

July 2, 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 & Organist – Alice Brooks Sanders
Director of Music – Dr. Larry Wyatt
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
Virginia Tech Campus Outreach Minister – Rev. Kathy Carpenter
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
FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
JULY 2, 2023

❖ GATHERING AROUND THE WORD ❖

Thought for Meditation: You lift up the soul, O God, and make the eyes sparkle. You give health and life and blessing.
-- Ecclesiasticus 34:20

Prelude: "Dove of Peace" 19th c. American folk melody
set by Gilbert Martin

Welcome and Announcements Sarah Windes

Centering Music: "Divinum Mysterium" plainsong 12th-13th c.

❖ **Call to Worship**

In this land of freedom and beauty, let us give thanks to God.

Let us praise the Holy One who created the blue lakes and grassy prairies, the vast desert lands, and the breathtaking mountains of our homeland.

Let us unite in worship of the Creator who formed all lands and all people,

And who declared, without hesitation, "It is good."

Come, let us worship God.

Mary Lee Hendricks

❖ **Hymn 509:** "All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly"

HOLY MANNA

**All who hunger, gather gladly;
holy manna is our bread.**

Come from wilderness and wandering.

Here, in truth, we will be fed.

**You that yearn for days of fullness,
all around us is our food.**

Taste and see the grace eternal.

Taste and see that God is good.

**All who hunger, never strangers,
seeker, be a welcome guest.**

Come from restlessness and roaming.

Here, in joy, we keep the feast.

**We that once were lost and scattered
in communion's love have stood.**

Taste and see the grace eternal.

Taste and see that God is good.

All who hunger, sing together;

Jesus Christ is living bread.

Come from loneliness and longing.

Here, in peace, we have been led.

**Blest are those who from this table
live their days in gratitude.**

Taste and see the grace eternal.

Taste and see that God is good.

❖ **Prayer of Approach**

God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob,

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Who gives us birth by water and Holy Spirit,

Teach us how to live always

In integrity of body, mind, and spirit,

In obedience to your love,

In the name of Jesus Christ,

To whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,

Be all honor and glory now and forever. Amen.

Call to Confession: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

Hymn 475 (v. 3)

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

Source of all true wisdom and goodness, how often we substitute our own wisdom and goodness for the way of life shown to us by Jesus Christ.

Forgive us we pray; open our hearts to the simple, gentle, loving ways Jesus taught, and empower us by your Spirit so to live.

(Silent prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness

❖ **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

Rev. Emily Rhodes 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

Matthew 10:40-42, Common English Bible

40 "Those who receive you are also receiving me, and those who receive me are receiving the one who sent me. 41 Those who receive a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet's reward. Those who receive a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person's reward. 42 I assure you that everybody who gives even a cup of cold water to these little ones because they are my disciples will certainly be rewarded."

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

Sermon: Welcome

Jan McGilliard, Missional Commissioned Pastor

❖ **Hymn 692:** "Spirit, Open My Heart"

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

Refrain:

Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love may I love,
in receiving and in giving.
Spirit, open my heart.

God, replace my stony heart
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
to your grace I now surrender. (Refrain)

Write your love upon my heart
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word, and deed,
may my living bring you glory. (Refrain)

May I weep with those who weep;
share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome one another. (Refrain)

Call to Offering

Offertory: "Prayer"

Ernst Bloch

Ben Wyatt, cello

❖Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Hymn 609

❖Prayer of Dedication

Celebration of Communion

Jan McGilliard

Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter

(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 547: "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

AR HYD Y NOS

"Go, my children, with my blessing,
never alone.

Waking, sleeping, I am with you,
you are my own.

In my love's baptismal river

I have made you mine forever.

Go, my children, with my blessing,
you are my own."

"Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure.

Here you learned how much I love you,
what I can cure.

Here you heard my dear Son's story;
here you touched him, saw his glory.

Go, my children, sins forgiven,
at peace and pure."

Scroll down for more . . .

“Go, my children, fed and nourished,
closer to me.
Grow in love and love by serving,
joyful and free.
Here my Spirit’s power filled you;
here my tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished,
joyful and free.”

❖ **Benediction**

Postlude: “Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

(a “communion calypso”)
set by John Behnke



The offertory today is by Ernst Bloch, a Swiss-born American composer who often incorporated his Jewish heritage into his work. Today's piece is the first movement from his larger piece *From Jewish Life*. Ben Wyatt played this piece at the interfaith worship service following the vandalism of the Blacksburg Jewish Community Center.

Today's prelude is based on the early American folk melody DOVE OF PEACE and is found in our hymnal (#515) with a communion text by Brian Wren. Today's postlude is based on a lively Jamaican folk melody which appears in our hymnal (#526) with a communion text by Fred Kaan. The words to the final verse send us forth with joy and anticipation to be the body of Christ in the world: Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt, gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere!

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:** Tom Pospichal
Ushers: Darrell Bosh, and Gillian, Natasha, and Todd Lowe
Elder Serving Refreshments: Marilyn Hutchins

The flowers for the sanctuary today were provided by the Spencer family to the glory of God and in loving memory of Andrew Bailey Spencer.

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

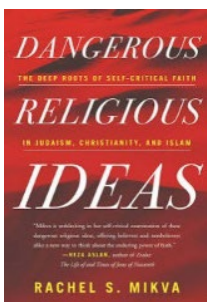
Headsets for the hard of hearing are available. Speak to an usher to use them for the worship service.

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 77977 (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



Interfaith Reading Group, beginning July 9, 4:00 pm: BPC is excited to be partnering with several other congregations and the Blacksburg Jewish Community Center to begin an interfaith reading group. Our first book will be *Dangerous Religious Ideas: The Deep Roots of Self-Critical Faith in Judaism, Christianity, and Islam* by Rachel Mikva. The initial meeting will be Sunday, July 9, at 4pm at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 600 Prices Fork Road.

There are used copies available in the office. If you're able to give a \$9 donation, that will cover the cost, but please don't hesitate to take one as a gift if cost would be a barrier for you. If you have time to read the first chapter before our first gathering, that's great, but if not, please come anyway.



Savoring Sacred Music, Sundays, July 9, 16, 23, 9:00 am, in Westminster: Larry Wyatt will be leading a three-week class on sacred music. Each week will focus on a different element of appreciating and understanding classical music used in worship (see topics for each class below). Whether you are a musician or a listener, well-versed in musical theory or completely new to the dynamics of music, this class will deepen your spiritual engagement with sacred music.

- July 9: Handel's *Messiah*
- July 16: Expression in Music - It's Not Just a Pretty Tune
- July 23: A Very Big Picture - History of Hymns

Thought for the week from the Matthew 25 Team: "No one is born hating another person because of the color of his skin, or his background, or his religion. People must learn to hate, and if they can learn to hate, they can be taught to love, for love comes more naturally to the human heart than its opposite." -- Nelson Mandela, *The Long Walk to Freedom*



THIS WEEK

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

Sun., July 2: Communion Sunday

- 10:30 am: Worship Service, SNC

Sun. - Sat., July 2-8: Pastor Sarah will be on vacation during this time.

Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter (emily@blacksburgpres.org) will be available for pastoral care.

Mon. and Tues., July 3-4:

- Church office is closed due to staff vacation and holiday.

Tues., July 4:

- 9:30-2:00 pm: Quilters, FH

Thur., July 6:

- 5:00-6:00 pm: Thursday Hangout Hour at Rising Silo Brewery (2351 Glade Rd). Feel free to show up at the meeting time or contact the church office.
- 7:00-8:00: Aurora Martin, soprano, and Richard Masters, piano, BPC sanctuary. Free admission. First event of the Thursday Night Indoor Concert series, part of the 2023 Summer Arts Festival. See below for more information.

Fri., July 7:

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

Sun., July 9:

- 9:00 am: Savoring Sacred Music Class: Handel's *Messiah*, led by Larry Wyatt, WM. See announcements for details.
 - 10:30: Worship Service, SNC
 - 4:00 pm: Interfaith Reading Group, Luther Memorial Lutheran Church. See announcements for details.
-

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon., July 10:

- 12:00 pm: Deacons meeting, HCR

Thu., July 13:

- 3:30-4:30 pm: AIM meeting, Zoom

Thursdays in July, 7:00-8:00 pm: 2023 Summer Arts Festival, Thursday Night Indoor Concerts, BPC Sanctuary. Free admission. (More information about these performances and other events can be found here: performingarts.vt.edu)

- 07/06: Aurora Martin, soprano, and Richard Masters, piano
- 07/13: Bach and Friends with Fiona Hughes, violin. Ben Wyatt will be playing cello as part of this performance.
- 07/20: Alma Ensemble
- 07/27: Haydn's *Lord Nelson Mass* – Community Sing, conducted by Dr. Larry Wyatt. (To participate in the community sing, visit bit.ly/SummerArtsHaydn23)

Sundays, July 9, 16, & 23, 9:00 am: Make a Joyful Noise! Savoring Sacred Music, class led by Larry Wyatt, WM. See announcements for details.

Sunday – Saturday, July 9-15: Montreat Youth Conference

Sun., July 16:

- 9:00 am: Savoring Sacred Music Class: Expression in Music – It's Not Just a Pretty Tune, led by Larry Wyatt, WM
- 7:00 pm: Session meeting, HCR