

PRAYER JOYS & CONCERNS

[If you have a prayer concern or joy to share during the week, please email Rev. Ellen at ellen@bethpagechurch.org.]

November 27

Joys: Floyd Allen (Amy Ritchie), Nina & Speight Gurley (Ben Gurley)

Concerns: Doris (Rev. Ellen), Steffen Family (Cheryl) Chattanooga Bus Crash (Linda VanPelt), Malinowski/Kusper Families (Ed/Cheryl)

SERMON NOTES

THIS WEEK AT BPC

Sunday, December 4

ADVENT II
Please bring wrapped Angel tree gifts to the church today!
10¢-A-Meal Offering to be received
8:45 – 9:00 AM – Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall
9:00 AM – Sunday School
9:55 AM – Worship Service
10:00 – 11:00 AM – LMCS Bible Study
11:20 AM – 1:30 PM – LMCS Worship in Sanctuary
1:00 – 4:00 PM – LMCS in BPC Fellowship Hall & Pavilion
6:00 PM – Young Adults Small Group at the Paxton’s

Monday, December 5

11:00 AM – Nurture Committee

Tuesday, December 6

9:00 AM – 12:00 PM – Quilting 101 in BPC Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM – Women’s Bible Study Group 3 out to eat at El Amigo’s

Wednesday, December 7

5:45 PM – Supper
6:20 PM – G.I.F.T. Supper
7:15 PM – Choir

Saturday, December 10

9:00 AM – Men’s Prayer Breakfast in BPC Fellowship Hall
1:00 – 5:00 PM – Private Event in BPC Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 11

ADVENT III
Deadline for ordering Lights of Love
8:45 – 9:00 AM – Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall
9:00 AM – Covered Dish Breakfast & Hymn Sing in BPC Fellowship Hall
9:55 AM – Worship Service

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, December 11 (continued)

10:00 – 11:00 AM – LMCS Bible Study
11:20 AM – 1:30 PM – LMCS Worship in Sanctuary
2:00 – 6:00 PM – Parents Afternoon Out in BPC Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 12

4:30 PM – Stewardship Committee
7:00 PM – Gathering Time
7:15 PM – Ministry Area Teams

Tuesday, December 13

6:00 PM – Property Committee
6:30 PM – Personnel Committee
7:00 PM – Christian Education Committee

Wednesday, December 14

Deadline for ordering Poinsettias
5:45 PM – Supper
6:20 PM – G.I.F.T. Supper
7:15 PM – Choir

Thursday, December 15

11:00 AM – 1:00 PM – “Suds of Love” at Harris Laundromat
6:00 – 9:00 PM – “Suds of Love” at Harris Laundromat

Friday, December 16

7:00 AM – 7:00 PM – KAPM’s Annual Boston Butt BBQ at BPC

Sunday, December 18

ADVENT IV
Christmas Joy Offering received
8:45 – 9:00 AM – Coffee Fellowship in Fellowship Hall
9:00 AM – Sunday School
9:55 AM – Worship Service with Choir Christmas Cantata
10:00 – 11:00 AM – LMCS Bible Study
11:00 AM – 4:00 PM – Private Event in BPC Fellowship Hall
11:20 AM – 1:30 PM – LMCS Worship in Sanctuary



Welcome to Bethpage Presbyterian Church!

December 4, 2016

“A family of faith yesterday, today, and tomorrow.”

We are excited that you have joined us in worshipping God today. If you are a visitor, please pick up a church information brochure, found in the pen holders. Please, let us get to know you a little better by filling out the information card, inside the brochure. You can drop it in the offering plate. Whether you are just visiting, looking to stay or have worshipped here your whole life, it is great to worship the Lord together this day!



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DAILY LECTIONARY

| Sunday, December 4 | Monday, December 5 | Tuesday, December 6 | Wednesday, December 7 | Thursday, December 8 | Friday, December 9 | Saturday, December 10 |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| Morning: Psalms 24; 150 1st Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7 2nd Reading: 2 Peter 3:11-18 Gospel: Luke 7:28-35 Evening: Psalms 25; 110 | Morning: Ps. 122; 145 1st Reading: Isa. 5:8-17 2nd Reading: 1 Thess. 5:1-11 Gospel: Luke 21:20-28 Evening: Psalms 40; 67 | Morning: Psalms 33; 146 1st Reading: Isa. 5:18-25 2nd Reading: 1 Thess. 5:12-28 Gospel: Luke 21:29-38 Evening: Psalms 85; 94 | Morning: Ps. 50; 147:1-11 1st Reading: Isaiah 6:1-13 2nd Reading: 2 Thess. 1:1-12 Gospel: John 7:53-8:11 Evening: Psalms 53; 17 | Morning: Ps. 18:1-20; 147:12-20 1st Reading: Isaiah 7:1-9 2nd Reading: 2 Thess. 2:1-12 Gospel: Luke 22:1-13 Evening: Psalms 126; 62 | Morning: Ps. 102; 148 1st Reading: Isa. 7:10-25 2nd Reading: 2 Thess. 2:13-3:5 Gospel: Luke 22:14-30 Evening: Psalms 130; 16 | Morning: Psalms 90; 149 1st Reading: Isaiah 8:1-15 2nd Reading: 2 Thess. 3:6-18 Gospel: Luke 22:31-38 Evening: Psalms 80; 72 |

The Service for the Lord's Day
The Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2016

9:55 A.M.

THE GATHERING

**ANNOUNCEMENTS
(RITUAL OF FRIENDSHIP/PRAYER CARDS)**

***WELCOME & PASSING OF THE PEACE**

TRINITY CHIMES

PRELUDE "Little Prelude in B-flat" Curtis

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH
Marsha Johnson and Jenny Linebarrier

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

***HYMN 17** "Sleepers, Wake! A Voice Astounds Us" WACHET AUF

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (in unison)

Leader: Merciful God, Always with us, always coming: We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom, we get distracted by all the business of the season.

People: Forgive us God.

Leader: Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph.

People: That we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us.

All: Now, in the quiet of our hearts, we ask your forgiveness and to make us ready for the Christ Child's coming. AMEN. (Please, take a moment for silent confession.)

***DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

***RESPONSE OF PRAISE HYMN 579**
"Glory to the Father" GLORIA PATRI
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.

THE WORD

TIME WITH YOUNGER CHRISTIANS

ANTHEM "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" Praetorius

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Sherry Childers

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 7:10-16 (Bible, OT p. 636)
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

NEW TESTAMENT READING Matthew 3:1-12 (Bible, NT p. 2)
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "PEACE" Rev. Ellen Campbell Gardner

***HYMN 13** "Prepare the Way" BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

***ASSURANCE OF FAITH** from *The Heidelberg Catechism*, Q & A #1

Leader: What is your only comfort in life and death?

People: That I belong- body and soul, in life and death- not to myself but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of His own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that He protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit his purpose for my salvation. Therefore, the Holy Spirit has also assured me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.

GIVING GOD'S TITHES AND OUR OFFERINGS

Offertory "Pastoral Prelude" Kihlken

*Doxology 592 OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

THE SENDING

***HYMN 29** "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" GO TELL IT

***BLESSING AND CHARGE**

***POSTLUDE** "United in Faith" Ritter

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*An asterisk indicates that all who are able may stand.

TO OUR VISITORS

We welcome you to our worship, and we ask that you sign our Ritual of Friendship as it is passed along the pew. We hope that you will return to worship with us again! We have a nursery lovingly and carefully attended by church members.

MEMBERSHIP

We welcome into membership all who love Jesus Christ, accept him as Lord of all life, and seek to serve him as part of his body in the church. We invite you to speak to one of our elders, greeting you at the door as you leave the worship service.

PASTORAL COUNSELING

Presbyterian Psychological Services is an integrated, interdisciplinary center for psychiatry, psychology, pastoral counseling, career counseling, and community education. We are committed to empowering all individuals, couples, and families in our community to heal and grow in an atmosphere of safety and clinical expertise. Contact info: 704-554-9900 or www.presbypsych.org.

| THE SESSION OF OUR CHURCH | USHERS |
|---|--|
| Rev. Ellen Campbell Gardner, <i>Moderator</i> Roger Hamilton, <i>Clerk of Session</i> Dennis Graybeal, <i>Treasurer</i> | HEAD USHER Roger Hamilton |
| CLASS OF 2017 | USHERS Jill Hamilton, Kevin Hamilton, Eric Hamilton, Aubrey Tarlton |
| Steve Gaskey, <i>Fellowship</i> Kim Gibson, <i>Stewardship</i> Carrie Paxton, <i>Christian Education</i> | LECTOR Sherry Childers |
| CLASS OF 2018 | CHILDREN'S NURSERY (Worship only) |
| Sherry Childers, <i>Personnel</i> Dougie Kirkman, <i>Mission/Evangelism</i> Eric McKnight, <i>Communications</i> | Carrie Paxton |
| CLASS OF 2019 | CHILDREN'S WORSHIP |
| Connie Goodman, <i>Worship</i> Mark Gurley, <i>Property</i> Christel Josey, <i>Nurture</i> | Christel Josey & Richie Goodman |