thy peo - ple free; from our fears and sins re -  
child and yet a king, born to reign in us for -



lease us; let us find our rest in thee. Is - rael's  
ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring. By thine



strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou  
own e - ter - nal Spir - it rule in all our hearts a -



art; dear De - sire of ev - ery na - tion,  
lone; by thine all suf - fi - cient mer - it  
joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.  
raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

David Carter Florence

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy God,  
 We wish that peace was something we could acquire.  
 We wish that peace could be ordered like a present,  
 found on a map, downloaded in an app, or voted for on a ballot.  
 We wish that peace was as easy as a one-time choice when we are feeling our best.  
 However, what we have found is that peace involves everyday decisions over and over,  
 whether or not we are feeling our best.  
 Today I confess, with this community of faith,  
 that I need your help in this Advent season.  
 Prepare the way for greater peace and teach me how to be a part of it.

- Silent Prayers -

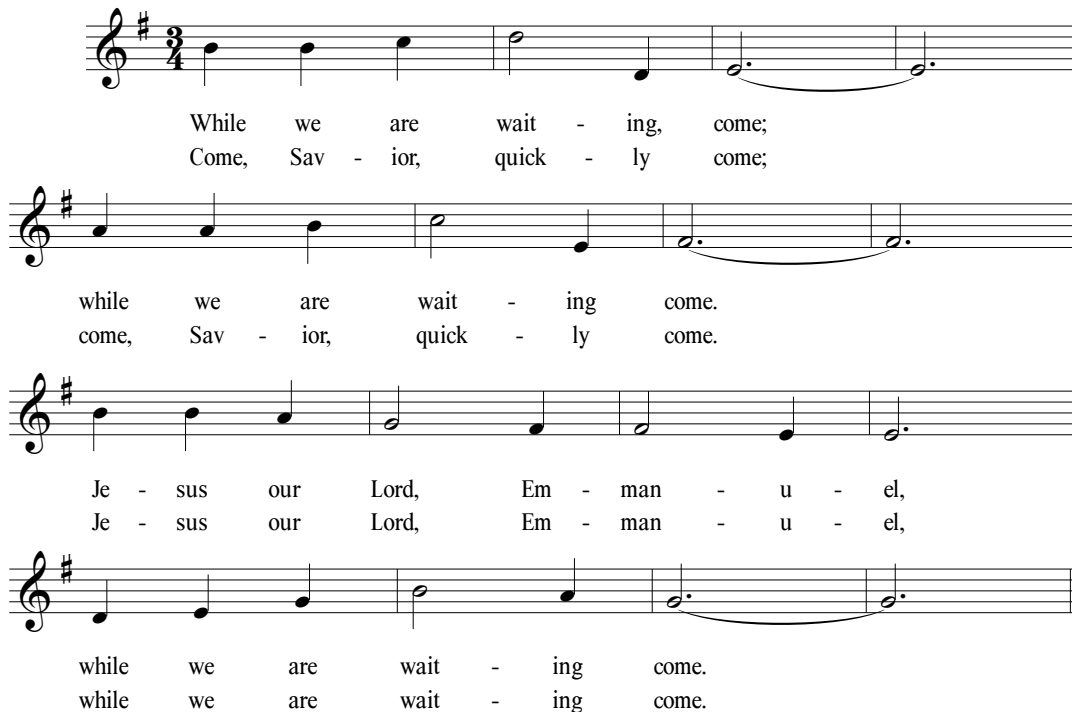
**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

May God forgive us. May God's guiding hand surround us.  
 May we know comfort. May we know peace.  
 Thanks be to God. Amen.

**RESPONSE OF PRAISE**

*While We Are Waiting, Come*

WAITING (Cason)



While we are wait - ing, come;  
 Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come;  
 while we are wait - ing come.  
 come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come.  
 Je - sus our Lord, Em - man - u - el,  
 Je - sus our Lord, Em - man - u - el,  
 while we are wait - ing come.  
 while we are wait - ing come.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Mark 1:1-8

SERMON

Those Who Dream Prepare the Way: Peace

HYMN

*Comfort, Comfort, Now My People*

GENEVAN 42



Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple, tell of peace, so  
For the her - ald's voice is call - ing in the des - ert

says our God; com - fort those who sit in dark - ness  
far and near. call - ing us to true re pent ance

mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load. To my peo - ple  
since the reign of God is here. O that warn ing

now pro - claim that my par - don waits for them! Tell them that their  
cry o bey! Now pre pare for God a way; let the val leys

sins I cov - er, and their war - fare now is o - ver.  
rise in meet ing and the hills bow down in greet - ing.

CALL TO OFFERING

Offertory

*Every Valley*

John Ness Beck

Matt Begley, *tenor*

Arr. Craig Courtney

The offerings we give acknowledge that everything we have is a gift from God. Thank you for participating in the ministry and mission work of BMPC. You can find instructions for all ways of giving online [here](#)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Toccata-Finale on Genevan 42*

John Propitius



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## [Connect with us on our website](#)

**Visitors:** let us know of your interest or questions about BMPC.

**Members:** share prayer requests, pastoral concerns, or updated contact information.

*We look forward to hearing from you.*

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

**Yvette Ballard's cousin, Betty Arnott**, recovering from Covid

**Family and friends of Isbell Behrer** who died on November 23

**Austin Brown and Donna Drake's family** as they recover from Covid

**Jane Collins** tested positive for Covid

**Congratulations to Paul & Diane Ginther** following the birth of their granddaughter,  
**Charlie Arey Ginther**, November 22

**Paul & Diane Ginther's son Kevin and his wife Mel** have Covid and are trying to keep their  
two-month-old, Max, from getting it

**Ayla Maeve Maidment** baptized in God's grace at Vespers November 15

**Alice Smith** is recovering from a fall and bruised ribs

**Margie Tyas**, recovering from covid, cards appreciated

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Our PC(USA) Mission Co-workers: **John McCall** in Taiwan; **Dan & Elizabeth Turk** in Madagascar;  
**Gary & Marlene Van Brocklin** in South Asia. Outreach Foundation: **Frank Dimmock**  
Seminary Student: **Emily Beaver**, Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia

Our partner Presbytery and partner church, **Ebenezer, in Guatemala**

The situation in Guatemala is very difficult with COVID-19. It seems that our Ebenezer  
church members are healthy, but many are not able to work and it is not easy to get food.

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Please remember in prayer these people with ongoing concerns:

**Martha Jean Alvis, Daisy Buckner, Chad Carlton, Jim Davies, Doris Hogle, Becky Hughes,**

**Barbara Jenkins, Mary McElrath, Margaret Rada, Betty Rand, Penny Sampson,**

**Renee & Charles Sandy, Callie Shaffer, Ann Weeks, Paul Willison**



## PRAYER OF THE WEEK

*Merciful God, we need you every hour, and especially now: when many people are sick and dying;  
when many have lost their jobs and are hungry; when many are lonely and afraid.*

*We are grateful that you have promised that nothing can separate us from your love and faithfulness.*

*Help us to trust this good news, and to make it known to a world in need,*

*that all may have the peace that pass understanding,*

*through Jesus Christ, whose Advent we welcome. Amen*

*Prayer provided by Joe Walker*

# Our Church's Vision

## Embodying the Love of Christ

Inspiring through Worship and Faith Formation • Nurturing through Fellowship  
Equipping to Serve • Welcoming to All

### Session

Mike Ballard, *clerk*

#### Class of 2020

Jane Bannerman  
Emma Bell  
Anne Provost Drummond  
John Evans  
Patti Pyle

#### Class of 2021

Liesl Case  
Dave Johnson  
Deb Mullis  
Bill Straughan

#### Class of 2022

Ellen Begley  
Austin Brown  
Daniel Wiggs  
Cheryl Wilson

### Deacons

#### Class of 2020

Kristy Beaver  
Dee & Bill Cox  
Susan Dannenberg  
Gay Ferguson  
Olivia & John LaMotte  
Ginny & Rick Lindsey  
Lew Rudisill  
Hannah & Sam Webber

#### Class of 2021

Yvette Ballard  
Carey Jo Elam  
Kiersten & Weston Hall  
Franklin Harris  
Cindy & Ed McDaniel  
Cathy & Neil McMillan  
Gayle & Peter Mudge  
Kay & Mike Salmon  
Margaret Waterstradt

#### Class of 2022

Susan & Ernie Banzhoff  
Kay & Jim Layman  
Susan McElrath  
Mary & Don McMahill  
Martha Jane Petersen  
Delores Spielman  
Janine & Russ Spiller

### Ministers: Every Member Of The Congregation

Mary Katherine Robinson ..... Pastor/Head of Staff  
David Carter Florence ..... Associate Pastor for Congregational Faith Formation  
Bob Tuttle ..... Parish Associate  
Michael Barker ..... Director of Music and Worship Arts  
Alice Patton ..... Director of Preschool Ministry  
Sam Webber ..... Director of Operations and Youth Ministry  
Brittany Williams ..... Director of Congregational Life and Children's Ministry  
Jackie Kerr ..... Director of Communications



**BLACK MOUNTAIN**  
Presbyterian Church

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QR code



an Earth Care Congregation



**BMPC Child Protection Policy**  
providing a safe environment for children & youth

