



June 4, 2023

BLACKSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Our Mission
Proclaiming God's Word
Growing in faith and understanding
Welcoming all
Extending comfort and grace
Working for justice and peace
Nurturing creation
Being generous stewards of God's gifts

Pastor - Rev. Sarah Wiles
Director of Music - Dr. Larry Wyatt
Organist/Pianist - Amanda Raymond
Director of Children/Youth Ministries - Susan Hunter
Coordinator of Church Life - Sarah Windes
Office Manager - Rhonda Waller
Parish Associate - Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter
Campus Minister, UKirk Ministry at Virginia Tech - Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter
Mission Partner in Malawi - Dr. Arie Glas
Mission Partners in the Philippines - Cobbie Palm & Dessa Quesada-Palm
Mission Partners in Guatemala - Betsey & Eric Moe

Service is also livestreamed and is available at www.blacksburgpres.org.

*If you are new to Blacksburg Presbyterian Church and would like more information
or to join our email list, please contact the church office at
540-552-2504 or email bpc@blacksburgpres.org.*

❖ *Please rise in body or in spirit. We invite you to join in with the words in **bold**.*

SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY
TRINITY SUNDAY
JUNE 4, 2023

❖ GATHERING AROUND THE WORD ❖

Thought for Meditation: "I wouldn't be surprised if poetry - poetry in the broadest sense, in the sense of a world filled with metaphor, rhyme, and recurring patterns, shapes, and designs - is how the world works. The world isn't logical; it's a song." — David Byrne

Prelude: Excerpts from "Distant Chimes" from *Gentle Spirit - Three Pieces for Organ*

Charles Callahan

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Sarah Wiles & Sarah Windes

Centering Music: "Morning Has Broken"

BUNESSAN

❖ Call to Worship

Kyle Knobl

Who is this God whom we have come to worship?

God is the creator of all.

The creator of birds and trees, wind and sea?

God is the creator of all things seen and unseen.

Then let us worship the God of creation,

the God of all things great and small.

❖ Hymn 1: "Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!"

NICAEA

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.

Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

**Holy, holy, holy! all the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.**

**Holy, holy, holy! though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!**

❖ Prayer of Approach

**God, whose fingers sculpt sun and moon
and curl the baby's ear;
Spirit, brooding over chaos
before the naming of day;
Savior, sending us to earth's ends
with water and words:
startle us with the grace, love, and communion
of your unity in diversity,
that we may live to the praise of your majestic name. Amen.**

**O to grace how great a debtor
daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it;
seal it for thy courts above.**

Prayer of Confession

**God of all creation, you loved us into being,
yet we often flee our rightful place in your creation.
We confess that we exploit the gifts you place around us
and dominate the richness of the natural order.
Forgive our greedy grasping.
We confess our part in the devastation of our planet home,
mirrored in the violence of cities, and the brokenness of hearts.
Forgive and restore us, O God.
Nurturing God, remind us of other ways to live
and of a place called home, where creation reflects your goodness
and each thing lives in balance with all others.
Come and find us, set us right again,
and take us home. Amen.**

(Silent prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

Friends, hear and believe the good news:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!
Thanks be to God!

❖ Passing of the Peace

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

(Worshippers may exchange signs of God's peace, and children may come forward for a time of sharing faith together.)

❖ HEARING THE WORD ❖

Sharing Faith with Children

Susan Hunter

(Children in 1st grade age and up are invited to remain in the sanctuary. Children in kindergarten or younger may stay in the sanctuary or go downstairs to God's Garden or the nursery for nurturing and care. Please complete a sign-in sticker for each child.)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Genesis 1:1-27, 31; 2:1-4, Common English Bible

When God began to create the heavens and the earth— 2 the earth was without shape or form, it was dark over the deep sea, and God's wind swept over the waters— 3 God said, "**Let there be light.**" And so light appeared. **4 God saw how good the light was.** God separated the light from the darkness. 5 God named the light Day and the darkness Night. **There was evening and there was morning: the first day.**

6 God said, "**Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters to separate the waters from each other.**" 7 God made the dome and separated the waters under the dome from the waters above the dome. And it happened in that way. 8 God named the dome Sky. **There was evening and there was morning: the second day.**

9 God said, "**Let the waters under the sky come together into one place so that the dry land can appear.**" And that's what happened. 10 God named the dry land Earth, and he named the gathered waters Seas. **God saw how good it was.** 11 God said, "**Let the earth grow plant life: plants yielding seeds and fruit trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind throughout the earth.**" And that's what happened. 12 The earth produced plant life: plants yielding seeds, each according to its kind, and trees bearing fruit with seeds inside it, each according to its kind. **God saw how good it was.** **13 There was evening and there was morning: the third day.**

14 God said, "**Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night. They will mark events, sacred seasons, days, and years.** **15 They will be lights in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth.**" And that's what happened. 16 God made the stars and two great lights: the larger light to rule over the day and the smaller light to rule over the night. 17 God

put them in the dome of the sky to shine on the earth, 18 to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. **God saw how good it was.** 19 **There was evening and there was morning: the fourth day.**

20 God said, **“Let the waters swarm with living things, and let birds fly above the earth up in the dome of the sky.”** 21 God created the great sea animals and all the tiny living things that swarm in the waters, each according to its kind, and all the winged birds, each according to its kind. **God saw how good it was.** 22 Then God blessed them: “Be fertile and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.” 23 **There was evening and there was morning: the fifth day.**

24 God said, **“Let the earth produce every kind of living thing: livestock, crawling things, and wildlife.”** And that’s what happened. 25 God made every kind of wildlife, every kind of livestock, and every kind of creature that crawls on the ground. God saw how good it was. 26 Then God said, **“Let us make humanity in our image to resemble us so that they may take charge of the fish of the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the earth, and all the crawling things on earth.”** 27 God created humanity in God’s own image, in the divine image God created them, male and female God created them... 31 **God saw everything he had made: it was supremely good. There was evening and there was morning: the sixth day.**

2 The heavens and the earth and all who live in them were completed. 2 On the sixth day God completed all the work that he had done, and on the seventh day God rested from all the work that he had done. 3 **God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on it God rested from all the work of creation.** 4 This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created.

The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: In the Beginning

Rev. Sarah Wiles

❖Hymn 44: “Like a Mother Who Has Borne Us”

AUSTIN

**Like a mother who has borne us,
held us close in her delight,
fed us freely from her body,
God has called us into life.**

**Like a father who has taught us,
grasped our hand and been our guide,
lifted us and healed our sorrows,
God has walked with us in life.**

**Though as children we have wandered,
placed our trust in power and might,
left behind our brothers, sisters,
God still calls us into life.**

**When we offer food and comfort,
grasp our neighbor’s hand in love,
tread the path of peace and justice,
God still walks with us in life.**

Call to Offering

Offertory: “Praeludio No. 2 in A Major”

Ney Rosauero

Sam Woolsey, marimba

❖Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all creatures here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.**

❖Prayer of Dedication

Celebration of Communion

Rev. Sarah Wiles & Rev. Page Foster

(All are welcome at Christ’s table. Use the center aisle to reach a station in the front of the sanctuary and return by the side aisle to your seat. Gluten-free bread is available at the center station in front. If you need to remain seated, the elements will be brought to you.)

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also, with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and forever.
Amen.**

Sharing of Bread and Cup

Prayer After Supper

❖ BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD ❖

❖ Hymn 14 (vs. 1-2, 4-5): "For the Beauty of the Earth"

DIX

**For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies:**

Refrain:

**Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For the wonder of each hour
of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower,
sun and moon, and stars of light: (Refrain)**

**For the joy of human love,
brother, sister, parent, child,
friends on earth, and friends above,
for all gentle thoughts and mild: (Refrain)**

**For thyself, best gift divine
to the world so freely given;
for that great, great love of thine,
peace on earth and joy in heaven: (Refrain)**

❖ Benediction

Postlude: "Praeludium No. 4 in F Major, BWV 556"

J.S. Bach



Call to Worship and Prayer for Illumination from *The Worship Sourcebook*. Prayer of Approach from *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*. Prayer of Confession from *Bare Feet and Buttercups*. Photo: Pillars of Creation: <https://www.nasa.gov/feature/goddard/2022/nasa-s-webb-takes-star-filled-portrait-of-pillars-of-creation>. "The Pillars of Creation are set off in a kaleidoscope of color in NASA's James Webb Space Telescope's near-infrared-light view. The pillars look like arches and spires rising out of a desert landscape, but are filled with semi-transparent gas and dust, and ever changing. This is a region where young stars are forming – or have barely burst from their dusty cocoons as they continue to form."

WELCOME TO WORSHIP!

This is a space for everyone. No matter who you are, no matter what your story is, no matter what--you are welcome here. May this be a time where your breathing slows, your heart opens, and you connect with the Holy One. If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to explore some of what happens in the life and ministry of this community.

Serving: Church Opener: Anne and Greg Campbell

Ushers: Phil Bailey, Gillian Lowe, Natasha Lowe, Todd Lowe

Elder Serving Refreshment: Elizabeth Day

Nursery and God's Garden Sign-in Stickers (one per child): Complete information about each child and parent(s) on the sign-in sticker.

Headsets for the hard of hearing are available. Speak to an usher to use them for the worship service.

You can send prayer requests for Prayers of the People in Sunday worship and/or to be added to the *MidWeek Update* and website prayer list to Rhonda, (rhonda@blacksburgpres.org).

Text or QR Code to Give: To give by text, send keyword **bpcva** and an amount to phone number **779777** (e.g., bpcva 20). If it is your first time, there will be a brief registration process. To give via QR code, use the camera app on your phone and follow instructions. Thank you for your support of BPC's ministry.



ANNOUNCEMENTS



Welcoming Alice Brooks Sanders, our new Director of Music and Organist: Beginning June 12, Alice Brooks Sanders will be joining us as our new Director of Music and Organist. Alice was drawn to BPC because of our strong music program, as well as our theological commitments to justice, generosity, and inclusion. She has a long history of leading church music in PC(USA) congregations in Oklahoma and Tennessee.

Thank you to Larry and Amanda! We are so grateful for Amanda Raymond's time as Organist/Pianist, and Larry Wyatt's tenure with us as Director of Music. June 11 will be Amanda's final Sunday in worship. Larry will continue through the end of July. Join us for a celebration of their work on July 23, following worship.

THIS WEEK

FH-Fellowship Hall, **HCR**-Hatcher Conference Room,
WM-Westminster, **SNC**-Sanctuary, **GS**-Gathering Space

Sun., June 4: Communion Sunday

- 10:30: Worship Service, SNC
- After worship: Matthew 25 meeting, HCR
- Last day to register for Vacation Bible School. Kids age 3 through rising 6th graders are invited to participate in dinner and opening assembly, then rotating to Bible storytelling, games, and craft centers. Help is still needed with meals and decorating. Contact Susan Hunter at susanh@blacksburgpres.org for information.

Tues., June 6:

- 7:30-9:00 am: Morningstars with Pastor Sarah, Zoom
- 9:30-2:00 pm: Quilters, FH
- 5:30: Season of Creation planning meeting, HCR

Thur., June 8:

- 5:00 pm: First Fridays Peace Vigil, downtown post office, 118 N. Main, Bburg
- 5:00-6:00: Thursday Hangout Hour at Rising Silo Brewery (2351 Glade Rd). Contact Melanie and Scott Smith at melscofam@gmail.com for details.

Fri., June 9:

- 5:00 pm: First Fridays Peace Vigil, downtown post office, 118 N. Main, Bburg

Sun., June 11:

- 10:30: Worship Service, SNC
- 5:30-8:00 pm: Vacation Bible School, FH & various classrooms, June 11-14



UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon., June 12:

- 12:00-1:30 pm: Deacons meeting, HCR

Thur., June 15:

- 4:00 pm: Community Ministries, Zoom

Sun., June 18:

- 5:00 pm: Gathering and dinner with Betsey and Eric Moe, our mission partners with CEDEPCA, FH. More details to come!
- No Session meeting in June.

Mon., June 19: Juneteenth - church office is closed

Mon., June 26:

- 1:00-3:00 pm: Knitwits, WM
- 5:30: Creation Care Team meeting, HCR

June 27-June 29: Massanetta Springs Middle School Conference