

# BROWNSON

MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

*A missional community called to love and live in Christ*

## January 4, 2026



**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](http://www.brownsonchurch.org) — 910.692.6252**

**Sunday Worship | 9 & 11:10 AM**

**Livestream | 11:10 AM**



## Gathering

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*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

Good Christian Friends Rejoice

arr. Hayes

Amy Shortt, piano

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

## The Praise of God

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+Call to Worship

In the beginning was the Word,  
**And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**  
What has come into being in him was life,  
**And the life was light of all people.**  
The light shines in the darkness,  
**And the darkness did not overcome it.**  
Come, let us worship the God of light and life.

+Carol 132

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

IN DULCI JUBILO

## Confessing

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Call to Confession

Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, Assoc. Pastor of Congregational Care and Connection

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you are the source of all life and light, yet we confess that we often turn toward shadows. We cling to fear, habit, and control instead of trusting the life you freely give. Forgive us for the ways we resist your renewing work. Turn us again toward your light, so that we may receive the life you offer and reflect your grace in the world. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Kyrie



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 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

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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

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 1:1-19

Holy Bible, page 968

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Called to Life

Rev. John Hage, Senior Pastor

+Carol 79

Light Dawns on a Weary World

TEMPLE OF PEACE

## Responding

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**The Celebration of the Lord's Supper**

**Invitation to the Table**

Rev. John Hage, Senior Pastor

**Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, Assoc. Pastor of Congregational Care and Connection

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**

Rev. John Hage, Senior Pastor

**Offertory Solo**

*The Work of Christmas*

arr. Forrest

Ravon Sheppard, baritone

**+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) Anne Friesen (11:10 AM) Donna Chapin

## Departing

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**+Carol 136**

*Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

arr. Forrest

**+Benediction**

**+Congregational Response 306** *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.**

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

**Postlude**

*Glory to God in the Highest*

GLORIA PERU

Amy Shortt, organ

## Announcements

**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. Sign up on the calendar or at [www.brownsonchurch.org/](http://www.brownsonchurch.org/) Chancel Flower Sign Up.

**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

**Winter Bible Study** – Join us as we resume our in-depth Bible study on the Book of Matthew on January 7 from 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM in the Cornerstone Conference Room. If you have questions or need information, please contact Alice Herrington ([aherrington7@gmail.com](mailto:aherrington7@gmail.com)) or Bill Berger ([bill.ctr.berger1@gmail.com](mailto:bill.ctr.berger1@gmail.com)).

**Brownson Learning Center** will begin enrolling students for the 2025-2026 school year this week. Church members have priority enrollment beginning on January 12th and will open to the public on January 15th. Classes are available for children ages 1-5, Monday - Thursday 9am - 12pm. Email Kacy at [blcdirector@brownsonchurch.org](mailto:blcdirector@brownsonchurch.org) for more information or to request a link to enroll.

## Music Notes

We are grateful for the many talented people who make up our Brownson church family! Whether you sing, play an instrument, ring bells, or have other creative talents, there is a place for you here at Brownson to share your gifts. All ages and abilities are welcome! There is joy in making music together!

**The Brownson Chancel Choir** rehearses on Wednesdays at 6:30 PM in the Music Suite and sings in worship services at 9 AM and 11:10 AM, offering a variety of styles from classical, spirituals, and composers of today. We welcome new members for the church year or Advents/Christmas or Lent/Easter seasons. Come be a part of this talented, faithful, and joyful group!

**The Brownson Handbell Choir** rehearse on Wednesdays at 5:45 PM..

**The Brownson Children's Choir** rehearse on Sundays during the school year. Open to ALL children grades K-5, the children learn vocal techniques, music reading skills, and share their joy of music as an expression of faith in our worship services.

Contact Amy Shortt, Director of Music Ministries and Organist at [music@brownsonchurch.org](mailto:music@brownsonchurch.org) to discover ways to share your gifts and talents with others!

## Prayers and Praise

Today's **Chancel Flowers** are dedicated to the glory of God by Beth Carpenter in memory of her son, Robert Carpenter, and in honor of her daughter in law Shannon and grandchildren CeCe and Payne. Robert's birthday is January 3.

## 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, [cshunk@guilford.edu](mailto:cshunk@guilford.edu)

## Sunday Morning

### NURSERY

During the 9 & 11:10 AM services, Brownson has a full service nursery for children 3 and under, where loving staff are ready to welcome your children. The nursery is located in the Education Building. Please see an usher for assistance.

### CHILDREN

Kids, pre-K though 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.

### ADULT GROUPS

**The Living Word Today**—Will resume on January 11. Non-partisan current events are discussed each Sunday morning using *The Wired Word* curriculum with Biblical references. Conference Room A at 10 AM or Zoom. Log in to Zoom.com: Meeting ID: 825 8501 9818 Passcode: 664945.

**The Ligon Bible Class**—This class studies: *The Present Word* quarterly curriculum. Join us in Conference Room B at 10 AM. Led by Don and Linda Branch.

**Donuts and Devotionals**—Join us in Conference Room C at 10:15 AM. We discuss some of the most important stories in the Bible. Led by Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin and others facilitators.

### HIGHER GROUNDS

Everyone is welcome to join in a time of fellowship, coffee and donuts in the Atrium during the 10 o'clock hour.

## Kids & Youth Connect Groups

### KIDS CONNECT

Kids evening programs will resume on January 11.

If you have any questions about kids programs, please reach out to Kelli at [children@brownsonchurch.org](mailto:children@brownsonchurch.org).

### YOUTH CONNECT

There is no regular youth group tonight and no high school Bible study this week. Spring kickoff is January 11!

If you have any questions about youth ministry, please contact Erin Pollock at [youth@brownsonchurch.org](mailto:youth@brownsonchurch.org).

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

**Mom's Group**—Wednesday, January 8 at 7PM in the Youth Suite. We will be discussing chapters 1–5 of *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt. Contact Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin with any questions at [elizabeth@brownsonchurch.org](mailto:elizabeth@brownsonchurch.org).

**PW Circle 2**—Tuesday, January 6, at 10 AM, in Conference Room C.

**PW Circle 4**—Thursday, January 8 at 10:15 AM, in Conference Room C.

## Serving Today

Thank you to our Greeters serving today:

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

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