

The Crystal and the Rose

Many of us, like trees planted by streams of water, are deeply rooted in our love of God's creation. I am drawn to God through nature—spring wildflowers, bounteous summer gardens, glorious fall leaves. Years ago, my move from the relatively balmy climate of Virginia's Shenandoah Valley to the Chicago area challenged me to appreciate the spirituality of winter. Where could I find the God I love in the countless days of snow and ice?

Call to Worship

Leader: As we watch the newly fallen snow,

People: we pause to reflect on the purity of faith.

Leader: The sparkle of ice in the winter sun

People: reminds us to let our lives shine for Jesus.

Leader: The leafless trees and the waving ornamental grasses

People: bring to mind what appears dead yet comes to life under the watch of our eternal God.

Hymn

All beautiful the march of days

No. 159, *Hymnal: A Worship Book*

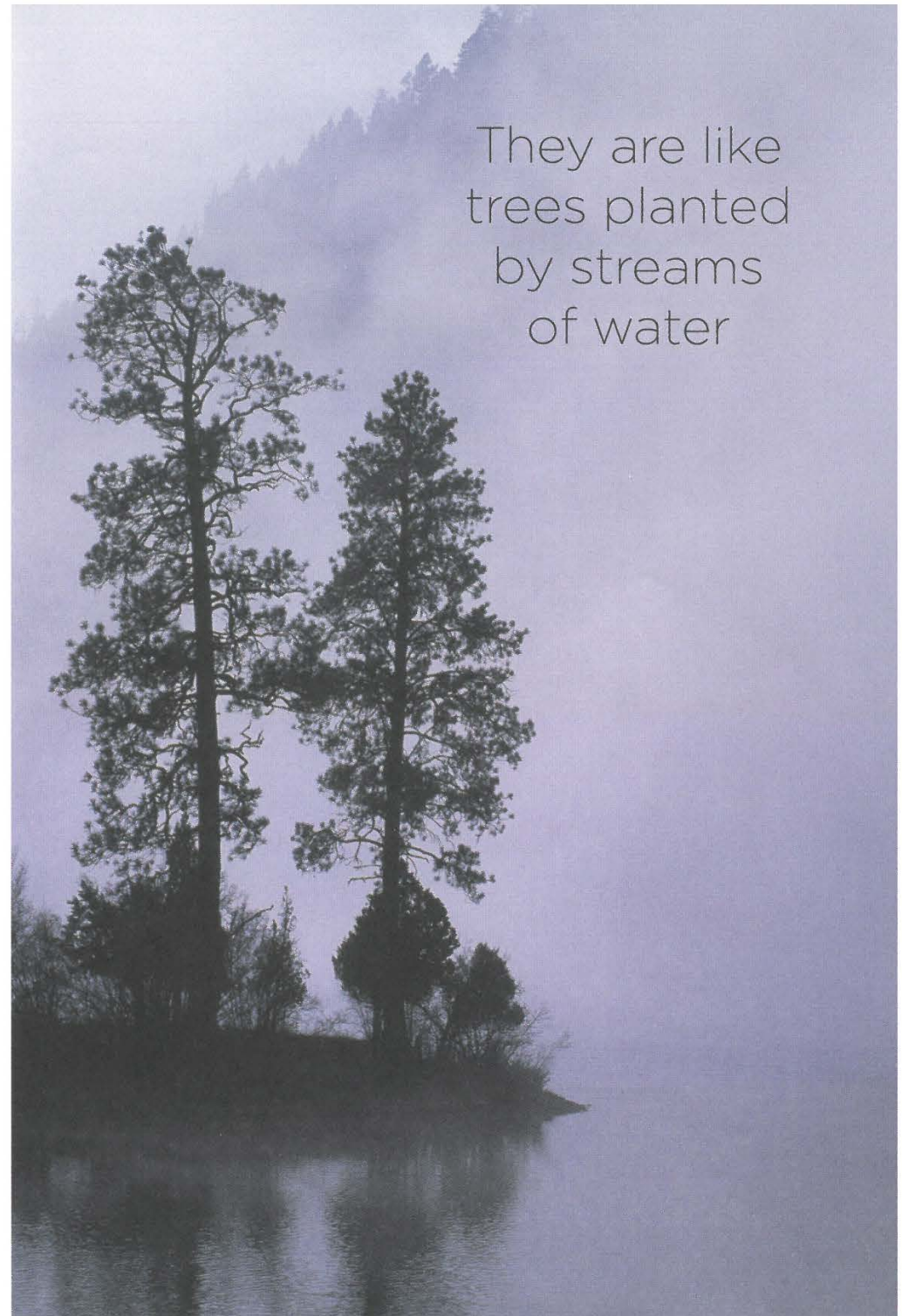
Gathering Prayer

We come before you this morning, God of snow and ice, God of wind and freezing rain, God of the ice crystal and the rose. During these winter days, we recognize that the sunny as well as the snowy days of life are gifts from you. We rejoice that your love can penetrate even the coldest of hearts, the most frozen of situations. We open our lives to you, praying that we will become deeply planted in the ways of Jesus, regardless of the climate of this world or the changing seasons around us. *Amen.*

—Marilyn Lerch
Central Church of the Brethren
Roanoke, Virginia

Text for today: "Happy are those who do not follow the advice of the wicked, or take the path that sinners tread, or sit in the seat of scoffers. . . . *They are like trees planted by streams of water*, which yield their fruit in its season, and their leaves do not wither" (Psalm 1:1, 3a, NRSV). **Bible readings for today:** Jeremiah 17:5-10; Psalm 1 (3); 1 Corinthians 15:12-20; Luke 6:17-26.

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BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

at Worship February 17, 2019 8:30 & 11:00 a.m.

“I choose to identify with the underprivileged. I choose to identify with the poor. I choose to give my life for the hungry. I choose to give my life for those who have been left out of the sunlight of opportunity. I choose to live for those who find themselves seeing life as a long and desolate corridor with no exit sign. This is the way I’m going....because I heard a voice saying, ‘Do something for others.’”

~Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.
from “*The Parable of the Good Samaritan*” (1966)

GATHERING

PRELUDE (11:00) Morning Hymns *The Brethren Hymnal* (1951)
Hymnal: A Worship Book (1992)

CONNECTING WITH EACH OTHER

Please sign and pass the *Friendship Register* pad located at the inside aisle of the pew. Signing helps us learn the names of those worshiping near us. After all have signed, the pad can be passed back to the inside aisle.

THE MALVERN CHIME Priory Church, Malvern, Worcestershire

***INVOCATION PRAYER** ~David R. Miller, adapted

***HYMN # 521** *Come, thou fount* NETTLETON

PROCLAIMING

YORFF ENSEMBLE (11:00) African Sunrise *Paul Bakeman*
Hey, Hey Jam *Brent Holl*

CHILDREN’S TIME (11:00) Josh Eye
Children of ALL ages are invited to the front of the sanctuary for a time of building upon and connecting to faith through stories and interactions.

ANTHEM (11:00) I Will Arise arr. *Martin*

MOMENT FOR MISSION “Be Prepared and Show UP” Bill Faw

***HYMN # 579** *Lift every voice and sing* ANTHEM

OFFERING

Invitation

Offertory

(8:30) We bring our tithes and offerings to the worship center.

(11:00) Ushers receive our tithes and offerings.

Fairest Lord Jesus (CRUSADER’S HYMN) *Frederick Swann*

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 6:17-26 *NRSV / The Message*

SERMON “*Plain Words*” Chris Zepp

RESPONDING

REFLECTIONS (8:30) ...a time for conversation.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Responsive Prayer of Confession

~*Feasting on the Word,*
Worship Companion, adapted

One: Merciful God, your call to discipleship is demanding.
You call us to reorder our lives
by the kingdom you are bringing in Jesus Christ.

All: **Yet we still pass by the ones you especially notice:
people who are poor and hungry; people who weep.
We have not stood with those who are hated, bullied,
and excluded.**

One: Comfortable with the way things are, we are too
complacent, even complicit with injustice and prejudice.

All: **Forgive us, O God, and turn us back to your gospel.
We pray this now, for our sake, and for the sake of the
world; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Spoken Prayer

Bill Faw

***HYMN # 142** *Brothers and sisters of mine* MINE ARE THE HUNGRY

***BENEDICTION** ~Carol Wise, adapted

POSTLUDE (11:00) Postlude on “Lift Every Voice and Sing” *John Barr*

* Rise as able in body and spirit.

MEETINGS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & NURTURE

February 17-23, 2019 (All events are p.m. unless noted)

This is a church events calendar and does not include all building events use.
Please be sure to schedule ALL EVENTS through the church office.

- Sun.** 9:30 & 10:30 a.m. Blood Pressure Clinic Lounge
Children's Worship during Worship at 11 – Agape Room
- Tues.** 7:00 Food Pantry Social Hall
- Wed.** 2:00 Book Study Lounge
5:15 Cherub Choir Rehearsal Agape Room
5:30 Wednesday Night Meal Social Hall
Catered by: Chick-fil-A
Menu: Nuggets, Chick-fil-A Original Sandwiches, Chilled Grilled Chicken Sub Sandwiches, Chilled Veggie Sub Sandwiches, Garden Salad, Fruit Tray, Cookies, Drinks
Suggested Donation: \$10 adults / \$5 kids
5:45 Carol Choir Rehearsal Agape Room
6:30 Yorffs Rehearsal Room # 35
7:00 Board of Administration Seekers Room
- Thurs.** 6:00 Brethren Student Movement Carter Center
6:30 Puppets Rehearsal Agape Room
7:30 Sanctus Choir Rehearsal Choir Room
- Sat.** 6:30 Family Game Night – Social Hall & Greeting Hall

NEXT SUNDAY– February 24, 2019 – 7th Sunday after the Epiphany

Worship: 8:30 & 11:00 a.m. – Sanctuary

Preaching: Pastor Jeff Carr

Sermon: “What To Do”

Scripture: Luke 6:27-38

Sunday School – 9:45 a.m. – Classrooms

Jr. High Youth Fellowship – 5 p.m. – Youth Room

BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

*An inclusive family of faith seeking to follow Jesus
and live the love of God.*

Our Mission...

As an inclusive community of faith, we commit ourselves to embody the love of God and to share our diverse lives and gifts with each other and the world. Through faith formation, worship, mission, and fellowship we boldly proclaim the peace and love of Christ. Together we work for justice, extend grace, and partner with God to offer abundant life, healing, and hope to our community and the world.

Our Values...

*Sharing life together and including all persons in our common life.
Growing in faith, compassion, and understanding.
Serving one another and our neighbor's good.
Sharing the love of God and the God that is love.*

PASTORAL MINISTRY STAFF

Jeff Carr – Senior Pastor

Chris Zepp – Associate Pastor

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITIES MINISTRY STAFF

Fortunato Correa – Custodian

Phil Flory – Treasurer

Karissa Hunt – Interim Financial Secretary

Shannon Puffenbarger – Administrative Assistant

Leon Rhodes – Head Teller

PROGRAM & MUSIC MINISTRY STAFF

Kathleen Arndt – Child Care Center Administrator

John Barr – Organist

Jim Benedict – Bell Choir Director

Josh Eye – Interim Christian Education Director

Mary Beth Flory – Pianist

Marianne Houff – Children's Choir Director

Ellsworth Neff – Sound, Light, Video Coordinator

Curtis Nolley – Sanctus Choir Director & Music Coordinator

Clarke & Hope Staton – Youth Ministry Coordinators

CONTACT INFORMATION

420 College View Drive, Bridgewater, VA 22812

www.bwco.org / (540) 828-3711

Normal office hours are Monday-Friday from 8 a.m.-Noon, and 1-5 p.m.

SUNDAY MORNING INFORMATION & TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS

HOSPITALITY CENTER in the Greeting Hall

Nametags; large-print Bibles, hymnals, & bulletins; listening receivers; and information are available here.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 9:45 a.m.

PARKING ASSISTANCE: 10:30-10:55 a.m. every Sunday.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME!

Children are always welcome among us and in our corporate worship gatherings. Activity bags are available in the greeting hall for their use and enjoyment. Additionally, childcare for children ages birth to kindergarten is available as well as a "cry room" for those who wish to listen and see the worship service in a separate room from the sanctuary. Ushers are more than willing to help you locate these resources.

Decorators – Heather Barkey & Nikki Watson

Deacon Caregivers – Alice Lee & Jesse Hopkins

Fellowship Host – Mac Bair

Head Usher – Don Remnant

Pianist (8:30) – Cindy Fike

Van Driver – Brad Neher

Worship Leader – Bill Faw

ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP FOR SUNDAY: 2/10/19

Worship Attendance: 8:30 – 19 11:00 – 250 Sunday School: 129

Pledges & Envelope Giving	\$16,677.93
Loose Offering	824.11
<i>Messenger</i> Subscriptions	30.00
Books	20.00
Wednesday Night Meals	211.00
Backpack Program	25.00

PASTOR JEFF is off this weekend through Sunday. He will return to his regular work schedule on Monday, February 18.

TODAY'S ANTHEM TEXT: *Joseph Hart, 1759*

I will arise.

I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;

In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.

Come ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;

Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and pow'r.

I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;

In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.

Come ye thirsty, God's free bounty glorify;

True belief and true repentance, ev'ry grace that brings you nigh.

I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;

In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.

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COMPELLING VISION SESSIONS CONTINUE

Help to shape the "Compelling Vision" being formulated for the Church of the Brethren by participating in one or more of these district sessions, all on Sunday afternoons, 3-5 p.m.

Today - Bridgewater Retirement Community's Custer Room

(302 N. Second Street, Bridgewater)

Feb. 24 - New Hope (12768 Frost Road, Dunmore, W.Va.)

Attendance is not restricted to those in each section – you are encouraged to choose a session (or more than one) that is conveniently located and aligns with your schedule.

2019 DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE

Copies of the newest Congregational Contacts and Organizational Directories are now available! Hard copies may be picked up in the Greeting Hall. If you reserved a copy in previous weeks, simply take your copy from the "reserved" box and cross your name(s) off the list. These directories are now printed in-house, so if they run out, simply write down your name on the tablet provided indicating which of the directories you would like, and come back to pick them up next week (or stop by the office). Large-print editions are also available by request. Mobile-friendly E-versions are also available on the members section of our website (bwcob.org) or by contacting the church office. A pictorial update will also be released in the coming months.

Luke 6:17-26 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)
Jesus Teaches and Heals

¹⁷ He came down with them and stood on a level place, with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. ¹⁸ They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases; and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. ¹⁹ And all in the crowd were trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Blessings and Woes

²⁰ Then he looked up at his disciples and said:

“Blessed are you who are poor,
for yours is the kingdom of God.

²¹ “Blessed are you who are hungry now,
for you will be filled.

“Blessed are you who weep now,
for you will laugh.

²² “Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man.

²³ Rejoice in that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven; for that is what their ancestors did to the prophets.

²⁴ “But woe to you who are rich,
for you have received your consolation.

²⁵ “Woe to you who are full now,
for you will be hungry.

“Woe to you who are laughing now,
for you will mourn and weep.

²⁶ “Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is what their ancestors did to the false prophets.