

All Things Created

In the dark night sky, I always look for the North Star, Polaris. It seems to hold still, positioned due north, while the rest of the sky appears to move around it. Once you find it, though, you can easily locate the Little Dipper, the Big Dipper, and so on. The North Star is the starting point, whether you are crossing an ocean, getting your bearings while lost in deep wilderness, or just finding your way home. Sailors relied heavily on the North Star long before detailed maps and modern-day GPS services. With the night sky and just a hand, a ship could be guided to its destination.

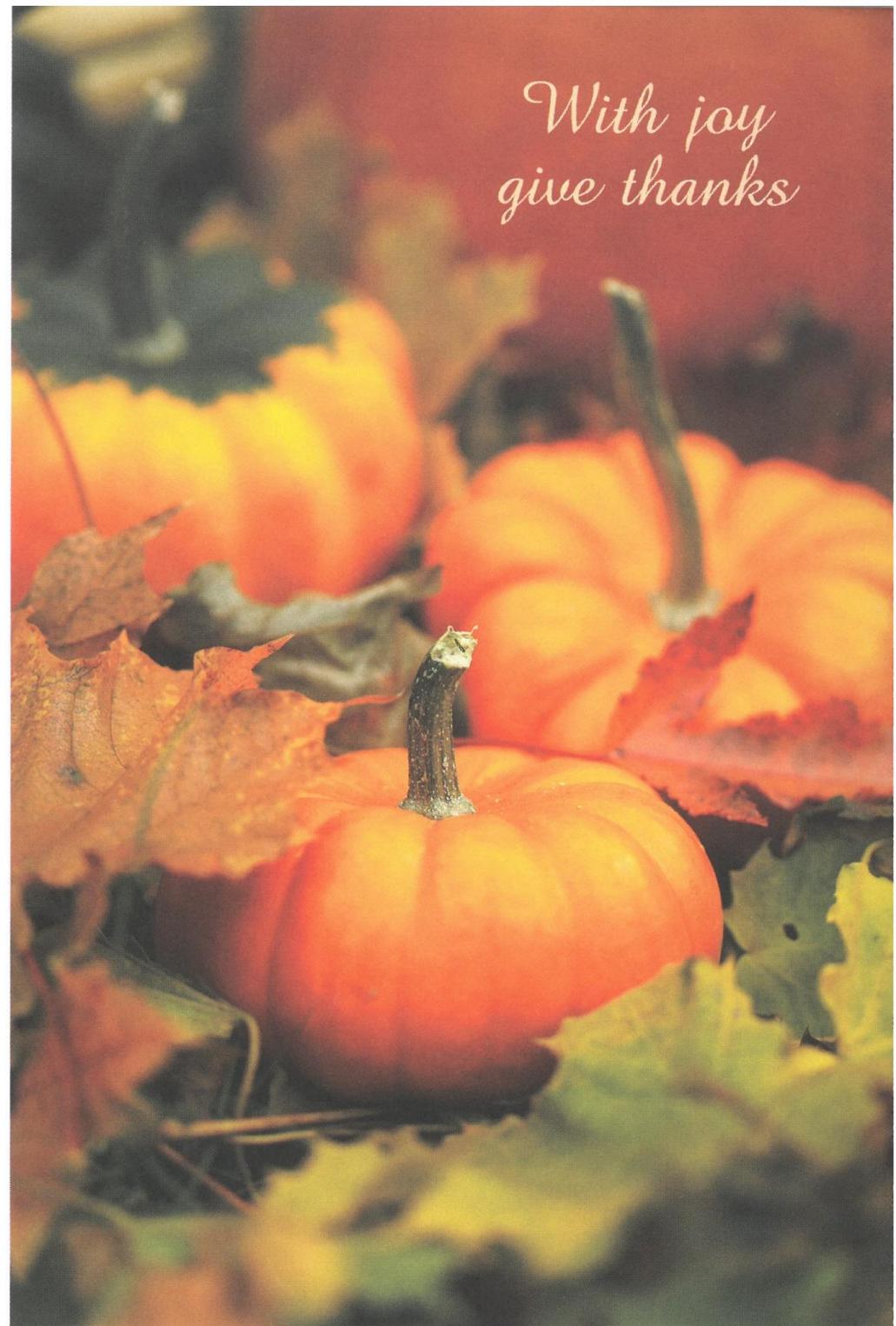
Going to church camp as a kid, I felt it was a treat to look through a telescope and find the constellations. It was especially easy to see them in a place with no light pollution. I remember going home and gathering up a blanket and a pair of old binoculars so I could lie in our cow pasture after dark and find them again. Studying these ancient pictures, drawn in someone's imagination a long time ago, I couldn't help but feel very small in the universe. A few years ago, my brother showed me an app on his smartphone that could show you the night sky and all the constellations, even in the daylight. The stars are all there, even when we can't see them.

In Jesus, our earthly image of the invisible God, we find the head of the church, our guide and starting point. In the heavens and on earth, out of the darkness and in daylight, in the past and into the future, Jesus holds all things together. For this, we give thanks.

—Joanna Willoughby
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Text for today: "May you be made strong with all the strength which comes from his glorious power, so that you may be able to endure everything with patience. And *with joy give thanks* to the Father, who has made you fit to have your share of what God has reserved for his people in the kingdom of light. He rescued us from the power of darkness and brought us safe into the kingdom of his dear Son, by whom we are set free, that is, our sins are forgiven. Christ is the visible likeness of the invisible God. He is the first-born Son, superior to all created things. For through him God created everything in heaven and on earth, the seen and the unseen things, including spiritual powers, lords, rulers, and authorities. God created the whole universe through him and for him" (Col. 1:11-16, *GNT*). **Bible readings for today:** Jeremiah 23:1-6; Psalm 46; Colossians 1:11-20 (12); Luke 23:33-43.

11-24-19, Reign of Christ, Thanksgiving Day (USA, 28). Printed in the USA
Worship resource © 2019 Brethren Press



BRIDGEWATER CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

at Worship November 17, 2019 11:00 a.m.

*I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.*

~ Psalm 104:33

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Tocatta in F (section one) *D. Buxtehude*
"All Glory Be to God on High" *J. S. Bach*
"Rejoice in the Lord allways" attr. *John Redford*

WELCOME AND SHARING THE WORK OF THE CHURCH

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

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

SVCC Concert Choir – SSA* Group

[soprano, soprano, alto]
Gloria Tibi from *Mass* by *Leonard Bernstein*
Glory to you; Glory to the Father and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
We praise you, we adore you, we glorify you, we bless you.
Jessenia Gomez, soloist

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 96

One: O sing to the Lord a new song;
All: Sing to the Lord, all the earth.
One: Sing to the Lord, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day.
**All: Declare his glory among the nations,
his marvelous works among all the peoples.**
One: For great is the Lord,
All: Greatly to be praised.

***HYMN # 44** *When in our music God is glorified* ENGLEBERG
(vv. 1 & 2 – All, v. 3 – Men, v. 4 – Women, v. 5 – All)

*INVOCATION

* Rise as able in body and spirit.

PROCLAIMING

CHILDREN'S TIME

Josh Eye and Agatha

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

Revelation 1:1-3

SVCC CONCERT CHOIR – SATB**

[soprano, alto, tenor, bass]

John the Revelator

Sean Ivory & Paul Caldwell

TIME OF PRAYER

Community Joy and Concern

Hymn # 353 *Lord, listen to your children* CHILDREN PRAYING

Prayer of the Community

- *adapted, Ted Loder*

RESPONDING

CALL TO GIVING

Offertory

SVCC Concert Choir – SSA* Group

Ushers receive our tithes and offerings.

Puer Nobis Nascitur *Andrea Ramsey*

Unto us is born a Son. Ruler of the angels.

In this world, He will live and grow. Lord of lords.

Emma Tolman, soloist

Prayer of Dedication

SVCC CONCERT CHOIR – ALL

Et Exultavit from *Magnificat* *Antonio Vivaldi, ed. Janet Galván*

And my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior.

Because He hath regarded the humility of His servant:

For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed.

Because He that is might hath done great things to me; and holy is his name.

So Fair and Bright

Bob Chilcott

REFLECTION – Psalm 105:1-6

Christy Dowdy

***HYMN # 580** *My life flows on* HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING

*BENEDICTION

***CHORAL BENEDICTION # 429** *Go now in peace* *Natalie Sleeth*

*POSTLUDE

Festival Postlude

Domenico Zipoli

WE WELCOME the **Shenandoah Valley Children's Choir** to worship this morning. Led by artistic and executive director, Dr. Janet M. Hostetter, with assistant director, Joy Anderson, the elite Concert Choir offers advanced training for both treble singers and the changing male voice. All are invited to participate in the mission of SVCC by sharing in a free-will offering designated for student scholarships. An offering basket is located in the greeting hall. SVCC's mission is to nurture young people by developing excellent musicianship, creating artistic choral performances, and fostering meaningful relationships. Checks may be written to "SVCC" and are tax deductible.

SVCC LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

"Gloria Tibi" soloist – Jessenia Gomez

"Puer Nobis" soloist – Emma Tolman

Pianist – Tracey Reed

Percussionist – Joshua Cummings

SATB Concert Choir Director – Joy Anderson

SVCC Artistic and Executive Director – Dr. Janet M. Hostetter

WANNA HAVE SOME CHRISTMAS FUN?

The children of our congregation will perform selections from their Christmas program, *Carriers of the Light*, on our church float during the Bridgewater Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 7. Supersize stars will adorn the float. This Wednesday before and after the Fellowship Meal, we will be hot gluing 100 yardsticks into 20 stars. Bring your glue gun and help complete the first stage of this project.

MEETINGS & OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVICE & NURTURE

November 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 a.m.	Bell Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
	9:30 & 10:30 a.m.	Blood Pressure Clinic	Lounge
	5:00	Part II of Series on Service [sponsored by Brethren & Mennonite Heritage Center]	Sanctuary
	8:00	BSM Leadership Team	Lounge
Tues.	7:00	Food Pantry	Social Hall
Wed.	2:00	Pastor's Book Study	Lounge
	5:30	Wednesday Night Meal <i>Prepared by Jalapeño Southwest Grill</i> <i>Menu: Choice of Burrito or Quesadilla, Chips & Salsa</i> <i>Suggested Donation: \$10 – adults / \$5 - kids</i>	Social Hall
	5:30	Cherub Choir Rehearsal	Agape Room
	6:00	Carol Choir Rehearsal	Agape Room
	6:45	Yorffs Rehearsal	Room # 35
	7:00	Board of Administration	Seekers Room
	Thurs.	6:00	Brethren Student Movement
	7:00	Puppets Rehearsal	Agape Room
	7:30	Sanctus Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room

NEXT SUNDAY– November 24, 2019

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

Youth Sunday – worship planned and led by our youth

“Be Strong and Courageous”

Scripture: Joshua 1:9

Bell Choir Rehearsal – 9 a.m. – Choir Room

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

Assembling of College Care Packages – Lounge

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

Christy Dowdy – *Interim Senior Pastor*
Chris Zepp – *Associate Pastor*

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FACILITIES MINISTRY STAFF

Fortunato Correa – *Custodian*
Phil Flory – *Treasurer*
Karissa Hunt – *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*
Kasey Carns – *Ministry Intern*
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.bwcob.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.

Decorator – Heather Barkey & Becky Replogle

Fellowship Host – Tim Kreps

Deacon Caregivers – David & Lori Lineweaver

Head Usher – Palmer Lee Berry

Van Drivers – Wayne & Mary Ann Angleberger

ATTENDANCE / STEWARDSHIP FOR SUNDAY: 11/10/19

Worship Attendance: 8:30 – 19 11:00 – 239 Children's – 26

Sunday School: 124

Pledges & Envelope Giving	\$17,871.80
Loose Offering	731.20
<i>Messenger</i> Subscriptions	30.00
Scouting Program	250.00
Rent – Refugee House	800.00
Wednesday Night Meals	313.00
Nigeria EYN	100.00
Habitat House	2,000.00
Youth Programs	1,117.00
Friendship Circle	150.00

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING

You can help those less fortunate by signing up to **Ring the Bell** and staff the Salvation Army booth at Bridgewater Foods Supermarket. Our church will staff the booth Wednesday-Friday, December 4-6. Wednesday and Friday hours will be Noon 'til 7 p.m. and Thursday will be 9 a.m.-7 p.m. Sign-up sheets are on the greeting hall hospitality desk today for you to select a time convenient for you. You can staff the booth by yourself for two hours or sign up with a friend and each ring the bell for an hour. Your participation is very much appreciated!

CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR LOCAL CHILDREN

BWCOB is partnering with Harrisonburg-Rockingham Social Services to provide gifts for local children and adults. To participate, select a gift tag from the display in the Greeting Hall **today**, purchase the gift(s) requested (\$25 range), and return the wrapped gift(s) to the Greeting Hall by **November 24**. It is very helpful that each wrapped gift have the gift tag firmly attached and that any additional packages have the identifying number and name.

AED WORKSHOP

Do you know what AED stands for and how one works? AED is an Automatic External Defibrillator and Brad Neher will be available in the Agape Room on Sunday, November 24, to answer questions and give a refresher course on the use of our AED (located in the greeting hall). This event will follow Worship at 11 and anyone is welcome to attend.

ON DISPLAY IN THE LIBRARY

The library has a display of books on Thanksgiving and Gratitude. Included are old favorites for the young at heart, such as The Berenstain Bears Give Thanks and Just so Thankful, by Mercer Mayer. Older readers may enjoy Too Blessed to be Stressed: 3-Minute Devotions for Women or How will I Make it Through the Holidays?

BRETHREN DISASTER MINISTRIES TRIP

December 1-8, 2019 to Jacksonville, FL

Consider joining the 4 persons who have signed up to go to Florida to help on the project. Sign up today in the greeting hall or talk with Chuck Clouse (828-4059, chuckc2205@yahoo.com) with any questions.

CARE PACKAGES FOR COLLEGE STUDENTS

As the fall progresses toward winter, and our thoughts turn from Halloween to Thanksgiving to Advent and Christmas, our college students have a few extra things on their minds – exams, final papers, and more exams. So to show them a little extra love during this stressful time, we will once again be sending “Care Packages” to our students near and far. We are inviting you to help us fill them with lots of goodies. Some suggestions:

Microwave popcorn

Hot Chocolate Packs

Bags of individually wrapped snack size candy

Prepackaged cookies, crackers, granola bars, etc.

Snack size raisins, peanuts, etc.



Throughout the month of November there will be collection bins in the Greeting Hall for you to make contributions to this effort. We will divvy up all contributions, supplement where necessary, and then ship the packages off to the students.

If you wish, you may also contribute \$\$\$ for supplementing and mailing the packages. Donations should be marked “College Care Packages” and can be dropped in the offering plate or given to Pastor Chris no later than next Sunday, November 24.

If you would like to help distribute the goodies, fill the boxes, and prep for delivery, we will be doing so next Sunday during the Sunday School hour and after worship in the church Lounge. Materials will be ready first thing in the morning and work will continue into the afternoon until they are finished. Feel free to stop in and help out for a little or a lot as you are able!

P.S. If your child / grandchild, etc. is currently attending a school other than Bridgewater College, we need a CURRENT mailing address to get a package to them! Please contact the church office by November 22 to ensure that we have their most up-to-date mailing address.

Thanks for your help in this ministry of care and hospitality!