

BLACKSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY
OCTOBER 1, 2023

We are a community that welcomes all.
We are committed to experiencing beautiful worship,
nurturing lifelong growth,
and pursuing justice and love in the world.



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY
&
INTERNATIONAL MISSION MONTH

Pastor - Rev. Sarah Wiles
Director of Music & Organist - Alice Brooks Sanders
Director of Children & Youth Ministries - Susan Hunter
Coordinator of Church Life - Sarah Windes
Office Manager - Rhonda Waller
Parish Associate - Rev. Emily Rhodes Hunter

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

❖ GATHERING AROUND THE WORD ❖

Thought for Meditation: “My life means nothing, either theoretically or practically, unless I am a member of a community.” —Josiah Royce

Prelude: “Thee We Adore” (1697 plainchant)

ADORO TE DEVOTE
set by Rebecca Groom teVelde

Thee we adore, O hidden Savior,
thee, who at this blessed feast art pleased to be.

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Sarah Wiles & Sarah Windes

Centering Music (hymn 528, vv. 1-3): “Come, Let Us Eat”

Liberia

(Many songs for today’s worship service will be sung by the choir first. The congregation will then join, following the lead of the cantor or pianist.)

Children, Handchimes

❖ **Call to Worship**

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

This is the day the Lord has made. **Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

We come,

**from east and west,
north and south,
to sit at the table of God.**

We worship with family around the world,
siblings who call God by many names:

Ar-Rahman, **The Entirely Merciful**
Parvardegār, **Sustainer**
Akal Purakh, **Timeless Being**
Nana Buluku, **Mother Creator**
Chukwu, **Supreme One,**
Gitche Manitou, **Great Spirit**

El Shaddai, Allah, Tengri,

The One who fills the earth,

**calls us beyond our boundaries,
into the great household of heaven.**

Come, let us worship together!

❖ **Hymn 390:** “Praise, Praise, Praise the Lord”

Cameroon

Praise, praise, praise the Lord!
Praise God’s holy name. Alleluia!
Praise God’s holy name. Alleluia!
Praise God’s holy name. Alleluia!

❖ **Psalm of the Day (refrain, hymn 467):** “Give Us Light”

Psalm 130
Northern India

(Choir begins with refrain.)



Give us light; give us light; give us light, O Lord.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O God.

Open your ears and give me a hearing. **Refrain**

If you, O God, took note of our sins,
who could hold their head high?
But you have chosen to forgive;
and for this we revere you. **Refrain**

I wait for God; I wait in hope;
my soul waits for my Maker
more than those who wait for the morning,
more than those who look for the dawn. **Refrain**

Hope in God, you faithful people,
trust in God's constant love.
God's power to liberate
brings redemption from every sin. **Refrain**

Call to Confession (hymn 427): "Jesus Knows the Inmost Heart"
(Choir to sing refrain first and verses. Congregation joins on additional refrains.)

Afghanistan

Je - sus knows the in - most heart: noth - ing can be hid - den.

Bm Em D G Am7 Bm7 Em *Fine*
Je - sus knows the in - most heart: noth - ing can be hid - den.

Prayer of Confession

Before God, with the people of God,
we confess to our brokenness,
to the ways we wound our lives,
the lives of others,
and the life of the world.

(Silent prayer)

Assurance of Forgiveness (hymn 437): "You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy"

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

Appalachia

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

❖ **Passing of the Peace: "Peace of God Be With You"**

(Choir only)

Peace of God be with you. Peace of God be with you.
Salaam, salaam. Peace of God be with you.
As-salaamu lakum. As-salaamu lakum.
Salaam, salaam. As-salaamu lakum.

Arabic
Hymn 448

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

Alice Brooks Sanders

(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 (hymn 454): "Take the Saving Word of God"

Take the saving word of God;
put it first within your life.
Nothing comes before God's holy word.

Native American, Kiowa

Scripture Reading

Luke 19:1-10, CEB

19 Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through town. 2 A man there named Zacchaeus, a ruler among tax collectors, was rich. 3 He was trying to see who Jesus was, but, being a short man, he couldn't because of the crowd. 4 So he ran ahead and climbed up a sycamore tree so he could see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. 5 When Jesus came to that spot, he looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down at once. I must stay in your home today." 6 So Zacchaeus came down at once, happy to welcome Jesus. 7 Everyone who saw this grumbled, saying, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." 8 Zacchaeus stopped and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my possessions to the poor. And if I have cheated anyone, I repay them four times as much." 9 Jesus said to him, "Today, salvation has come to this household because he too is a son of Abraham. 10 The Human One came to seek and save the lost."

Sermon: Beloved Community

Rev. Sarah Wiles

❖ **Hymn 317: "In Christ There is No East or West"**

African American spiritual

In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close-binding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west;
in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

Call to Offering

Minute for Mission: Peace & Global Witness Offering

Lindsay Call

Offertory: "Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"

South Africa
Hymn 538

❖ **Doxology**

Switzerland

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

(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.)

❖ **Communion Hymn 508: "Come to the Table"**

South Korea

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 ✠

Farewell and Blessings for Barbara Michelsen

❖ Hymn 538: "Hallelujah! We Sing Your Praises"

South Africa

Refrain:

Hallelujah! We sing your praises;
all our hearts are filled with gladness.
Hallelujah! We sing your praises;
all our hearts are filled with gladness.

Christ the Lord to us said:

I am wine, I am bread.

I am wine, I am bread:

give to all who thirst and hunger.

Christ the Lord to us said:

I am wine, I am bread.

I am wine, I am bread:

give to all who thirst and hunger. (Refrain)

Now he sends us all out,
strong in faith, free of doubt,
strong in faith, free of doubt.
Tell to all the joyful gospel.

Now he sends us all out,
strong in faith, free of doubt,
strong in faith, free of doubt.
Tell to all the joyful gospel. (Refrain)

❖ Benediction

❖ Benediction Response (hymn 528, v. 4): "Come, Let Us Eat"

Liberia

(Congregation echoes cantor.)

Postlude: "Somos Uno En Cristo" (We Are One in Christ Jesus)

Latin America



Citations: Languages of origin for names of God listed in the Call to Worship, in order: Arabic, Persian, Punjabi, Fon, Igbo, Anishinaabe, Hebrew, Arabic, Turkish. Psalm of the Day from *Iona Abbey Worship Book*, 2nd ed.

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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 of this community.

Serving: Church Opener: Nancy Furr

Ushers: Chris Lawrence, Heidi Swartzwelder, Reed or Ella Lawrence, Marcia Parks

The flowers for the sanctuary today are provided by Judith and Roy Jones to the glory of God and in loving memory of Linda Hess McGlothlin, Judith's sister.

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 at 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

I Love to Tell the Story: A Bible Survey: Join us today after worship in the Fellowship Hall for our first installment of this Bible survey class that is for newbies and scholars alike. Additional class gatherings will be on Sundays, Oct. 8, Nov. 5, 19 after worship at BPC, and Saturdays, Oct. 7, 14, 28, Nov. 11 at 4pm at Eastern Divide (3175 Commerce Dr.). Led by Jonathan Anderson and Pastor Sarah.

PHILIPPINES MISSION TRIP INTEREST MEETING

Initial plans are being made for a trip to our mission coworkers in the Philippines in late May or early June 2024. If you're interested in learning more, we'll have a 30min Q&A meeting on Oct. 1 at 5pm in Westminster.

Adults, college students, and high schoolers will all be welcome on the trip. In addition, middle schoolers are welcome if a parent travels with them.



2024 Philippines Mission Trip Information Meeting, today, 5:00 pm, WM: There will be an information meeting today. We will learn about climate change and other important issues from our mission co-workers, Cobbie Palm and Dessa Quesada-Palm, local farmers in the mountains, and fisher folks along the shore.



New to BPC? Welcome! Join Pastor Sarah for a newcomers' class on Sunday mornings, Oct. 8 & 15 at 9am in Westminster. The class will offer a chance to meet other folks who are new in a more intimate setting and learn more about BPC. There will also be the chance to become a member at the end of the class, but there's no pressure to do so if you would prefer not to at this time. In addition, on Sunday afternoon, Oct. 8 at 3pm, we'll have a newcomers' social gathering at Nellie's Cave Park (1900 Grissom Ln). There's a handicap-accessible picnic shelter, restrooms, and playground for the kiddos. All are welcome. Come to one or come to all.

THIS WEEK

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

Sun., Oct. 1: World Communion Sunday and International Mission Month

- 10:30: Worship Service and Peace & Global Witness Offering (BPC's 25% of this offering will support our local chapter of Moms Demand Action, see the *MidWeek* for details), SNC
- After worship: Farewell gathering for Barbara Michelsen, longtime BPC member, GS. Contact the church office for an updated address.
- 11:30-1:00 pm: I Love to Tell the Story - Bible 101, FH. See announcements.
- 5:00: Philippines Mission trip information meeting, WM. See announcements.
- 5:30-7:30: Youth Group - dinner and discussion, FH
- 7:00: *Mere Christianity* book study, HCR. Led by Jack Call and Russell Gregory

Mon., Oct. 2:

- 1:30-3:00 pm: Lydia Circle meeting, FH. All are welcome.
- 7:00-8:30: *Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians* book study, WM.

Tues., Oct. 3:

- No Morningstars this week.
- 9:30-2:00 pm: Quilters, FH

Wed., Oct. 4:

- 5:30 pm: Handbells rehearsal, FH
- 7:00: Choir rehearsal, choir room

Thur., Oct. 5:

- 5:00-6:00 pm: Thursday Hangout Hour at Rising Silo Brewery, 2351 Glades Road. Feel free to just show up.

Fri., Oct. 6:

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

Sat., Oct. 7:

- Presbytery Bus Trip - Int'l Civil Rights Center & Museum, Greensboro, NC. Today (10/01/23) is the last day to sign up in the Gathering Space.
- 4:00-6:00 pm: I Love to Tell the Story Social Hour, Eastern Divide (3175 Commerce Dr.). All are welcome, including children.

Sun., Oct. 8: International Mission Month - Philippines

- 9:00 am: Newcomers' Class (first of two, second is on 10/15), WM, with a social later today at 3:00 at Nellie's Park Cave (see below). Come to one or all!
 - 9:00 am: Children and Youth Sunday School, various rooms
 - 9:00: Adult Sunday School, FH. Death with Dignity: Living Our Faith in End-of-Life Planning. Led by Anne Campbell, Bill Hendricks, and Pastors Sarah and Emily
 - 10:30: Worship Service, SNC
 - 11:30-1:00 pm: I Love to Tell the Story - Bible 101, FH. See announcements.
 - 3:00-5:00: Newcomers' Social, Nellie's Cave Park (1900 Grissom Lane)
 - 7:00: *Mere Christianity* book study, HCR. Led by Jack Call and Russell Gregory
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UPCOMING EVENTS

Mon., Oct. 9: Indigenous Peoples Day - Church office is closed.

- 1:30-3:00 pm: Lydia Circle, FH.
- 6:00 pm: Hildegard Circle meeting, TBA

Sat., Oct. 14: 4:00-6:00 pm: I Love to Tell the Story Social Hour, Eastern Divide (3175 Commerce Dr.). All are welcome, including children.

Sun., Oct. 15: International Mission Month - Guatemala

- 9:00 am: Newcomers' Class, WM
- 4:00-5:00 pm: Music for Mission concert with Fr. Sean Duggan, piano. Concert is free with an offering to support the Blacksburg Interfaith Food Pantry.
- 4:00-5:30: Interfaith Discussion Group, Location TBD
- 7:00: Session meeting, HCR