

Peace

Wonderful
Counsellor

Mighty
God

EVERLASTING
Father

PRINCE of
Peace



Welcome

We warmly welcome you to worship at The Presbyterian Church in Basking Ridge. We pray that you will be encouraged in your journey of faith and drawn closer to God by your experience with us.

Nursery Care

Our warm and loving Nursery is staffed for our 10:15 a.m. worship service with two child care providers caring for children, infants through age 2. Parents may leave their children while they attend worship in the Sanctuary. The worship service will be live streamed into the Nursery for parents who wish to stay with their children and watch the service. During the 9 a.m. worship service, the Nursery is available as a parents' room. Please speak with our Director of Ministry to Children and their Families, Stacy Currie, if you have any questions or to find out more about our ministry to children.

Sunday School

At the 10:15 a.m. worship service after the *Message for Children*, children ages 3 through grade 5 may go to Sunday School, and Middle School Students may go to Bibles & Bagels in the Church House Library. On the first Sunday of the month, children in grades 3–middle school remain in worship for the full hour.

Online Sermons

Recorded audio sermons from most Sundays are available on the church website at www.brpc.org. To access, click on the [Sermons](#) link under [Worship and Music](#) on the main menu.

Amplification Headsets

So that all may enjoy the worship service, sound amplification headsets are available from the ushers for those who need assistance with hearing.

Who Does God Call Us to Be?

We are a vibrant, warm and welcoming community of faith. Those who worship here come from a diverse range of backgrounds and would describe themselves in a rich variety of ways.

We acknowledge our doubt, our struggles, and that we are all quite human and imperfect and that we are each at a unique place on our faith journey.

We find our unity, our common identity, in Jesus Christ and together we seek to joyfully worship God and energetically minister to the needs of the world on God's behalf.

We gather in anticipation of being transformed by the power, purpose and presence of God among us, and go forth equipped to love God and neighbor more deeply and more wholeheartedly.

We believe that faithful leadership of a church requires being open to new possibilities, taking risks and learning from mistakes as we try again.

Honoring the past, we are convinced that God calls us to a new future.

~The Opening Paragraph of *Vision 2017 of the Presbyterian Church in Basking Ridge*

Order of Worship

Saturday Evening

5:00 p.m. - Westminster Hall

DECEMBER 8, 2018

OAK TABLE SERVICE

(Please prepare prayerfully for worship and be sure all cell phones are turned off.)

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

*GATHERING SONGS

Prepare the Way, O Zion
Sanctuary

HYMN 106

HYMN 701

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Cheryl Keefe and Van Kelly

Reader: In this season of waiting, of longing, we are called to make way for God
in our lives.

People: We prepare our hearts and our minds.

Reader: As we light the second candle of Advent, we pray that amidst the busy-
ness of this season we take time to prepare ourselves for Christ's coming.

People: We open our eyes and our ears to see and hear God's presence.

Reader: We get ready to welcome Christ again into our world and into our homes.

People: Come now Lord, come even now and enter our hearts.

OPENING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE

Luke 3: 1-6

MESSAGE

Rev. Dennis W. Jones

OFFERING

SPECIAL MUSIC

I Give My All

by Kristen McCallum

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

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.

*CLOSING SONG

Lead Me, Guide Me

by Doris Akers

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Order of Worship

9:00 a.m. ~ Chapel; 10:15 ~ Sanctuary

DECEMBER 9, 2018

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

(As the prelude begins, please prepare prayerfully for worship
and be sure all cell phones are turned off.)

PRELUDE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Dennis W. Jones

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

(9:00) Bruce and Linda McArthur

(10:15) Matthew and Julia Palmer

Reader: In this season of waiting, of longing, we are called to make way for God
in our lives.

People: We prepare our hearts and our minds.

Reader: As we light the second candle of Advent, we pray that amidst the busy-
ness of this season we take time to prepare ourselves for Christ's coming.

People: We open our eyes and our ears to see and hear God's presence.

Reader: We get ready to welcome Christ again into our world and into our homes.

People: Come now Lord, come even now and enter our hearts.

*HYMN

Prepare the Way, O Zion

HYMN 106

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (UNISON)

**God of all times and places, God of all peoples,
thank you for calling us to turn away from sin,
and to turn from self-centered ways to your ways.
Forgive us for the times we have closed our hearts and lives to you
and to your call, unwilling to let go of our own plans in order to follow yours.
This Advent, help us to hear your invitation to repent
and to live genuinely new lives,
freed from sin and free to embrace your promised future.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

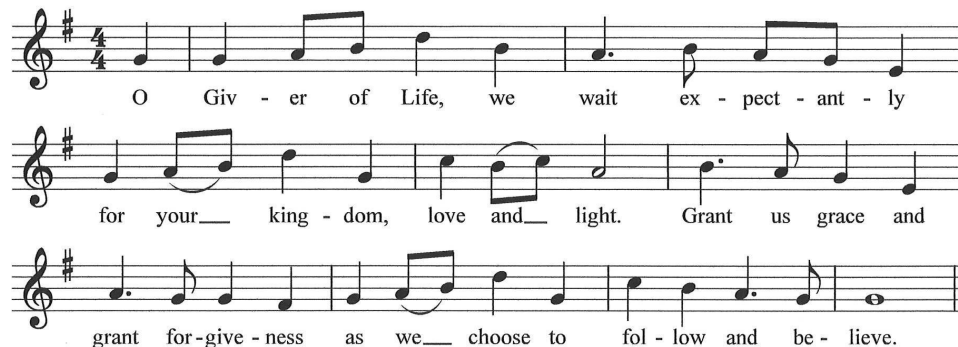
SILENT REFLECTION AND CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

O Giver of Life

by Chris Fortin



***THE PEACE**

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: and also with you.

Leader: I invite you to turn and greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

SCRIPTURE LESSON (9:00)

Luke 3: 1-6

p. 60

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON (9:00)

Necessary Preparations

Rev. Dennis W. Jones

(10:15)

Journey to Bethlehem (see next page)

Children's Musical

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERING

(10:15) Dr. Maureen Paterson

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow

HYMN 606

**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**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY

***CLOSING HYMN**

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

HYMN 93

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Advent Devotionals are available on the table in the Narthex and outside the Chapel.

Children and Family Ministries

The Advent Festival—today following the 10:15 am worship service!

Please join us for a very special celebration of the Advent Season following the 10:15 worship service today! We have lots of fun crafts for the kids, a petting zoo and sweet treats in Westminster Hall. Come and join us!



Journey to Bethlehem

Words and Music by Erik Whitehill

Beth Donley, Director Annabel Delgiorno, accompanist

PRELUDE		Annabel Delgiorno
ANTHEM	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful</i>	All Choirs
SCRIPTURE READING		Luke 1: 26-38
ANTHEM	<i>Mary and Gabriel</i> Soloists: Lila King, Isabella Pellegrino	Joyful Noise Choir
SCRIPTURE READING		Luke 1: 46-55
ANTHEM	<i>Magnificat</i> Duet: Charlotte King, Grace Healy; Soloist: Lila King	Joyful Noise Choir
SCRIPTURE READING		Matthew 1: 20-24
ANTHEM	<i>Joseph and the Dream Angel</i> Soloists: Callum Rankine, Ava Chianelli	Joyful Noise Choir
ANTHEM	<i>Journey</i>	All Choirs
SCRIPTURE READING		Luke 2: 7
ANTHEM	<i>Born This Day</i>	Joyful Noise Choir
SCRIPTURE READING		Luke 2: 8-14
ANTHEM	<i>The Shepherds and Angels</i> Soloists: Julia Mauro, Norah Hughes, Elise Asay	Joyful Noise Choir
ANTHEM	<i>Journey (reprise)</i>	
*CONGREGATIONAL CAROL	<i>O Come, All Ye Faithful (vs. 1 and 3)</i>	HYMN 133

Music Ministries

Special Thanks

*Annabel Delgiorno, for her wonderful accompaniment and hours of rehearsal time.
Parents, for being faithful to bringing your children to all of the valuable children's programs that BRPC offers.*

Cast of Characters

<i>Mary</i>	Lila King
<i>Gabriel</i>	Isabella Pellegrino
<i>Joseph</i>	Callum Rankine
<i>Dream Angel</i>	Ava Chianelli
<i>Elizabeth</i>	Charlotte King, Grace Healy
<i>Shepherds</i>	Julia Mauro, Norah Hughes
<i>Herald Angel</i>	Elise Asay
<i>Narrators</i>	Kevin Ward, Choir Members

Little Voices Choir

Drew Asay
Gabe Balboni
Evan Bliss
Emily Bliss
Lucy Caputo
Ruby Caputo
Claire Healy
Benjamin Hughes
Ava Klinger
Lucy Klinger
Joey Mauro
Cecilia Pellegrino
Brooklyn Rossi

Joyful Noise Choir

Elise Asay
Jack Bloom
Oliver Bloom
Maggie Caputo
Ava Chianelli
Grace Healy
Norah Hughes
Charlotte King
Lila King
John Mauro
Julia Mauro

Isabella Pellegrino
Callum Rankine
Isla Rankine
Fabian Tafur
Melanie Tafur
Giselle Wadsworth
Kevin Ward
Violette Ward
Katie White
Nathan White

Advent Sermon Series

What Are You Expecting?

This weekend at our Saturday 5 p.m. and Sunday morning 9 a.m. worship services, we continue our Advent Sermon Series entitled, "What Are You Expecting?" Advent is a time of anticipation and expectancy. It is a time of waiting, and preparing, and being open to the arrival of God's presence in our lives in new ways.

This Advent, what are you expecting? What are you waiting for? Perhaps it is a return to health amidst an illness, or a deepened sense of belonging and connection. Maybe it's a fresh discovery of God's love and presence in your life. What are you expecting? It's the question we will prayerfully explore together in the weeks ahead!



Church Family

The Flowers on the Piers this morning are given to the glory of God:

~With wishes for a blessed Christmas from Dotty Dameo, in loving memory of her husband, Roc and her parents, Jean and Gwill Mundy.

The flowers that grace our sanctuary each week are gifts from members of the congregation. Flowers may be given in memory or in honor of someone or to celebrate an occasion and cost \$42 per pier. **There are pier openings on January 6, 13 and 20.** If you would like to donate an arrangement, please contact Debbie Schaub at 908-507-3844; **NEW e-mail address, dschaub23@gmail.com.**



Our Greeters this morning are Dawn Domans, Jan Hedden, Stu and Julia Conway and grandsons Oliver and Jack Bloom at the 10:15 a.m. service.

Youth and Young Adult Ministries

Middle School Fellowship

Wednesday, December 12—arrive early at 5:30 p.m. for a trip to Market Street Mission. We will serve and eat dinner, hear a testimony and give our completed blankets.

Wednesday, December 19—5:30-7:30 p.m.—arrive early for our Christmas Party! Bring a wrapped \$15 gift for our exchange and feel free to dress in fun Christmas clothing!

Senior High

Sunday, December 16—4-5:30 p.m.—Participate in the town's Walk to Bethlehem, starting at St. James Roman Catholic Church, and ending at BRPC.

5:30-6 p.m.—Come to the Youth Center to help decorate!

6-7:30 p.m.—Bring a wrapped \$15 gift for our exchange. Wear a crazy Christmas sweater or outfit for a prize. Also, please bring an appetizer or dessert and we'll supply the dinner.

Confirmation Class—Tonight is our monthly Family Dinner and Meeting from 4:30-6:30 p.m. in the Youth Center. Please join us!

College-Aged Overnight Reunion—Dec. 27-28 in NYC. All 18-23 yr. olds are invited!

We will take a vertical tour of St. John the Divine Cathedral, go to an Escape Room and serve lunch at a soup kitchen. Call Cathi to sign up at (908) 240-2060.

From the Finance Office

End of Year Contributions—According to IRS regulations, to be included on your 2018 Member Contribution Statement (used for your tax reporting purposes) all contributions must be received by the church on or before December 31. This includes stock transfers. The only exception is those checks mailed to the church, postmarked December 31, 2018.

You are More than a Number to Us

We will no longer be assigning “envelope numbers.” Dated, unnumbered 2019 offering envelopes will be available for those who request them. In addition, offering envelopes are always available in the pews. The Finance team and the Trustees thank you in advance for remembering to put your FULL NAME on all offering envelopes.

Stewardship 2019

We are Grateful for the Generosity of the Congregation

Thank you to the 179 individuals and families who have made pledge commitments for 2019 totaling \$794,786. In response to prayerful consideration of what God is calling them to do, many in our congregation have increased their pledges from last year. We are excited and encouraged by the 14 new pledges totaling \$26,940 included in this total. Those of you still in thought and prayer about your commitment to the mission and ministry of our church are encouraged to return a pledge card as soon as possible so we can complete our plans for the coming year. We are counting on you!

“Let love be your greatest aim.” - *1 Corinthians 14:1a*



Gifts of Love

Opportunities to Give and Serve

God's Co-Op Pantry

Please bring in donations (listed below by month) for God's Co-Op Pantry to help those in need in our surrounding community. Donations may be brought to the church house. Thanks for your generous support!

December—1 lb. bag dried black beans January—24 oz. Vegetable Oil



The Christmas Season



The Giving Tree—please return gifts by Today!

Once again we have the opportunity to bless others during this Christmas season. The Giving Tree in Westminster Hall has been filled with ornaments detailing a wish from one of our mission partners. This year there are gifts for God's Co-op Pantry clients, Homeless Solutions, IHN and women of the Bo Robinson Transitional Center. Please take an ornament (or two!) and purchase the item listed and return to the Church Office or the tree by December 9th. This deadline ensures that all gifts are distributed to the recipients prior to Christmas. Thank you for your support of this incredibly meaningful ministry. We have many requests for gift cards and ask that these be dropped off at the Church Office.



Order Your Poinsettias by Monday, December 10



Poinsettias will grace our sanctuary again this Christmas season. If you wish to contribute to the fund for these flowers, in memory or in honor of a loved one, please call the church house or sign up online by Monday, December 10. The cost is \$15. We will list the honored names in the bulletin on the 4th Sunday of Advent, December 23.

Collection of Gently-Used and New Women's Clothing-Extended through Dec. 9!

We have an opportunity to help women transitioning from prison to the community at the Bo Robinson Transitional Center in Trenton. Some women do not have family support and need clothing to begin their new life. The women need fall and winter gently-used or new clothing of all sizes— especially jeans, slacks, tops, sweaters, and sweat suits (pants and top). New bras and underwear, any sizes, are also very much needed. Please leave donations in the box in Westminster Hall, or in the coat rack near the parlor in the church house, by our extended deadline of December 9. Thank you from Mission Council!

Christmas Season at BRPC

Saturdays, December 15, 22, 29

5:00 p.m. Oak Table Service in Westminster Hall

Sunday, December 16—Third Sunday of Advent

9:00 a.m. Chapel worship

10:15 a.m. Sanctuary worship

Walk to Bethlehem, 4 p.m.

*The Walk begins at St. James Church, continues
to St. Mark's and Bishop Janes churches, ending here at BRPC.*



Sunday, December 23—Fourth Sunday of Advent

10:15 a.m. Sunday—One Worship Service of Lessons & Carols in the Sanctuary

Christmas Eve, December 24

4:30 p.m. Children's Service
Children's Choir

7:00 p.m. Caroling on the Green

7:35 p.m. Family Service
Children's and Youth Choirs

10:00 p.m. Candlelight Service
Alumni, Sanctuary Choirs and Handbell Ensemble

Christmas Day, December 25

11:00 a.m. Informal "Come As You Are" Service

Sunday, December 30—One Worship Service at 10:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Weekly Calendar

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT—DECEMBER 9

Early Bird Study, 7:45 am Library
 Worship, 9:00 am..... Chapel
 Nominating Committee, 9:00 am..... Library
 Fellowship Time, 9:45 am Westminster Hall
 Worship/Children's Musical, 10:15 am Sanctuary
 Fellowship Time, 11:15 am Westminster Hall
 Advent Festival, 11:15 am..... Westminster Hall
 Confirmation Class and Dinner, 4:30 pm Parlor

MONDAY—DECEMBER 10

Pantry Committee, 1:00 pm..... Parlor
 Mission Council, 7:00 pm..... Youth Center
 Worship Council, 7:00 pm..... Geneva Room
 Trustees, 7:30 pm..... Parlor

TUESDAY—DECEMBER 11

Oak Tree Quilters, 9:00 am..... Geneva Room
 Joint Budget Committee, 3:00 pm.. Library
 Children's Mid-Week Ministry, 4:15 pm West. Hall
 Alpha Bell Choir, 6:15 pm..... Knox Room
 Knox Bell Choir, 7:30 pm..... Knox Room
 Scout Troop #351, 7:30 pm Youth Center

WEDNESDAY—DECEMBER 12

Women's Bible Study, 9:30 am..... Parlor
 Middle School Fellowship, 5:30 pm Off-site
 Cemetery Heritage Comm., 7:30 pm Geneva Room

THURSDAY—DECEMBER 13

Sanctuary Choir, 7:00 pm Knox Room

FRIDAY—DECEMBER 14

SATURDAY—DECEMBER 15

Oak Table Service, 5:00 pm Westminster Hall

AmazonSmile

With the Christmas shopping season upon us, this is a great time to sign up for AmazonSmile to benefit our church. Simply go to smile.amazon.com and log in. Choose the Basking Ridge Presbyterian Church as your charity of choice and you're done! The website is identical to the regular Amazon site and will automatically donate .5% of your qualifying purchases to the church. It's a fast and easy way to support our programs and good work in the world!

The Presbyterian Church

One East Oak St., Basking Ridge NJ 07920

908.766.1616 FAX: 766.4450

e-mail: info@brpc.org - www.brpc.org

Pastor & Head of Staff

Rev. Dennis W. Jones.....ext. 15

Associate Pastor

Dr. Maureen Paterson.....ext. 11

Parish Associate

Rev. Bruce E. Schundler

Director of Ministries to Youth, Young Adults and Their Families

Cathi Reckenbeil.....ext. 17

Director of Ministries to Children and Their Families

Stacy Currie.....ext. 14

Tree House Director

Jennifer Nowack..... 221-1619

Director of Music Ministry

Chris Fortin..... 953-9809

Director of Children's Music Ministry

Beth Donley 953-9809

Church Administrator & Treasurer

Janet Bentleyext. 18

Assistant Treasurers

Liz Messineo ext. 21

Nancy Kuhn.....ext. 21

Pastoral Administrative Asst.

Cara Burchett.....ext. 19

Church Administrative Asst.

Janice Leottiext. 12

Receptionist

Michelle Lewext. 10

Communications Coordinator

Gary Ingramext. 13

Sexton Staff

David Brownleeext. 16

Paul Bachem

Ministers

All the People

Clerk of Session

Tina Bramel

President of Trustees

Craig Sutherland

Moderator of Deacons

Jean Smith