

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.



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Katherine Robinson

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

GATHERING HYMN

I Saw Three Ships

all sing

I saw three ships come sailing in, on Christmas day, on Christmas day, I saw three ships come sailing in, on Christmas day in the morning.

Oh, they sailed into Bethlehem on Christmas day, on Christmas day, Oh, they sailed into Bethlehem, on Christmas day in the morning.

And all the bells on earth shall ring, on Christmas day, on Christmas day, And all the bells on earth shall ring, on Christmas day in the morning.

† CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Isaiah 2:2-5

David Carter Florence

In days to come, the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob, come,

let us walk in the light of the Lord!

† CAROL No. 141

On this Day, Earth Shall Ring

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 11:1-10

Annamarie Arens

The wolf shall live with the lamb; the leopard shall lie down with the kid; the calf and the lion will feed together, and a little child shall lead them.

CAROL No. 123

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

verses 1,3,5

THE SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 35:1-10

Bob Tuttle

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

CAROL No. 129

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

THE THIRD LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus."

CAROL No. 131

In the Heavens Shone a Star

verse 1: choir

THE FOURTH LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25

"Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

CAROL No. 88

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

verses 1,5,6,7

THE FIFTH LESSON

Luke 1:39-58

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.

CAROL No. 100

Canticle of the Turning

verses 1,4

THE SIXTH LESSON

Luke 2:1-7

Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David.

CAROL No. 121

O Little Town of Bethlehem

FAITH SHARING

Twas the Evening of Christmas

THE SEVENTH LESSON

Luke 2:8-20

Do not be afraid; for see – I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.'

† CAROL NO. 147

The First Nowell

verses 1,6

PASTOR'S STORY

The Gift of the Magi

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH based on John 1:1-14

In the beginning was the Word,

and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.

All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being.

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John.

He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.

He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him.

He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who received him, who believed in his name,

he gave power to become children of God, who were born,

not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

OFFERTORY

There's a Song in the Air

K. Harrington

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

† CAROL No. 134

Joy to the World

While we sing this hymn, you are invited to come forward with your 25 Cents A Meal offering for hunger relief in our community.

† BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Gloria in Excelsis Deo

POSTLUDE



JOYS AND CONCERNS

Hugh Mayronne recovering in Louisiana

Lyn Nygren at Highland Farms Healthcare

Gene & Connie Schimpf following the death of their daughter, Stephanie, on December 9

Anne Straughan recovering from back surgery

Robert Sway following the death of his brother, Russell

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,
Jackie Gibbs, Ellen Gibson, Kevin Griffin, Becky Hughes, Eleanor Landers, Rachael Lee,
Hugh Mayronne, Mark McDaniel, Mary McElrath, Polly Miller, NeGrete Family,
Becky Peterson, Elissa Pusser, Margaret Rada, Betty Rand, Penny Sampson, Charles Sandy,
Callie Shaffer, Nancy Sprinkle, Joe Standaert, Katherine Stanley, Bill Straughan, 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

Sunday, December 25 Merry Christmas

11:00 a.m. Christmas Service

Monday, December 26

Church office closed

Tuesday, December 27

Church office closed

Wednesday, December 28

11:30 a.m. Old Fellers Lunch 6:30 p.m. Bounty & Soul Tai Chi

7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, January 1 Happy New Year!

11:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary

Monday, January 2

Church office closed

As this year comes to a close, it is important that we remember how essential our financial contributions are for the church's life and ministry. Please sacrificially and prayerfully consider what your year-end giving will be to ensure that Black Mountain Presbyterian Church fulfills all of our commitments.

The IRS requires donations be received (or postmarked) by December 31 to receive credit on your 2022 Contribution Statement. The church has installed a secure dropbox-style mailbox next to the belltower for last minute dropoffs. If you would like to give stock, contact Sam Webber (sam@bmpcnc.org) for more information.

We wish you a safe and happy New Year!

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)
Sarah Wren Robinson
Margo Smith (strategic planning)
Tommy Wilkinson (mission)

Class of 2024

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

Deacons

Class of 2022

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

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



Black Mountain Presbyterian Church

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