

BROWNSON

MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A missional community called to love and live in Christ

December 7, 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>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming</i> Amy Shortt, organ	ES IST EIN' ROS'
Ritual of Friendship	The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you. And also with you.	
News of the Church Alive	Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, <i>Assoc. Pastor for Congregational Care</i>	
Minute For Mission	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Peggy Flygar

The Praise of God

Lighting of the Advent Candle	(9:00) Fanning Family (11:10) Eddins Family	
Advent Carol 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.	
+Carol 110	<i>Love Has Come</i>	BRING A TORCH

Confessing

Call to Confession	Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, <i>Assoc. Pastor for Congregational Care</i>	
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	 <p>Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.</p>	
Assurance of Pardon	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.	
	<i>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.</i>	
+Congregational Response	<i>We Are Forgiven</i>	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, <i>Director of Children and their Families</i> 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>I Will Come to You</i>	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.	
	<i>Congregation to join on repeat.</i>	

Scripture Lesson	Luke 1:26-38 The Word of the Lord Thanks be to God.	Holy Bible, page 933
Sermon	Mary: Fear of the Unknown	Rev. John Hage, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
+Carol 100	<i>Canticle of the Turning</i>	STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

Responding

The Celebration of the Lord's Supper

Invitation to the Table

Rev. John Hage, *Senior Pastor*

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Rev. Austin Vernon, *Assoc. Pastor for Discipleship and Missions*

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.

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:

The body of Christ broken for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.

Please speak these words to your neighbor as you pass the communion elements.

Prayer after Communion

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

A Place to Keep Your Son
(9 AM) Quartet (11:10 AM) The Chancel Choir

Matther Corl

+Presentation of Gifts

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
**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

(9 AM) Mark Lindstrom (11:10 AM) Kamron Monroe

Departing

+Carol 105

People Look East

BESANCON

+Benediction

Rev. Austin Vernon, *Assoc. Pastor for Discipleship and Missions*

+Choral Response

Go Ye Now in Peace
The Chancel Choir

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

Postlude

And the Word Was Made Flesh
Amy Shortt, organ

Plainchant

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 The Presbyterian Women will hold their Christmas Gathering on Monday, December 15, in Fellowship Hall. Come at 9:30 for goodies and fellowship. At 10, enjoy a special Christmas concert by the Pinecrest High School Choir. All women of the church are warmly invited!

Caroling & Crockpots – Today 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 Ministry- The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets the first Wednesday at 3 PM in Conference Room C. We invite anyone who knits or crochets to join us.

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 Offering envelopes 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 AM, 10-11:30 AM, 12:30-2 PM, 2-3:30 PM, 3:30-5 PM, and 5-6:30 PM! To sign up for a shift, please contact Carol Haney at carolhaney13@gmail.com

Celebration for Austin Vernon. Join us in the Atrium today at 12:30 PM to wish Austin farewell.

Congregational Meeting: Sunday, December 21 at 12:15 PM immediately following the 11:10 AM service. The purpose of this meeting is to dissolve the pastoral relationship with the Rev. Austin Vernon.

Serving Today

Thank you to our Greeters serving today:

(9 AM) Head Usher: Alan Beck, Logan and Ashleigh Beck, John and Ben Eddy, Dave Devendorf, Hank Roofe.

(11:10 AM) Head Usher: Scott Absher, Chuck Davis, Michael White, Lee Pittman, Will Herring, Ryan Riggan.

Music Notes

Please join us next Sunday, December 14 at 9 AM or 11:10 AM for our annual Christmas Cantata titled *Promise of Peace* which will feature our Chancel Choir, Youth Choir, Children's Choir, and orchestra! Bring a friend, bring your whole family, or bring yourself! We hope to see you here for this joyous musical celebration of the coming of Christ into our lives.

Kids & Youth Connect

KIDS CONNECT

There will be no traditional Kids Connect tonight. Please join us for Caroling and Crockpots beginning at 2:45 PM at Penick Village.

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

YOUTH CONNECT

There is no regular youth group tonight but everyone is invited to participate in Caroling and Crockpots. Beginning at Penick Village at 2:45 PM.

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.

Advent Calendar

Do not Be Afraid

God's Presence Through Fear and Faith
2025 ADVENT

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

Prayers and Praise

Today's **Chancel Flowers** are dedicated to the Glory of God in memory of Samuel and Josephine Miller and Karl and Gwendoline Ward, given by Jeff and Kristen Ward.

Celebrations: The rose on the Chancel, given by the Coleman baby Rose fund, is in celebration of the birth of William "Will" Matthew Ulrich, son of Jack and Kerrie Ulrich, and grandson of Jim and Sue Ulrich, born on November 24, 2025.

The rose on the Chancel, given by the Coleman baby Rose fund, is in celebration of the birth of Leo Conti, grandson of Sara and Rich Conti, born on November 29, 2025.

The rose on the Chancel, given by the Coleman baby Rose fund, is in celebration of the birth of Rowyn ElliAnn Entzminger, daughter of Kyle and Steffi Entzminger, born on November 28, 2025.

Member Death: We share in the hope of the risen Christ with the family of Sammy Hill upon his death on December 1, 2025. A memorial service was held on Friday, December 5 at Boles Funeral Home.

Christian Sympathy: to Erin Pollock, upon the death of her grandmother, Mary Tuinsma on December 1.

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.