

BROWNSON

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

May 17, 2026



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

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 | 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 write legibly.

Gathering Music

Amy Shortt

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*(9 AM) Brownson Kids Bell Choir *Seek Ye First*

Lafferty

(11:10 AM) Brownson Learning Center Bell Choir

The Praise of God

+Call to Worship

Rev. John Hage, *Senior Pastor*

God of unity, you have called us to be one—
In a world divided, you gather us together.
In a world of noise, you speak, a deeper truth.
Draw us into your love and your life.
So we come to worship you—
That we may reflect your glory and live as your people.

+Hymn 463

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

Confessing

Call to Confession

Rev. John Hage, *Senior Pastor*

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you have called us into unity, yet we confess how easily we divide. We cling to our own perspectives, we protect our own interests, and we fail to love as you have loved us. Forgive us for the ways we break fellowship—with you and with one another. Restore us, renew us, and draw us together by your Spirit, that we may be one, just as Christ has prayed. 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 288

Spirit of the Living God

LIVING GOD

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.
Melt me; mold me; fill me; use me.
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Scripture Lesson

John 17:1-11

Holy Bible, page 987

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon	Praying That We May Be One	Rev. John Hage, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
+Hymn	<i>Bind Us Together (choir sings once; congregation joins on repeat)</i>	Gillman
	(Refrain)	(Verse)
	Bind us together, Lord	There is only one God,
	Bind us together	There is only one King
	With cords that cannot be broken	There is only one Body,
	Bind us together, Lord	That is why we sing.
	Bind us together	(Back to Refrain)
	Bind us together in Love.	

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.

(9 AM) Introduction of Confirmand & Covenant Partner Erin Pollock, *Director of Youth and their Families*
Will Simmons | Ginger Monroe

+Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, *Associate Pastor*
I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

+Gloria *Gloria Patri* GREATOREX
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.

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.**

Invitation to the Offering Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, *Associate Pastor*

Offertory Anthem *Christ Has Broken Down the Wall* arr. Miller
(9 AM) Quartet (11:10 AM) The Chancel Choir

+Presentation of Gifts *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* OLD HUNDREDTH
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

+Prayer of Thanksgiving (9 AM) Campbell Garbett (11:10 AM) B. Christian Freberg

Departing

+Hymn 300 *We Are One in the Spirit*
Stanza 1—All | 2—Women | 3—Men | 4—All

+Benediction

+Congregational Response *Blest Be the Tie that Binds* DENNIS
**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian Love.
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

Closing Music Amy Shortt

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

Announcements

Matthew Bible Study – Join us for the Book of Matthew Bible Study on Wednesdays from 10:30 AM – 12 PM in the Cornerstone Conference Room. If you have questions or need information, please contact Alice Herrington (aherrington7@gmail.com) or Bill Berger (bill.ctr.berger1@gmail.com).

Save the Date, VBS 2026, June 22-25, 9-12 PM.

Save the Date, 5th Annual Church Retreat, November 13-15.

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!

Please join the **Presbyterian Women** as they gather in the Fellowship Hall on May 18 at 9:30 AM. Officers for the coming year will be installed, and an Honorary Life Membership will be bestowed. We'll have some fun with baby pictures, do some craft work together, and participate in a very special mission project. For more information, contact Gail Cameron at 804-436-6512.

Meet & Greet for Prospective New Members, Sunday May 31, 11:45 AM, Parlor-If you have been visiting Brownson and want to learn more about church membership, please join Rev. Elizabeth Doolin and members from the New Member Welcome Team for conversation and information about membership.

Summer Hours: Beginning May 24 we will have ONE service at 10:30 AM. Summer hours will run through September 13.

BLC Playground Ribbon Cutting between services today at the playground. All are welcome to join us for the joyous event!

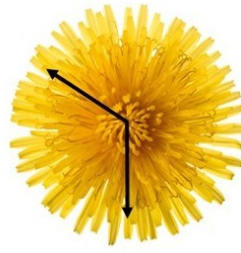
Music Notes

As we prepare to engage in the All Together Initiative, we are reminded that one of the most powerful ways God draws people together is through song. When we sing together, we do more than express personal taste or preference – we join our voices in prayer, praise, and shared faith.

Not every hymn or song will speak to each of us in the same way every week, but each one may become a source of encouragement, comfort, hope – an extra measure of grace for someone else. Congregational singing invites us beyond ourselves and into community. It is an act of generosity, unity, and worship.

So let us sing heartily, joyfully, with open minds and open hearts, helping one another lift our voices to God as one body in Christ.

Sunday Morning



SUMMER WORSHIP
10:30 AM
HIGHER GROUNDS &
CLASSES

9:30 AM

LIVESTREAM @10:30 AM

Mid Week Adult Bible Studies

The Brownson's Men's Groups, Mom's Group and Presbyterian Women invite everyone of the church to join in their Bible Study and fellowship.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast—Tuesday, May 19, at 7 AM at Sizzlin' Steak or Eggs, 1850 US 1, Southern Pines. Led by Bill Berger.

PW Circle 7— Wednesday, May 20 at 11 AM, in Conference Room C.

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

Serving Today

Thank you to our Greeters serving today:

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

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

Prayers and Praise

Today's **Chancel Flowers** are dedicated to the glory of God and in loving memory of Judi Byington, given by Marshall Byington.

Hospital:/Rehab: Pam Gantt– Duke

Member Death: We share in the hope of the risen Christ with the family of Martha Butler, upon her death on May 8, 2026. A Service of Witness to the Resurrection will be held on Saturday, May 30 at 11 AM in the Sanctuary with a reception immediately following. Please keep her husband Frank Butler, her daughter Cristal, Hershell, and her grandchildren Jadah, Javon, Jordan and Joelle Cole in your prayers.

Christian Sympathy to Julian Carr upon the death of his brother, Beauchamp Coppedge Carr on May 6.