

BROWNSON

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

December 24, 2025

A Service of Carols, Communion and Candlelight



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
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



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 *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* arr. McDonald and Nelson
Amy Shortt, piano | Emily Braun, violin

Welcome Rev. John Hage, *Senior Pastor*

Lighting of the Advent Candles The Vonderkall Family

Advent Hymn 88 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL
**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.**

+Call to Worship Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, *Assoc. Pastor of Congregational Care and Connection*
Jesus Christ, the son of Mary, the son of God, is born this night.

God's word has been made flesh among us.

He is called Emmanuel, for in him "God is with us."

**Come to us, Lord Jesus; be born in us this night, in our hearts, minds and lives. May
the light of your life be kindled in us, and lead us to the shining truth of God with
us, God for us, God in us. Amen.**

+ Carol *Once in Royal David's City* IRBY
Solo: Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her
baby in a manger for his bed: Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ, her little child.
Will Franks, solo

Choir: He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all, and his
shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall; with the poor and meek and lowly,
lived on earth our Savior holy.

Interlude

**All: Jesus is our childhood's pattern; day by day like us he grew; he was little, weak
and helpless; tears and smiles like us he knew; and he feels for all our sadness, and
he shares in all our gladness.**

**All: And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love; for that
child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above; and he leads his children on to
the place where he is gone.**

Scripture Reading **The Peaceful Kingdom** Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, *Assoc. Pastor*
Isaiah 11:1-3, 6

Anthem *I Wonder as I Wander* arr. Kyle Perderson
The Chancel Choir | Emily Braun, violin

Scripture Reading	The Birth of Jesus Foretold Luke 1:26-38	Cindi Hamilton
+Carol	Away in a Manger	MUELLER
All: Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head. The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.		
Choir: The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes. I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky, and stay by my side until morning is nigh.		
All: Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray. Bless all the dear children in thy tender care, and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.		
Scripture Reading	The Birth of Jesus Luke 2:1-7	Kyle Simmons
Solo	O Holy Night Eliza Hage, Mezzo-Soprano	Adolphe Adam
The Celebration of the Lord’s Supper		
Preparation for the Table		
Invitation to the Table		Rev. John Hage, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving		Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, <i>Associate Pastor</i>
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	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		

Sharing of the Elements	<i>The body of Christ broken for you. The blood of Christ shed for you.</i>	
Prayer after Communion		
Invitation to the Offering		Rev. John Hage, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
Offertory Solo	<i>The Virgin's Slumber Song</i> Liz Cox, soprano	Max Reger
Scripture Reading	Shepherds and Angels Luke 2:8-16	Arianne Monroe
+Carol	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i> GLORIA Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains, and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains. Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo! Shepherd, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the glad-some tidings be which inspire your heavenly song? Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!	
Scripture Reading	The Visit of the Wise Men Matthew 2:1-11	Ravon Sheppard
+Carol	<i>The First Nowell</i> THE FIRST NOWELL The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel. And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.	
Scripture Reading	The Word Became Flesh John 1:1-14	Rev. John Hage, <i>Senior Pastor</i>
(Please pass the lit candles and hold them as we sing Silent Night)		
+Candle Lighting Carol	<i>Silent Night, Holy Night</i> STILL NACHT Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright 'round yon virgin mother and child! Holy Infant, so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace. Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born! Silent night, holy night! Son of God, love's pure light radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth. Silent night, holy night! Wondrous star, lend thy light; with the angels let us sing Alleluia to our King: Christ the Savior is born; Christ the Savior is born.	
+ Benediction		Rev. John Hage, <i>Senior Pastor</i>

In Memory Of:

In Memory of our parents, Helen and W.E. Parham and Harriet and Alex Howard – given by Jane and Paul Whit Howard.

In Memory of our parents and loved ones – given by Tom and Clair Nacca.

In Memory of Lou Edgar, Peter and Geoffrey Edgar – given by Cindy Edgar.

In Memory of our parents – given by Peggy and Bob Flygar.

In Memory of Jean Conry – given by Scott and Jody Halso.

In Memory of my parents, Betty and Harvey Hamilton, Jr. – given by Cindi Hamilton.

In Memory of Andris Mergins and our loved ones - given by Joan Mergins.

In loving memory of Sandra Roofe Harris and Stephen Harris – given by Hank and Cathy Roofe.

In Memory of Andrew Robinson – given by Mary Ann Preble.

In Memory of Clarence Cameron – given by Hilda Cameron.

In Memory of Norma Henderson – given by Pat Henderson.

In Memory of my parents, Jane Ann and George Pine II – given by Lucy Pine-Roberts.

In Memory of Henry Cox – given by Jason, Trisha Cox and family.

In Memory of our parents and siblings – given by Daniel and Jane Pajak.

In Memory of our mothers, Ann Brown and Ruth Dempsey – given by Jack and Pat Dempsey.

In Memory of Bob Henderson – given by Carol Henderson.

In Memory of Buddy Heins and Tom Amelia – given by Carol Henderson.

In Memory of Tom and Lois Edgerton – given by Ann and Art Edgerton.

In Memory of Ray and Betty Killian – given by Ann and Art Edgerton.

In Memory of Marian McMillan Kirby – given by Bill Kirby.

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. William F. McLester – given by Virginia McLester Oliver.

In Memory of Ben E. Jordan Jr. – given by Ellen Jordan.

In Memory of Buddy Heins and Tom Amelia – given by Bette Jean Heins.

In Memory of Edmund and Rachel Kenion – given by Kathy Kenion Desmond.

In Memory Of

In Memory of Connie and Liz Desmond – given by Kathy Kenion Desmond.

In Memory of Ray and Carol Elam – given by Kathy Kenion Desmond.

In Memory of Bob Zumwalt – given by Angela North Zumwalt.

In Memory of my sister, Robin Fulk – given by Ginger Monroe.

In Memory of Bonnie Quesenberry and Gloria Krug – given by the Flower Ministry.

In Memory of Robert Everett – given by Barbara Eldredge-Everett.

In Memory of my love, Tom Marsh – given by Libby Marsh.

In Memory of our parents – given by Craig and Beth Pryor.

In Memory of the Honorable Jack W. Smith – given by Patricia Smith.

In Memory of George Ellis – given by Jean Ellis and family.

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. John McKenzie – given by James and Nancy Beddingfield.

In Memory of Mr. and Mrs. W.D. Wiggs – given by James and Nancy Beddingfield.

In Honor Of:

In Honor of and gratitude for our church staff – given by Jane and Paul Whit Howard.

In Honor of the ladies of PW4 — given by Kathy McPherson.

In Honor of Austin Vernon – given by Jac and Kathy Whatley.

In Honor of Mike Conry – given by Scott and Jody Halso.

In Honor of and appreciation of Rev. John Hage, Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, and Rev. Austin Vernon, Amy Shortt and the wonderful choir – given by Cindi Hamilton.

In Honor of and appreciation to Amy Shortt and the Sanctuary Choir – given by Hank and Cathy Roofe.

In Honor of the Brownson staff – given by the Harris family.

In Honor of my brother, George Pine III and Chan Roberts – given by Lucy Pine-Roberts.

In Honor of Gerald Ostlund for his ASP Leadership – given by the Stan West family.

In Honor of Edith Cox – given by Jason, Trisha Cox and family.

In Honor of Bill Kirby – given by Virginia Oliver.

In Honor of our grandchildren Briana, Dorothy, Lily and Luci – given by Gregg and Pat Allen.

In Honor of Katherine Ewing for 55 years with the BMPC choir – given by Libby Marsh.

In Honor of our grandsons and children – given by Craig and Beth Pryor.

In Honor of Bob and Maria Milligan – given by Bullard, Ruth, Tucker and Floyd families.

In Honor of John and Ebbie Monroe and families – given by Ed and Ginger Monroe.

In Honor of Fred and Cindy Groce and families – given by Ed and Ginger Monroe.



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.

Sunday, December 28 we will have one Carol Sing Sunday service at 11:10 AM.

Year-End Giving: We are so thankful for your continued generosity to Brownson Church. Please know that for your 2025 pledge to be credited this year, all gifts must be received in our office by December 31, 2025, at 12 noon. They can also be postmarked by December 31, or you can drop your pledge by the church office during business hours, in the drop box in the breezeway or the mailbox in the front circle. December typically brings in 20% of our income, but we have a ways to go to meet our goal, so your giving is critical to help us close out the year. For a convenient way to give online, please use the QR code.



The Church office will be closed December 25– January 2.

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) or Bill Berger (bill.ctr.berger1@gmail.com).

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.

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.

Poinsettias: If you donated or would like a poinsettia, please feel free to take one poinsettia home with you tonight.

The **2026 Chancel Flower calendar** is posted in the Atrium. All members are encouraged to share in this meaningful ministry.

Brownson Music- 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 to discover ways to share your gifts and talents with others!

Thank you to our Greeters serving today: John Cates, Don Power, Hank Roofe, Pat Henry, Charles Harris, and Henry Harris.