

BROWNSON

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

October 18, 2026



What is Caesar's?

Matthew 22:15-22

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

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. Elizabeth H. Doolin, *Associate Pastor*

The Praise of God

+Call to Worship

Here in this place,
friends and strangers meet, the broken are mended, and the weary welcomed.
Here in this moment,
the ordinary becomes miraculous, and life is on pause. This is God's time.
Here in this sanctuary,
God's goodness is revealed. Our doors open with kindness. Our lives join together.
Let us worship God.

+Hymn 401

Here In This Place

GATHER US IN

Confessing

Call to Confession

Rev. John Hage, *Senior Pastor*

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, we confess that we have not been the faithful disciples you call us to be. We have not remembered who we are. We are distracted by glittering gold. We are mesmerized by fame and fortune. We turn a blind eye to systems that perpetuate injustice. We fail to hear the cries for mercy of those who bear unfair burdens. We close our hearts and imagine empathy to be weakness. Forgive us Lord. Remind us that we are yours, citizens of the kingdom of God. Give us courage to be kingdom builders here and now, showing mercy and grace in a world in deep need. Amen.

Kyrie

Emaline Malan and Eve Carter



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

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 468

In My Life

LORD, BE GLORIFIED

In my life, Lord, be glorified; be glorified. In my life, Lord, be glorified today.

In our song, Lord, be glorified; be glorified. In our song, Lord, be glorified today.

In your church, Lord, be glorified; be glorified. In your church, Lord, be glorified today.

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 22:15-22

Holy Bible, page 902

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

What is Caesar's?

Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, *Associate Pastor*

Hymn 822

When We Are Living
Brownson Youth | Stanzas 1 and 2
Congregation | Stanzas 3 and 4
Pearl Hage, soloist | Ken MacDonald, guitar

SOMOS DEL SENOR

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

From *A Brief Statement of Faith* 11.2

Rev. John Hage, Senior Pastor

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving his life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating his sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal.

+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

Tessa Hage and Allison Polkow

Take, O Take Me as I Am

TAKE ME AS I AM

Brownson Youth

Take, O take me as I am;

summon out what I shall be;

Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

**This week's Prayers of the People was crafted by Brownson Youth and Youth Advisors*

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

Anthem

Gracious Spirit Dwell With Me

K. Lee Scott

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

Ruth Burgin

Departing

+Hymn 716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

BEACH SPRING

+Benediction

+Choral Response

In the Lord

TAIZE'

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God, do not be afraid; lift up your voices, the Lord is near;

lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

+Postlude

Amy Shortt, organ

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

A Congregational Meeting will be held immediately following the service today. Please remain seated.

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!

Still Us - October 22, 2:30-4 PM in Conference Room A: Join Dr. Karen Sullivan 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 curious or ready to volunteer, come join us!

Red Cross Blood Drive on October 20 from 1 — 6PM in Fellowship Hall. Help save lives during a time of critical need — donate blood at our upcoming drive and make a life-changing difference today! To sign up, please use the QR code to the right or www.redcrossblood.org. Type in Zip Code. Click on Make an Appointment. Scroll down to Brownson's schedule.



Congregational Meeting—TODAY. There will be a Congregational Meeting immediately following 10:30 AM worship. The purpose of this meeting is to elect the Elder Class of 2029.

Bridges of Faith - Today at 2 PM - Foundation Hall Sandhills Community College. This Interfaith Panel of Communication is organized by member of the Jewish, Christian and Muslim communities. It invites participants to explore diverse faith traditions through dialogue. Register here: <https://sandhillscscc-register.fundfive.com/course/section/36846>



Trunk or treat will be on Sunday, October 25, from 4 - 6 PM. We are in need of trunks as well as candy! Please reach out to Erin or Kelli if you want to be a part of this fun event!

The Fellowship of Churches invites you to a Thanksgiving Service and Potluck. Let's come together to give thanks, share a meal, and enjoy the season. Wednesday, November 18, 5 PM at Our Saviour Lutheran Church, located at 1517 Luther Way, Southern Pines. Bring a dish to share.

The importance of Chancel Flowers. Chancel Flowers are dedicated by our members to the Glory of God in honor or memory of loved ones. Their beauty graces our sanctuary as part of worship. On Monday, they are made into small bouquets by our Flower Ministry Team and delivered to our members who may be sick, in the hospital or grieving in some way and they will continue to enjoy their beauty and Brownson fellowship. The 2026 Chancel Flower calendar is posted in the Atrium. We have a few spots available in November and December..

Meet & Greet for Prospective New Members, Sunday, October 25, 9:30 AM, Parlor. If you have been visiting Brownson and want to learn more about church membership, please join Rev. John Hage and members of the New Member Welcome Team for conversation and information about membership.

Name Tag Board: In an effort to be more connected, Property & Grounds has installed magnetic name tag boards in the Atrium. Please store your name tags there so you can get them on your way into church and return them after worship.

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, October 20 at 7 AM at Sizzlin' Steak or Eggs, 1850 US 1, Southern Pines. Led by Bill Berger.

Kids & Youth Connect Groups

KIDS CONNECT

Tonight, is our Monthly Mission, and we're playing Bells at Belle Meade. Please join us as we share love and joy with others — both in our church and beyond. We will meet at 5:00 by the Gaga pit, and will pull out on the bus no later than 5:10. If you have questions about Kids Programs at Brownson, please reach out to Kelli at chil-dren@brownsonchurch.org.

YOUTH CONNECT

Youth group is 3-5:30 PM today for Sunday Serve. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall to start. High School Bible Study is Thursday morning 7:30-8:20 AM at PineScone Southern Pines. Faith Lab is Sunday mornings 9:30-10:30 AM in the youth suite. For more information about Brownson Youth please contact Erin, youth@brownsonchurch.org.

Music Notes

On Thursday, Oct. 29 at 11:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall, all are invited to join Amy Shortt, Director of Music Ministries, for lunch and an informal introduction of James Whitbourn's *Son of God Mass*, a major choral work which will be presented by our Chancel Choir on Nov. 1. We'll listen to excerpts and explore the music and text, helping us hear the work more deeply when it becomes part of our All Saints worship service. This is offered in partnership between Congregational Care and Connection and Worship Ministry Team. A light lunch will be provided.

Sunday Morning Offerings Location Guide

The Living Word Today—Room A

Ligon Class—Room B

Donuts and Devotionals—Room C

It Takes a Village—Cornerstone Library

Another Chapter - Cornerstone Conference Rm.

Grow, Discover & Shine—Children PreK-5th Grade—Ed. Building

Faith Lab - Youth Suite

Linger with Lemonade

Join us for an informal time of connection outside the Sanctuary after church for some lemonade and fellowship as we head out into our week following worship at 11:30 AM.

Serving Today

Thank you to our Greeters serving today:

(10:30 AM) Head Usher: Allen Beck, Logan Beck, Dave Devendorf, Hank Roofe, Alex Smith

Prayers and Praise

Today's **Chancel Flowers** are given to the Glory of God in memory of her husband and son, James McNiff Jr. and Sr. Given by Nancy McNiff.

Hospital/Rehab: Carol Sylverstein— MRH

Member Death: We share in the hope of the risen Christ with the family of May Fitch, upon her death on October 10, 2026. Please keep her family in your prayers. Service details are pending.

Member Death: We share in the hope of the risen Christ with the family of Mary Veasey Foster, upon her death on October 10, 2026. Please keep her family in your prayers. Her service was held earlier this week at Boles.