

# BLACKSBURG PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

## SERVICE OF WORSHIP FOR THE LORD'S DAY

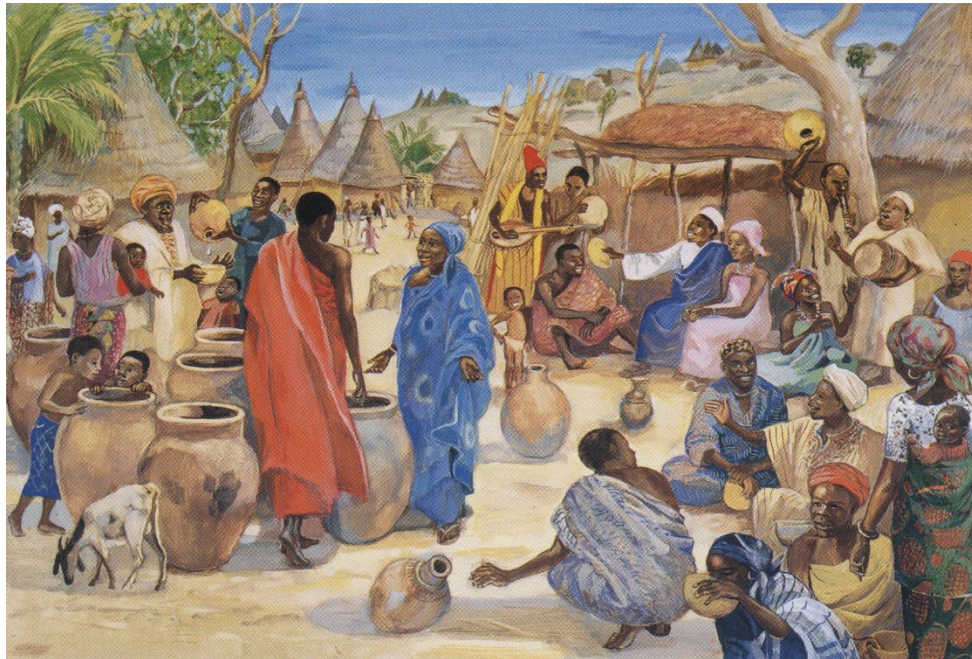
JANUARY 14, 2024

### Second Sunday after Epiphany

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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.

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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

❖ GATHERING AROUND THE WORD ❖

**Thought for Meditation:** "We are showered every day with gifts, but they are not meant for us to keep. Their life is in their movement, the inhale and the exhale of our shared breath. Our work and our joy is to pass along the gift..."

– Robin Wall Kimmerer

**Prelude:** "Wine of Peace"

Charles Camilleri

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Sarah Wiles & Sarah Windes

**Centering Music:** "Raise a Song of Gladness"

JUBILATE DEO

*(Sing 3 times)*

Hymn 155

**Raise a song of gladness, peoples of the earth.  
Christ has come, bringing peace, joy to every heart.  
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!  
Alleluia, alleluia, joy to every heart!**

❖ **Call to Worship**

Deb Call

Grace and peace be with you.

**And also with you.**

This is the day the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

There is joy in all:

**in the chapel of eggs I cook each morning,**

in the outcry from the kettle that heats my coffee each morning,

**in the spoon and the chair that cry "hello there" each morning,**

in the table that I set my silver, plate, cup upon each morning.

**All this is God, right here in my pea-green house each morning**

and I mean,

though often forget,

to give thanks,

to faint down by the kitchen table in a prayer of rejoicing.

So while I think of it,

**let me paint a thank-you on my palm**

**for this laughter of the morning,**

**lest it go unspoken.**

Come, friends, let us share our joy this morning!

❖ **Hymn 662:** "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies "

RATISBON

**Christ, whose glory fills the skies;**

**Christ, the true, the only light;**

**Sun of Righteousness, arise;**

**triumph o'er the shades of night;**

**Dayspring from on high, be near;**

**Daystar, in my heart appear.**

**Dark and cheerless is the morn**

**unaccompanied by thee;**

**joyless is the day's return**

**till thy mercy's beams I see;**

**till they inward light impart,**

**cheer my eyes and warm my heart.**

**Visit then this soul of mine;**

**pierce the gloom of sin and grief;**

**fill me, radiance divine;**

**scatter all my unbelief;**

**more and more thyself display,**

**shining to the perfect day.**

## Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

Source of overflowing life,  
we confess we're scared –  
scared we'll run out  
of time  
of money  
of energy  
of grace.

Wash over us once more.  
Remind us that your love never runs dry,  
that we need only hold out our hands  
and they will be filled to overflowing.

*(Silent prayer)*

### Assurance of Forgiveness

Hear and trust the good news: by grace our sins are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God!

### ❖ Grateful Response: "Love Has Come"

BRING A TORCH  
Hymn 110, v. 3

Love has come and never will leave us!  
Love is life everlasting and free.  
Love is Jesus within and among us.  
Love is the peace our hearts are seeking.  
Love! Love! Love is the gift we cherish.  
Love! Love! Praise to you, God on high!

### ❖ 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

Melody Zobel

*(Children in 1<sup>st</sup> 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

Creator of the cosmos, Breath of forgiveness, Source of life,  
open our eyes, as if for the first time,  
so that we might see your world  
with awe and wonder once again.

We often approach your Word  
with an analytical lens,  
wanting to make everything make sense.

For just a moment,  
help us put those instincts on pause.  
Give us space in our spirits to be astonished.  
Help us greet these words with curiosity and gratitude.  
Keep us curious about what they might do today  
in our hearts and our lives. Amen.

## Scripture

John 2:1-12, CEB

1 On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee. Jesus' mother was there, and 2 Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the celebration. 3 When the wine ran out, Jesus' mother said to him, "They don't have any wine." 4 Jesus replied, "Woman, what does that have to do with me? My time hasn't come yet." 5 His mother told the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." 6 Nearby were six stone water jars used for the Jewish cleansing ritual, each able to hold about twenty or thirty gallons. 7 Jesus said to the servants, "Fill the jars with water," and they filled them to the brim. 8 Then he told them, "Now draw some from them and take it to the headwaiter," and they did. 9 The headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine. He didn't know where it came from, though the servants who had drawn the water knew. The headwaiter called the groom 10 and said, "Everyone serves the good wine first. They bring out the second-rate wine only when the guests are drinking freely. You kept the good wine until now." 11 This was the first miraculous sign that Jesus did in Cana of Galilee. He revealed his glory, and his disciples believed in him. 12 After this, Jesus and his mother, his brothers, and his disciples went down to Capernaum and stayed there for a few days.

**Sermon:** Absurd Abundance

Rev. Sarah Wiles

**Hymn 156 (vv. 1-3):** "Sing of God Made Manifest"

SALZBURG

**Sing of God made manifest  
in a child robust and blest,  
to whose home in Bethlehem  
where a star had guided them,  
magi came and gifts unbound,  
signs mysterious and profound:  
myrrh and frankincense and gold  
grave and God and king foretold.**

**Sing of God made manifest  
when at Jordan John confessed,  
"I should be baptized by you,  
but your bidding I will do."  
Then from heaven a double sign —  
dove-like Spirit, voice divine —  
hailed the true Anointed One:  
"This is my beloved Son."**

**Sing of God made manifest  
when Christ came as wedding guest  
and at Cana gave a sign,  
turning water into wine;  
further still was love revealed  
as he taught, forgave, and healed,  
bringing light and life to all  
who would listen to God's call.**

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

<b>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.</b>	<b>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.</b>
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**Call to Offering**

**Offertory:** "With Songs of Rejoicing"

J.S. Bach  
arr. Hal Hopson

With songs of rejoicing sing praise to the Lord  
For God has done marvelous things.  
Break forth into joy! God's praises the lyre and trumpet employ.  
The floods clap their hands and the hills sing for joy.  
The seas with their roaring speak praise to God's name.  
Come, make a joyful noise, sing to the Lord. Alleluia.

❖ **Doxology:** "Jesus, Light of Joy"

LAUDA ANIMA  
Hymn 673, v. 1

Jesus, light of joy, surround us;  
let your splendid glory shine:  
source of every earthly blessing,  
heaven's everlasting sign.  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
we adore you, light divine.

❖ **Prayer of Dedication**

❖ BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD ❖

❖ **Hymn 541:** "God Be with You Till We Meet Again"

RANDOLPH

God be with you till we meet again;  
loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;  
unseen wings protecting hide you,  
daily manna still provide you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;  
when life's perils thick confound you,  
put unfailing arms around you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

God be with you till we meet again;  
keep love's banner floating o'er you;  
smite death's threatening wave before you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

❖ **Benediction**

**Postlude:** "Voluntary in A Major"

William Shelby



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Citations: Call to Worship adapted from "Welcome Morning," by Anne Sexton. Prayer of Illumination adapted from Rev. Sarah Speed, [sanctifiedart.org](http://sanctifiedart.org). Art: JESUS MAFA. The Wedding at Cana, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN, [diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48305](http://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=48305). Music: used with permission under One License #A-701634. All rights reserved.

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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:** Brian Smith

**Ushers:** Darrell Bosch, and Gillian, Natasha, and Todd Lowe

**Elder Serving Refreshments:** Gabe Minnich

**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](mailto: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.



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## ANNOUNCEMENTS



### New Weekly Adult Education Class

Bread of Life,  
Finding Community in the Gospel of John,  
Sundays, 9:00am, WM Led by Anna Bach,  
Linda King, and  
Pastors Emily and Sarah



**To Our House (TOH) has begun here at BPC, and volunteers are still needed:** TOH provides winter shelter for unhoused adults in the NRV and connects them with resources that lead to employment, housing, and long-term economic sustainability. Many of the guests who have found shelter through TOH have previously lived in the woods, caves, storm culverts, a friend's pickup truck, or a cardboard box. BPC is grateful for the ability to host TOH in our building for a week or two each year. Please contact Joan Dickinson at [jdickins@radford.edu](mailto:jdickins@radford.edu) for information.

- **Sat.-Fri., Jan. 13-19:** To Our House, FH: BPC is hosting clients overnight with other churches assisting with food, laundry, etc.
- **Sat.-Fri., Jan. 20-27:** To Our House, FH: BPC will host and provide food and other assistance this week. To volunteer, please see the TOH volunteer sign-up boards in the Gathering Space or you can sign up here: [blacksburgpres.org/local](https://blacksburgpres.org/local). Volunteer opportunities include bringing food, doing laundry, staying overnight, and setting up.

**The Day for All People (Wed., 01/17)** is the annual Advocacy Day organized by Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, bringing together people of faith and goodwill from across Virginia. In 2024, Advocacy Day is in Richmond with inspirational presentations, informative workshops, and effective advocacy on Wed., 01/17.

Join with other motivated Virginians to make your voices heard on economic, racial, and social justice issues, to learn about policy issue priorities and meet with your state legislators. A free bus ride is being provided to the event from Roanoke. If you are unable to attend in-person, there will be a virtual option to participate in the plenary sessions. Contact Melanie or Scott Smith for information ([melscofam@gmail.com](mailto:melscofam@gmail.com)).

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**Coming Soon: The 7pm Sunday night discussion group** will begin a class on Jesus and the Gospels: *An Understanding of Jesus for a Complex World*. Each class will feature a Great Courses lecture by Luke Timothy Johnson which will be followed by discussion facilitated by Russell Gregory and Jack Call. Contact Jack ([jcall@radford.edu](mailto:jcall@radford.edu)) or Russell ([russellgregor@gmail.com](mailto:russellgregor@gmail.com)) for details and watch for dates coming soon.

Blacksburg Presbyterian  
7pm Sunday evening  
discussion group

## Jesus and the Gospels

### An Understanding of Jesus for a Complex World

with lectures by Luke Timothy Johnson  
from The Great Courses



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#### THIS WEEK

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

All activities are open to everyone.

Contact Rhonda at [rhonda@blacksburgpres.org](mailto:rhonda@blacksburgpres.org) for more information.

#### **Sat., Jan. 13 – Sat. Jan. 27:**

- To Our House begins, FH. See announcements for details on how to volunteer.

#### **Sun., Jan. 14:**

- 9:00 am: Children and Youth Sunday School, various rooms
- 9:00: Adult Sunday School, WM. See announcements for details.
- 3:00 pm: NAACP Celebration in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Church on Main (550 N. Main St., Bburg)
- 5:00-7:30: Youth Group, El Rodeo (1540 S. Main St.) and bowling
- 7:00: *Mere Christianity* book study, HCR, with Russell Gregory and Jack Call

**Mon., Jan. 15:** Church office is closed – Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Day

#### **Tues., Jan. 16:**

- 7:30-9:00 am: Morningstars Bible Study, Zoom. Contact Pastor Sarah for link.
- 9:30-2:00 pm: Quilters, HCR (this Tuesday and next)
- 7:00-8:15 pm: Creation Care Team meeting, Zoom

#### **Wed., Jan. 17:**

- 5:00 am-5:00 pm: Day for All People, Richmond, VA. See announcements for details.
- 5:30: Handbell choir rehearsal, TBA
- 7:00: Choir rehearsal, choir room

#### **Thur., Jan. 18:**

- 3:30 pm: Community Ministries, Zoom
- 5:00-6:00 pm: Hangout Hour, Moon Hollow Brewery (4237 Prices Fork Rd.). Feel free to just show up.

#### **Sun., Jan 21:**

- 9:00 am: Children and Youth Sunday School, various rooms
  - 9:00: Adult Sunday School, WM. See announcements for details.
  - 11:30-1:30 pm: Youth Group – eat lunch and make dinner for To Our House clients
  - 4:00-5:30: Interfaith Discussion Group, Friends Meeting House, 404 Mt. Tabor Rd., Bburg
  - 7:00: Session meeting, HCR
  - *Not meeting this Sunday* - 7:00 pm: *Mere Christianity* book study, HCR, with Russell Gregory and Jack Call
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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### **Mon., Jan 22:**

- 1:00-3:00 pm: Knitwits, WM

### **Thur., Jan 25:**

- 7:30-9:00 pm: Faith Circle, TBA

### **Sat., Jan. 27:**

- 10:00-2:00 pm: Dialogue on Race Winter Summit, Christiansburg Middle School (125 Buffalo Dr., NW)

### **Sun., Jan. 28:**

- 3:00-5:00 pm: Presbyterian Women annual meeting, FH

### **Sun., Feb. 4:**

- 4:00-5:30 pm: Interfaith Discussion Group, TBA