First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 11:00 a.m.





Embodying the Love of Christ, we are joyfully called to be a church in the heart of Black Mountain where the welcome never ends.

Please silence all communication devices. This sanctuary incorporates a hearing assistance loop; to engage this system, set hearing aids to the "t-coil" setting. † indicates to stand, if you are able.

The congregation is invited to join in where the liturgy is marked in bold.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Katherine Robinson

Aaron Price, Linda Sperath

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

INTROIT Wondering Jane Marshall

after First candle is lit...

Loving God, as we enter this Advent season,

We open all the dark places in our lives and memories to the healing light of Christ.

Show us the creative power of hope.

Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you,

That we may walk in the light of Christ.

†HYMN NO. 106 Prepare the Way, O Zion

†CALL TO WORSHIP AND ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

CALL TO CONFESSION

David Carter Florence

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of today and God of tomorrow, you say, "Bring your full self. There's room for you here."

But we say, "Our lives are too messy."

You say, "Bring your hopes and your dreams. There's room for you here."

But we say, "It's too risky to hope."

You say, "Bring your grief and your prayers. There's room for you here."

But we say, "Some things are easier to forget."

God of today and God of tomorrow,

we know in our hearts that there's room for us here.

Forgive us for withholding our full selves from you.

Forgive us for giving only our Sunday best.

Help us remember, today and tomorrow,

There's room for every story. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, live this good news!

In Jesus Christ, we are transformed by grace.

†RESPONSE NO. 88

O Come, O Come, Emmauel (verse 1)

VENI EMMANUEL

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

FAITH SHARING WITH CHILDREN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 2:1-5, Matthew 1:1-17

SERMON

A Hope That Will Not Be Quenched

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

†HYMN NO. 82

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Mary Katherine Robinson

We believe in a God who promised to Abraham, who wrestled with Jacob, who walked with Ruth, who spoke with Moses, who grieved with Bathsheba, who danced with David, who dreamed with Joseph, and who hoped like Mary. We believe in a God who has been loving, inviting, transforming, and challenging us from generation to generation. And we believe that same God is here with us now. saying, "Come on in; there's room for you here." Amen.

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.

THE OFFERING

Offertory

I Love To Tell The Story

K. Hankey, W. Fisher, A. Price

Andy Gwynn, soloist

†Doxology

In the Bleak Midwinter

What can I give him?

Poor as I am

If I were a shepherd

I would give a lamb

If I were a wise man

I would do my part

But what I can I give him

Give him my heart

†Prayer of Dedication

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

†HYMN NO. 105

People, Look East

BESANCON

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

Take time, in the busyness of this season, for quiet reflection—For the light of God's love is discernible everywhere.

We will let ourselves be surprised by wonder,

And set aside time to offer quiet thanks.

The good news of Advent is this:

Christ is coming. Christ is always coming.

We will welcome Christ into our hearts.

We will let ourselves be guided by his ministry.

We will go forth from this place in hope.

†CHORAL BENEDICTION

I Love to Tell the Story

(refrain)

POSTLUDE

COVER ART: Genealogy of Christ by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman Inspired by Matthew 1:1-17 | digital painting

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Susan Banzhoff, recovering from reverse shoulder replacement surgery

Marc Begley passed his dissertation defense and will be awarded his PhD in physics from NC State in December.

Jackie Gibbs, Nancy Beaver's daughter, diagnosed with breast cancer

Kitty Kelly, recovering at home from knee replacement

The NeGrete Family, prayers for healing

Rusty Ray, Susan Wilkinson's brother, having serious memory issues and lost his job

Jim Richardson, coronary ICU, prayers for healing

Bill Straughan, recovering from heart surgery at Highland Farms Healthcare

Brittany Williams, recovering from surgery

We list names for three weeks unless requested otherwise. To add someone to the list (with their permission), please call 669-2725, or email jackie@bmpcnc.org

Our PC(USA) Mission Co-workers: John McCall in Taiwan;
Dan & Elizabeth Turk in Madagascar; Outreach Foundation: Frank Dimmock;
Seminary Students: Emily Beaver, Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia;
Levi Bannerman, Union Presbyterian Seminary in Richmond, Virginia;
Susie Burns, Union Presbyterian Seminary in Charlotte, North Carolina;
Our partner Presbytery and partner church, Ebenezer, in Guatemala

Please remember in prayer these people with ongoing concerns:

Mike Barker, Chad Carlton, Paul Carreiro, Jane Collins, Leila Cox, Art De Jong,
Ellen Gibson, Kevin Griffin, Becky Hughes, Eleanor Landers, Rachael Lee,
Hugh Mayronne, Mark McDaniel, Mary McElrath, Polly Miller, Becky Peterson,
Elissa Pusser, Margaret Rada, Betty Rand, Penny Sampson, Charles Sandy,
Callie Shaffer, Joe Standaert, Katherine Stanley, Paul Willison

Connect with us on our website: bmpcnc.org

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.

WORK AND WORSHIP OF THE CHURCH

Welcome Table Rosie Johnson · Greeter Perry Sprawls

Bus Driver Dave McClintock · Usher Dave Johnson

Sunday, November 27 First Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. FirstLight Worship

10:00 a.m. Faith Formation

11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

2:00 p.m. Deck the Halls of BMPC

6:00 p.m. Advent Vespers

Monday, November 28

11:30 a.m. Words On The Word

1:15 p.m. Earth Care Book Study

6:00 p.m. Session

Tuesday, November 29

1:00 p.m. PW Bible Study

1:30 p.m. Staff Meeting

2:15 p.m. PW Coordinating Team

7:00 p.m. Prophets Rehearsal

Wednesday, November 30

11:30 a.m. Old Fellers Lunch

5:30 p.m. Youth Small Group

6:30 p.m. Bounty & Soul Tai Chi

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 1

5:00 p.m. Karate with Tanner Pickett

Friday, December 2

5:30 p.m. Holly Jolly

VISITORS

We're so glad you're here! Please pick up your welcome bag at the welcome table in the narthex or the counter outside fellowship hall.

Deck the Halls of BMPC TODAY, November 27, 2:00pm

You are invited to join your church family as we decorate our church for Advent and Christmas. We will hang wreaths, set up and decorate trees, make bows, and string lights to prepare for this festive season. All ages are welcome and refreshments will be served. Gloves, basic tools, and wire might come in handy. This will be a great time of fun and fellowship!

Longing for Light Advent Vespers

Sundays, 6:00-6:45pm

Don't miss an opportunity to take a deep breath in the busyness of December. Join us for quiet, candle-lit Sunday evenings, when we self-reflect on the balance between light and darkness in the Advent season. We will take a journey inward while anticipating the coming of the light of Christ.

TODAY, November 27

Meditative Advent/Christmas hymns and prayers with Aaron and staff

December 4

Organ and piano recital by Makena James in the sanctuary with refreshments served afterwards

December 11

Spoken word and poetry: Inspirational readings and music for the season

December 18

TBA

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 2022

Ellen Begley (personnel)
Austin Brown (finance)
Daniel Wiggs (property)
Cheryl Wilson (hospitality & welcome)

Class of 2023

Alison Banzhoff (faith formation)
Gay Ferguson (congregational life)
Margo Smith (strategic planning)
Tommy Wilkinson (mission)

Class of 2024

Alan Belsches (property)
Bill Gilliland (personnel)
Ken Kelly (faith formation)
Ellen Phillips Smith (worship)

Class of 2022

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

Deacons

Class of 2023
Karen Austin
Alex Carver & Joe Carreiro
Jayne & Ronald Vaughan
Margaret Fouse & Craig Cooley
Diane Ginther
Jeannie Maidment
Margie Stansell

Class of 2024

Annamarie & Bill Arens Christy Carswell Julie & Dale Culpepper Melissa Kadau Ellen McClintock Anne Straughan Ann Wiig

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
Aaron Price Director of Music and Worship Arts
Alice Patton Director of Preschool Ministry
Brittany Williams Director of Congregational Life and Children's Ministry
Sam Webber Director of Operations
Jackie Kerr Director of Communications
Katie Duvall Youth Coordinator
Steve Kint Church Custodian







