

BROWNSON

MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A missional community called to love and live in Christ

November 30, 2025



2025 Session of Brownson

Alex Bowness | Andrew Benbow | Anne Friesen | Art Edgerton | Betsy Robinson | Bill Berger
Chris Hunt | B. Christian Freberg | David Malan | David Wood | Gena Smith | Jane Howard | Kara Vonderkall
Kamron Monroe | Kathy McPherson | Keith Walvoord | Lee Pittman | Lisa Hughes | Mandy Berg
Mollie Calhoun | Morgan Strickland | Pat Henry | Roy Cameron | Ryan Morrison | Luke Markotich (Y) | Janie Monroe (Y)

Rev. John Hage—senior pastor
Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin—associate pastor for congregational care and connection
Rev. Austin Vernon—associate pastor of discipleship and missions
Kelli Garbett—director of children and their families
Erin Pollock—director of youth and their families
Amy Shortt—director of music ministries and organist

330 South May Street, Southern Pines, North Carolina 28387
www.brownsonchurch.org — 910.692.6252
Sunday Worship | 9 & 11:10 AM
Livestream | 11:10 AM



Gathering

Please pass the Friendship Pad down each pew and back again after signing. If you are visiting, please provide your email address or phone number as we would love to connect with you. Please print legibly.

Prelude	<i>Twos in the Moon of Wintertime</i> Amy Shortt, organ	French Canadian Melody
Ritual of Friendship	The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And also with you.	
News of the Church Alive	Rev. Austin Vernon, <i>Associate Pastor of Discipleship and Missions</i>	

The Praise of God

Lighting of the Advent Candle	(9:00) Ashley Maiers (11:10) Evelyn Cunningham	
Advent Hymn 88	O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.	
Advent Prayer	O come, O come, Emmanuel. Into our fear, bring your comfort. Into our worry, bring your strength. Into our waiting, bring your holy peace. Do not be afraid—Christ is coming. Amen.	
+Hymn 82	<i>Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus</i>	HYFRYDOL

Confessing

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Coming Christ, you may not find us as you hoped. We've looked away from signs we do not wish to see. We've stopped listening to distress we do not wish to hear. We are numb to inconvenient truths. Keep us alert, O God, to the needs of our neighbors. Revive our hearts laden with compassion fatigue. Sharpen our minds clouded by worries. Sober our lives addicted to privilege. Show us the signs of your coming, that we may stand before you, the Son of Man, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Kyrie



Cantor to sing first. Congregation on repeat

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

The Peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

The passing of the peace is an element of worship which traditionally follows the assurance of pardon. Sharing a sign of peace signifies our reconciliation and peace with God and one another. You are invited to pass the peace in the manner that is most comfortable to you.

+Congregational Response

We Are Forgiven

Hal H. Hopson, 1995

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God. (repeat)

The Proclamation of the Word

Moment with Children

Kelli Garbett, *Director of Children and their Families*

Children age four to fifth grade may depart for Kids Worship.

We have a nursery for children ages 0-3. There is also a family room for watching the service in the Parlor.

Song of Illumination #177

I Will Come to You

You are Mine

Do not be afraid, I am with you. I have called you each by name.

Come and follow me, I will bring you home, I love you and you are mine.

Congregation to join on repeat.

Scripture Lesson	Luke 1:5-25 The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.	Holy Bible, page 933
Sermon	A Hard – Won Hope	Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, Assoc. Pastor
+Hymn 128	<i>Infant Holy, Infant Lowly</i>	W ZLOBIE LEZY

Responding

According to the PCUSA Book of Order, the Affirmation of Faith is a response to the Word proclaimed that affirms our faith in the holy, triune God. The affirmation of faith can be drawn from a variety of sources, including Scripture, creeds, confession, catechisms, hymns, or personal testimony.

+Affirmation of Faith	<i>Confession of Belhar 10.5</i> We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; That the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness by both word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells; that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world. Amen.	Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, Associate Pastor
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+Gloria	<i>Gloria Patri</i> Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be; world without end. Amen. Amen.	GREATOREX
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Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer	Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.
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Invitation to the Offering

Offertory	<i>O Come Redeemer of the Earth</i> (9 AM) Trio (11:10 AM) The Chancel Choir	Brian Hanson
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+Presentation of Gifts	<i>Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow</i> Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.	OLD HUNDREDTH
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+Prayer of Thanksgiving	(9 AM) Luke Markotich (11:10 AM) Janie Monroe
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Departing

+Hymn 177	<i>I Will Come to You</i>	SIMMONS
+Benediction		Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, <i>Associate Pastor</i>
+Choral Response	<i>Go Ye Now in Peace</i> The Chancel Choir	

A moment of silence followed by three chimes, signifying the Trinity, concludes Worship.

Postlude	<i>And the Word Was Made Flesh</i> Amy Shortt, Organ	arr. Plainchant
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Announcements

90 Years of Grace: God's Faithfulness, Our Story

If you haven't yet turned in your pledge for 2025, please find pledge cards in the Narthex or you can submit your pledge online: brownsonchurch.org/give.

The Presbyterian Women will be selling note cards in the Atrium from 10-11 AM each Sunday through December. Please plan to stop by for a package of eight of our own Linda Bryant's original designs for \$12.50. Proceeds support Mission initiatives.

Our Coat Drive has begun! We will be collecting new or gently used children's coats throughout the month of November to be distributed to Southern Pines Elementary in December.

Caroling & Crockpots – Sunday December 7 at 2:45 PM

Join us for our annual tradition of Christmas caroling! We will gather at Penick Village at 2:45 PM to sing to their residents, then divide into groups to sing to several of our homebound members throughout Southern Pines and Pinehurst. We will then come back to church at 5 PM for a Crockpot soup dinner! We hope you will join us for this fun and festive event!

Prayer Shawl Sunday – December 7

On Sunday December 7, we will recognize the gifts of our Prayer Shawl ministry by inviting all who have received a shawl to wear it in church! We would love to see how many people have been touched by this ministry. Please wear your shawl Dec. 7 in worship so all can see God's love at work through this ministry!

Coalition Christmas (Empty Stocking) – Consider sharing Christ's love this Christmas season by providing gifts for a local family in need. Families are available for distribution. To be paired with a family, please contact. Caryl Schunk (336-312-2216; cschunk@guilford.edu) or Chris DiMarco (910-528-5169; cdi-marco@nc.rr.com). Donations are also being accepted to pay for meal vouchers.

Holiday Flowers – All are welcome to dedicate Poinsettias for Christmas by using the Special Offerings envelope in the pews. When a dedication is received, you will be sent an email to confirm your dedication. If Holiday Flowers are dedicated, but confirmation is not received, please call Lia at the church office at 910-692-6252. Deadline to submit dedications is December 15.

Santa's Workshop: Join us on **December 10** as Brownson volunteers assist low-income families at Northern Moore Family Resource Center in Robbins. Volunteers help parents shop for clothing, shoes, books & toys! Shifts are 8:30-10:00 AM, 10:00 AM-11:30 AM, 12:30-2:00 PM, 2:00-3:30 PM, 3:30-5:00 PM, and 5:00-6:30 PM! To sign up for a shift, please contact Carol Haney at carolhaney13@gmail.com

Celebration for Austin Vernon. Join us in the Atrium on Sunday, December 7 at 12:30 PM to wish Austin farewell.

Serving Today

Thank you to our Greeters serving today:

(9 AM) Head Usher: Alan Beck, Paula Zellers, Marjorie Heffner, Kelley and Chris Kibler, Mary Hamblen

(11:10 AM) Head Usher: Alex Bowness, Betsy Robinson, Anita Emery, Chan and Lucy Roberts, Susan Bowness, Pat Henry

Music Notes

Our Chancel Choir is preparing music for the Advent season. If you would like to sing with us on Cantata Sunday or for Christmas Eve Candlelight Service of Lessons and Carols, you are welcome! The Chancel Choir rehearses on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM. The Children's Choir and Youth Choirs will be a part of this year's Cantata, too! The youth rehearse on Sunday at 4:15 PM and children at 5:00 PM in the sanctuary. It's not too late to register and we would love to include all youth and children! Contact Amy Shortt, Director of Music Ministries at music@brownsonchurch.org for questions or to register.

Prayers and Praise

Today's **Chancel Flowers** are dedicated to the Glory of God given to our Brownson family that we are thankful for all year and have enriched our lives more than we can express. Zach and Axia Wilson.

Hospital/Rehab: Pat Copley (MRH)

Do not Be Afraid

God's Presence Through Fear and Faith 2025 ADVENT

Sunday, November 30 – First Sunday of Advent

9 & 11:10 AM—Traditional Service

10 AM—Higher Grounds and Connect Groups

Sunday, December 7—Second Sunday of Advent

9 & 11:10 AM—Traditional Service with Holy Communion

10 AM—Higher Grounds and Connect Groups

2:45 PM—Caroling at Penick Village

5:00 PM—Crockpot Soup Dinner

Sunday, December 14 – Third Sunday of Advent

9 & 11:10 AM Christmas Cantata

10 AM—Higher Grounds and Connect Groups

Thursday, December 18—The Longest Night

6 PM—A Christmas Service for the Soul

Sunday, December 21 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

9 & 11:10 AM Traditional Service

10 AM—Higher Grounds and Connect Groups

Wednesday, December 24—Christmas Eve

4 PM—Service for Families

6 PM—Service with Candlelight, Carols and Communion

Sunday, December 28—One Service

11:10 AM—Hymn Sing Worship Service

Sunday Morning

Kids, pre-K through grade 5, are invited after Moment with the Children at both services to join Kids Worship. Parents, if your child is participating, please fill out a Brownson Kids sticker for each child, place it on them before they come to the front. Stickers are in the pews.

The Living Word Today—10 AM, Conference Room A

The Ligon Class—10 AM, Conference Room B

Donuts and Devotionals—10:15 AM, Conference Room C

Kids & Youth Connect

KIDS CONNECT

There will be no Kids Connect tonight due to the Thanksgiving holiday. Check your email for announcements about Chili and Caroling and the Advent milestones sessions beginning next week.

If you have any questions about kids programs, please reach out to Kelli at children@brownsonchurch.org.

YOUTH CONNECT

There is no youth group tonight. We'll see you next week!

High school Bible study is Thursday morning 7:30-8:20 AM at PineScone Southern Pines. If you have any questions about youth ministry, please contact Erin Pollock at youth@brownsonchurch.org.

Local Missions | Ways to Serve

SANDHILLS COALITION

DONATION PRIORITIES: Peanut Butter, Jelly, Rice and Mac & Cheese.

DROP OFF LOCATION: Baskets in the Narthex

Questions? Contact Caryl Schunk, cschunk@guilford.edu.