

BROWNSON

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

September 6, 2026

DO NOT
be afraid.

MATTHEW 14:22-33

2026 SESSION OF BROWNSON

Alex Bowness | Anne Friesen | Art Edgerton | Betsy Robinson | Bill Berger | Charles Harris
Chris Hunt | B. Christian Freberg | David Malan | Donna Chapin | Farra Wilson | Gena Smith
Jane Howard | Jan Stone | Jeff Ward | John Krahnert | Kara Vonderkall
Keith Walvoord | Lisa Hughes | Mandy Berg | Patrick Depenbrock | Pat Henry | Roy Cameron | Ryan Morrison
Ruth Burgin | Hardin Freberg (Y) | Ella Hall (Y)

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

330 South May Street, Southern Pines, North Carolina 28387
www.brownsonchurch.org — 910.692.6252
Sunday Worship | 10:30 AM
Livestream | 10:30 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 write legibly.

Prelude

Improvisation on HYFRYDOL

arr. Spratlan

Amy Shortt, organ

Ritual of Friendship

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

News of the Church Alive

Rev. John Hage, *Senior Pastor*

Minute for Mission

Stephen Ministry

Charlene Kinelski and Angela Zumwalt

The Praise of God

+Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
 who made heaven and earth.
When the winds rise and the waters are rough,
 we will trust in the Lord.
When we cannot see what lies ahead,
 we will remember that Christ is with us.
When fear tells us to turn back,
 we will listen for the voice of Jesus: "Do not be afraid."
We do not gather because we know what the future holds;
 we gather because we trust the One who holds the future.
Christ is with us. Christ is leading us.
 And together, we will follow where Christ calls.
Let us worship God.

Rev. John Hage, *Senior Pastor*

+Hymn 509

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

HOLY MANNA

Confessing

Call to Confession

Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, *Associate Pastor*

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, we confess that we are often afraid of what we cannot control. We hold tightly to what is familiar and struggle to trust you when the plan ahead is uncertain. We confess that we sometimes see only the wind and the waves and forget that you are walking towards us. Forgive our fear. Forgive our resistance. Forgive us when we place our trust in our own plans rather than in your presence. Give us courage to hear your voice, faith to follow where you lead, and love for one another as we journey together. Remind us that we do not face the future alone. Christ is with us. Christ is leading us. Christ will not leave us. Amen.

Kyrie



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on
 Cantor to sing first. Congregation will sing when invited 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 175	<i>Seek Ye First</i> Seek ye first the Kingdom of God and its righteousness, And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, alleluia!	LAFFERTY
Scripture Lesson	Matthew 14:22-33 The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.	Holy Bible, page 894
Sermon	Do Not Be Afraid	Rev. John Hage, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
+Hymn 525	<i>Let Us Break Bread Together</i>	LET US BREAK BREAD

Responding

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table		Rev. John Hage, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving	The Lord be with you. And also with you. Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.	Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, <i>Associate Pastor</i>
The Sanctus (Hymn 559)	Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.	
Mystery of Faith	Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.	
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.	
Words of Institution	The gifts of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.	
Sharing of the Elements	As you are passing the plate, please say this to your neighbor: <i>The body of Christ broken for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.</i> (All bread served today is Gluten-Free) (If you have difficulty passing the plate, please raise your hand when an elder comes to serve your pew, and they will bring the elements directly to you)	
Prayer after Communion		
Invitation to the Offering		Rev. John Hage, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
Offertory	<i>To God Be the Glory</i> Amy Shortt piano	arr. Kartsonakis
+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
Prayer of Thanksgiving	Charles Harris	

Departing

+Hymn 177	<i>I Will Come to You</i>	YOU ARE MINE
+Benediction		
+Congregational Response 306	<i>Blest Be the Tie That Binds</i>	DENNIS
Postlude		Amy Shortt , organ

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

Announcements

Note for Families - At Brownson, we believe that *to wiggle is to worship!* Children are a joyful and important part of our life together, and we welcome them fully in worship- wiggles, movement, noise, and simply being the children they were created to be. We invite you to relax and feel at home as it's a joy to worship God together!

Shoe Drive: It's that time of year again...Children are heading back to school so we're holding our **3rd Annual Shoe Drive for Northern Moore Family Resource Center** in Robbins. We're setting an ambitious goal of 200 pairs of new gym shoes for students ages 4-18! We'll be collecting each Sunday through September! Watch for collection containers in the Narthex and Atrium.

Still Us - September 24, October 22, 2:30-4 PM in Conference Room A: Join Dr. Karen Sullivan for three community gatherings to learn about the exciting progress of the Still Us Foundation and discover meaningful ways to get involved in creating a more dementia-inclusive community. Whether you're simply curious or ready to volunteer, all are welcome!

The **Moms' Book Club** will begin the programmatic year with a September Social at the Wine Cellar in Southern Pines on Wednesday, September 9, at 7 PM. Join us as we catch up from the summer and share our Fall book list! Email Elizabeth Doolin at Elizabeth@brownsonchurch.org if you have any questions.

Staying Connected - As Brownson continues to grow, we want to stay connected and care well for every member of our church family. Staying Connected is an ongoing effort to update contact information and keep our church records current. Over the coming months, we will be asking each household to verify their address, phone, email, emergency contact, and directory preferences, and to provide a current photo for our database. Don't be surprised if you receive a call from one of our Grace Greeters! This is more than an administrative task—it is one way we care for one another as the Body of Christ. Thank you for helping Brownson stay connected!

September 13, All Together Initiative - During the potluck lunch, we will gather at the table for a *Tell Me A Story* time. We will have conversations about when we have seen Brownson at its best and discuss moments that reveal the church's DNA and core values. We look forward to you joining us for this special time in the All Together Initiative process. Please bring a dish to share. You may drop off hot items in the kitchen before worship where they will be kept warm. Cold items will also be refrigerated as needed.

Ways to Serve | Local Missions

SANDHILLS COALITION

DONATION PRIORITIES: Peanut Butter, Jelly, Rice and Mac & Cheese.
DROP OFF LOCATION: Baskets in the Narthex
Contact Caryl Schunk, cschunk@guilford.edu

Announcements

5th Annual Church Retreat - All are invited to join us for the Brownson Church Retreat Nov. 13-15 at Caraway Conference Center. The theme for this year's retreat is **"Bind Us Together"** and will be woven through preaching, discussion, music, recreation, fellowship and creative offerings. We also welcome back Rev. Ernie Thompson as the retreat speaker. Rev. Thompson is a retired PC(USA) pastor who served congregations in Greensboro and Wilmington during his ministry. ALL ARE WELCOME! Registration is open and can be found on the Brownson website. Any questions can be brought to Kelli Garbett or Erin Pollock.



Kids & Youth Connect Groups

KIDS CONNECT

Kickoff for all Kids Programs is on Sunday, September 13. Brownson Kids (Grades K - 5) and their parents are invited for the kickoff from 5-7 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Lots of morning opportunities are coming as well, so be on the lookout for more information. If you have questions, please reach out to Kelli at children@brownsonchurch.org.

YOUTH CONNECT

Youth Group Kickoff is Sunday, September 13! All youth grades 6-12 AND their parents are invited to join us 5-7 PM in the fellowship hall for food, games and an informative meeting. Parents will go over paperwork, the fall schedule, volunteer opportunities and more. Please join us! For more information about Brownson Youth please contact Erin, youth@brownsonchurch.org.

Music Notes

Our Chancel Choir will be back leading in worship next Sunday, September 13. Rehearsals kick off this Wednesday, September 9 at 6 PM. If you participated in Summer Choir, we'd love to have you join us for an exciting season of music, community, and worship!

Prayers and Praise

Today's **Chancel Flowers** are given to the Glory of God with gratitude for our family and the Brownson family that we share. Given by Lawrence and Mary Margaret McNeil.

Member Death: We share in the hope of the risen Christ with the family of Jean Wallen upon her death on August 23, 2026. Please keep her family in your prayers. A private family service will be held this fall.

Serving Today

Thank you to our Greeters serving today:

(10:30 AM) Head Usher: Allan Beck, Logan Beck, John Eddy, Dave Devendorf, Hank Roofoe, Alex Smith