



## **Blacksburg Presbyterian Church**

*Proclaiming God's Word  
Growing in faith and understanding  
Welcoming all  
Extending comfort and grace  
Working for justice and peace  
Nurturing creation*

Ministers - All Members  
Pastor – Catherine Taylor  
Interim Director of Music – Amy Cowan  
Director of Children and Youth Ministries - Susan Hunter  
Director of Communication and Church Life - Kendra Crabtree  
Office Manager - Sherry Ingham  
Custodian - Viola Howery  
Campus Minister, UKirk Ministry at Virginia Tech – Ginny Taylor-Troutman  
Mission Co-worker in Guatemala – Leslie Vogel  
Mission Co-workers in Bangladesh – (Our Mission Partners names cannot be listed in the bulletin as they are working in an area with terrorism and we do not want to risk their safety.)  
Mission Partner in Malawi – Dr. Ruth Shakespeare

† Please stand in body or in spirit.

**TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**  
**NOVEMBER 12, 2017**

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

*One of Jesus' most revealing one-liners is, "Rejoice only that your name is written in heaven!"  
If we could fully trust this, it would change our whole life agenda. – Richard Rohr*

**GATHERING AROUND THE WORD**

*The Prayers of the People are written by the congregation and read aloud as our corporate prayer. If you  
want to take part, write a one sentence prayer on the cards provided.  
No signatures, please. The cards will be collected during the second hymn.  
Together we pray whatever is on our hearts.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Reverend David Snyder

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**And also with you.** ... *(All are encouraged to sign the Friendship Pad in the pews. If you  
are a first-time visitor and leave an address, we can welcome you more fully.)*

PRELUDE

Jonathan Elmore, pianist

✠ CALL TO WORSHIP

Benjamin Bailey

We have gathered to commune with God, to meet God, to worship God.

**To this meeting we bring our hopes, our fears, our longing, our tears.**

We bring our doubt that God's promises can be true.

**But we also bring our yearning for the freedom to laugh, the courage to cry,  
the heart to be open, the faith to believe, and the deep desire to sing out in joy.**

✠ HYMN No. 611

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

HYMN TO JOY

✠ PRAYER OF APPROACH

**Made in your image, formed in your likeness, we carry your life within us, O God. In  
every person, in every race, in every nation on earth, O God, we look for your presence  
and long for your peace. Amen.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord, you know who we are. You know every hurtful thing we have done, and every help-  
ful thing we have failed to do. Focused on our own agendas and pursuing our own pur-  
poses, we miss out on the delight that comes when we offer ourselves to those who need us.  
So much joy and happiness could be ours, but we assume joy and happiness are achieved  
by devoting ourselves to passing trivialities. Accept our confession, we pray. Awaken us  
anew to your boundless grace, and move us to rejoice in the forgiveness you bestow by  
sharing your loving kindness in the messy, broken places we will surely encounter. ... (A  
time of silent confession follows.)**

In your mercy, Lord, **hear our prayers. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Friends, this is the good news! This is the gospel, and it is for all of us!

**Whatever we have done, and whatever we have failed to do, whoever we are,  
and whoever we wish we could be but are not,**

God has accepted us. God welcomes us. God washes us clean. God raises us up.

**We are forgiven. We are set free. In the grace God has shown us in Jesus Christ  
we are loved forever. Alleluia!**

†GRATEFUL RESPONSE No. 155 *Raise a Song of Gladness*

JUBILATE DEO

**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!**

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

The Peace of our Lord Jesus 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

*(Children 1<sup>st</sup> grade age and up are invited to remain in the sanctuary. Parents may take  
kindergarten and younger children downstairs to God's Garden or the nursery for nurture and care.)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

John 15:8-11

ANTHEM

*Keep Your Lamps*  
Adult Choir

arr. ANDRE THOMAS

Keep your lamps trimmed and burnin'  
The time is drawing nigh.  
Children, don't get weary  
'til your work is done.  
Christian journey soon be over,  
The time is drawing nigh.  
Keep your lamps trimmed and burnin'  
The time is drawing nigh.

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 118:21-29

SERMON

"What Joy There Is In Serving!"

Reverend David Snyder

PRAYER OF COMMITMENT

**RESPONDING TO THE WORD**

†HYMN No. 203

*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

CHEREPONI

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Congregation

OFFERING OF OUR LIVES

OFFERTORY

† DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

**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

**BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

† HYMN No.765

*May the God of Hope Go with Us*

ARGENTINA

† BENEDICTION

† POSTLUDE

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

### November 12, 2017

**Welcome to all who gather for worship today.** May each of us know something of God's grace and be moved toward deeper faith, sincere love, and service following Christ. No matter who you are, or what you are seeking, you are welcome here. **If you are seeking a church home, we invite you to explore all that happens in life and ministry in this church.**

**HEADSETS for the HEARING IMPAIRED** are available. Speak to an Usher or Gavin Faulkner to use them for the worship service.

**We are grateful for Dave Snyder who is our guest preacher today while Catherine is returning home from a conference for Johnson C. Smith Seminary's Board. Dave is a retired Presbyterian minister. We also give thanks for Benjamin Bailey who is our liturgist today. Ben is 10 years old, a fourth grader at Harding Elementary School. Ben is the son of Phil and Susan Bailey and grandson of Dave and Marti Snyder.**

**THE CELEBRATION FLOWERS in worship are given by Marilyn, Mark and Jon Hutchins in loving memory of David Hutchins.**

**Creation Care thought:** Give me fellowship with the beast and bird. Let me enter into sympathy with their hunger, their thirst, their weariness, their cold, their frequent homelessness. Let me give their wants a place in my prayers...Let me be to them what Thou hast been to me – a protector, a Providence.  
--George Matheson (1842-1906)

**BPC's Boy Scout Troop 44 will be selling popcorn in the Gathering Space following worship today.** This is part of their annual fundraiser. Please stop and show your support!

**Fall Art Exhibit in Westminster Hall: Lucas Cranach, Artist of the Reformation with Bob Hendricks.** One of the ways we remember the Reformation from 500 years ago is by the art work of Lucas Cranach the Elder, considered the most successful German artist of his time. He was a close friend of Martin Luther and he embraced the protestant reformation with enthusiasm. We are privileged to have the excellent photography of Bob Hendricks, who has studied and photographed Cranach's work. Bob will display his photos in Westminster Hall through November. **Bob Hendricks will be giving a second Art Forum today following worship in Westminster Hall for all who are interested.**

**BPC will be hosting the Peaks Presbytery meeting on Nov. 16 from 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.** Volunteers are needed throughout the day for various duties for different parts of the day. If you are interested in helping please sign-up and further instructions will be given. You can sign up online to volunteer at: <http://www.signupgenius.com/go/30e0b45aead2da0fc1-presbytery> or in the Gathering Space Welcome Window. If you need childcare, we will be providing childcare. Please email Kendra at [kendra@blacksburgpres.org](mailto:kendra@blacksburgpres.org) if you are interested.

**The November NAACP meeting will be held on Sunday, Nov. 19** at Shaeffer Memorial Baptist Church, 570 High Street, Christiansburg, VA at 3:30 p.m. (Please note this meeting is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday to avoid conflict with Thanksgiving weekend.) All are welcome.

### **SERVING TODAY**

<b><u>Church Opener:</u></b>	Craig Woolsey
<b><u>Elder of the Week:</u></b>	<b>Today:</b> Heather Polikoff <b>Mon-Sunday:</b> Jimmy Ritter
<b><u>Ushers:</u></b>	Jim Echols, Darrell Bosch, Barbara Michelsen and Court Bosworth
<b><u>Counters:</u></b>	Neal Boyd and Dorothy Domermuth

**THIS WEEK AT BPC - HCR-Hatcher Conference Room, WM-Westminster, FH-Fellowship Hall**

- Nov. 12 Pork and Bean Collection for the Montgomery County Christmas Store –Nov. 26  
Sunday school / SHIFT small groups meet at 9:00 a.m.  
Coffee Fellowship at 10:00 a.m.  
Worship at 10:30 a.m.  
Art Forum with Bob Hendricks following worship – WM  
Boy Scout Troop 44 selling popcorn after worship –Gathering Space  
Youth Group meets after worship to rake leaves
- Nov. 13 Hildegard Circle meets at 6:00 p.m. at Jan McGilliard’s home-  
305 Country Club Dr. SE, Blacksburg, 953-1366  
Faith Circle meets at 7:30 p.m. at Sarah Woolsey’s home-  
2015 Hardwick Street, Blacksburg, 540-558-8920
- Nov. 14 Tuesday Morningstars Bible Study at 7:30 a.m.- HCR  
Prayer Group meets at 11:00 a.m. – Prayer Room- All are welcome!  
Staff meets at 11:00 a.m. – HCR  
Children’s Ed Ministry meets at 12:30 p.m.
- Nov. 15 SHIFT Small Groups meet at 6:00 p.m. – dinner at 5:30 p.m.  
Adult Choir practice at 7:15 p.m.
- Nov. 16 BPC hosting Peaks Presbytery meeting 8:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**UPCOMING EVENTS AT BPC**

- Nov. 19 Session meets at 7:00 p.m.
- Nov. 23 Happy Thanksgiving – Church Office Closed
- Nov. 24 Church Office Closed
- Nov. 26 Deadline for Pork & Bean collection at BPC
- Dec. 2 Kids Fun Day - 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon
- Dec. 3 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Advent Workshop and Alternative Gift Fair 9:00 a.m. - FH
- Dec. 6 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Gingerbread/ Potluck Dinner at 5:30 p.m.
- Dec. 10 Nativity Presentation with Larry Bechtel at 9:00 a.m. – FH  
Chili Dinner & Caroling 5:00 p.m. at BPC, Eat together then off to carol!
- Dec. 17 Men of the Church Breakfast and Chimes 9:00 a.m. at BPC
- Dec. 24 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent– 10:30 a.m.  
Christmas Eve Worship:  
Family Service at 4:30 p.m. and Candlelight Service at 8:00 p.m.
- Dec. 25 Merry Christmas! No worship service today  
Christmas Day Lunch at Preston’s

# Advent Workshop and Alternative Gift Fair

December 3rd at 9am  
BPC Fellowship Hall

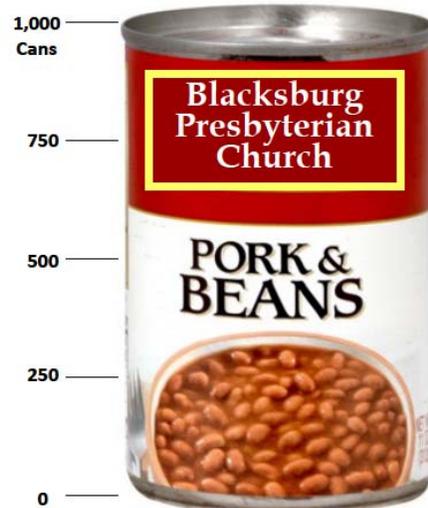
Alternative Gift Fair  
will also be held on  
Dec. 10th

The workshop will include activities for young and old, including an Advent wreath making station (suggested donation \$10).

The Alternative Gift Fair will include items from Guatemala and Malawi, cards from Presbyterian Women to support multiple local organizations, and hand-crafted items from the Quilters and Knit Wits with proceeds going to the Women's Resource Center.



**PORK AND BEAN  
COLLECTION FOR  
THE  
MONTGOMERY  
COUNTY  
CHRISTMAS  
STORE  
NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup>- 26<sup>th</sup> !**



**Help us meet our goal of 1,000 cans  
for the Montgomery County Christmas Store**

November 5th—26th, 2017

*Keep forgetting when you're at the store?*  
Write a check payable to BPC with 'Pork and Beans'  
in the subject line and the cans will be purchased for you!  
Checks can be placed in the collection plates  
or dropped off at the church office.