



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

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020

PRELUDE

*People, Look East*

Arr. Robert Lau

Michael Barker, organist

WELCOME

Mary Katherine Robinson

## CALL TO WORSHIP

The poet, Mary Oliver, wrote: "If you suddenly and unexpectedly feel joy, don't hesitate. Give into it . . . life has some possibility left . . . Joy is not made to be a crumb."

**Today we light the candle of joy. May our hearts be open to joy.**

Joy is like an underground spring welling up inside us.

**We open ourselves to joy trusting that even in sorrow and hardship,  
we may be surprised by joy.**

Prepare our hearts to be filled.

The Promised One of God comforts all who mourn  
and gives a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

**We open our hearts, to be turned toward you and to each other.**

**Sharing your joy in these days of struggle.**

## CANDLE LIGHTING

Libba Fairleigh & Suzanne Money

## HYMN

*My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*

CANTICLE OF THE TURNING



My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the God of my heart is  
Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re - mem - ber who holds us



great, and my spir - it sings of the won - drous things that you  
fast: God's mer - cy must de - liv - er us from the



bring to the ones who wait. You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my  
con - quer - or's crush - ing grasp. This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, so from east to west shall my  
prom - ise which holds us bound, till the spear and rod can be

name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn? My  
crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a -  
way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn

## CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we know you love justice;  
 Why, then, do we persist in wrongdoing, missing acts of justice as they pass in front of us.  
 Emmanuel, we know you have given us the gift of your Spirit;  
 Why, then, do we quench the Spirit among us?  
 Word of God, we know the prophets speak truth;  
 Why, then, do we brush off, ignore and despise what we have heard from you?  
 Christ of all time and space, we know you bring light to the world;  
 Why, then, have we loved the dark path of least resistance avoiding the challenge of light?  
 Forgive us, Restore us.  
 Turn over our old soil, pour on the compost, and tend the fresh earth as your garden,  
 Until goodness, awe and praise springs up.  
 In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**Thanks be to God: we are forgiven!**

### RESPONSE OF PRAISE

#### *On Those Who Sit in Darkness*

MERLE'S TUNE

On those who sit in dark - ness the sun be - gins to rise, the  
 dawn - ing of for - give - ness up - on the sin - ner's eyes. God  
 guides the feet of pil - grims a - long the paths of peace. O  
 bless our God and Sav - ior wih songs that nev - er cease!

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

## SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

## SERMON

Give in to Joy

## HYMN

*People, Look East*

BESANÇON



Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the crown - ing of the  
An - gels an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life to

year. Make your house fair as you are a - ble; trim the  
earth. Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum - ming with the

hearth and set the ta - ble. Peo - ple, look  
word, the Lord is com - ing. Peo - ple, look

east and sing to - day: Love the Guest, is on the way.  
east and sing to - day: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE 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.

## CALL TO OFFERING

Offertory

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Taylor Davis

Anna Banzhoff, soloist

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](#)

You can use your phone to text the word "BMPC" to phone number 73256:

You will receive a link that will direct you to our online giving form where you can enter in the amount you would like to give, choose your fund, enter your payment information, and give.

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying*

Arr. Robert A. Hobby

*People, Look East*, arranged by Robert Lau, in *Lo, He Comes, Arrangements for Advent*, copyright © 2016 The Lorenz Corporation, used under the provisions of WorshipCast license #11018. *My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout*, words by Rory Cooney, music, *Star of the County Down*, from an Irish melody arranged by Rory Cooney, both copyright © 1990 GIA Publications, used under the provisions of OneLicense.net A-701803. *On Those Who Sit in Darkness*, words by Michael Perry, stanza 3 of *Blest Be the God of Israel*, copyright © 1973 Jubilate Group (administered by Hope Publishing Company), music by Hal H. Hopson, copyright © 1983 Hope Publishing Company, used under the provisions of OneLicense.net A-701803. *People, Look East*, words by Eleanor Farjeon, copyright © 1960 David Higham Associates, Ltd, music from a French melody harmonized by Martin Shaw, copyright © 1928 Oxford University Press, used under the provisions of OneLicense.net A-701803. *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*, words by Charles Wesley, in the public domain, music by Taylor Davis copyright © 2006 Choristers Guild, used under the provisions of WorshipCast license #11018. *Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying*, arranged by Robert A/ Hobby, in *Six Preludes for the Church Year*, copyright © 1996 MorningStar Music Publishers, used under the provisions of WorshipCast license #11018.

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

**Yvette Ballard's cousin, Betty Arnott**, recovering at home 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 negative for Covid shortly after she had tested positive

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

**Paul and Diane Ginther's granddaughter, Max**, who's been diagnosed with covid

**Ruth Janes** following the death of her brother, **Joe Garrison**, December 10

**Frances Kennedy** following the death of her brother, **Albert Harris**, December 2

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

**Valorie Speegle-Snell's brother, Richard Speegle**, struggling with throat cancer

---

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.

---

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

*God of Grace, in mercy and love you sent your son, Jesus the Christ, to save us.  
As we celebrate his birth, make our hearts leap for joy, and by your spirit keep us steadfast  
in hope and faithful in service. We ask this through Him whose coming is certain,  
whose day draws nearer, your son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever. 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

117 Montreat Road | Black Mountain, NC 28711 | 828-669-2725 | [bmpcnc.org](http://bmpcnc.org)



QR code



an Earth Care Congregation



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

