

# BROWNSON

MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

## July 27, 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

330 South May Street, Southern Pines, North Carolina 28387

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

Sunday Worship | 10 AM

Livestream | 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 print legibly.*

**Prelude** *Impressions of " Siciliana"* Paul Taylor  
Diana Kirkpatrick, organ

**Ritual of Friendship** The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.  
**And also with you.**

**News of the Church Alive** Rev. Austin Vernon, *Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Missions*

**Commissioning ASP and Peru Mission Trip** Gerald Ostlund

## The Praise of God

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**+Call to Worship** We come with willing hearts and eager minds.  
**Lead us in your truth, O God of our salvation!**  
We come in our weakness and wanderings.  
**Teach us your ways, O God of our salvation!**  
We come before you, crying out the persistent prayers of our hearts.  
**We are ready to follow, O God of our salvation!**  
Let us worship the crucified and risen Lord!

**+Hymn 175** *Seek Ye First* LAFFERTY

## Confessing

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**Call to Confession**  
**Prayer of Confession**

Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care and Connection*  
**Eternal God, our judge and redeemer, we confess that we have tried to hide from you, for we have done wrong. We have lived for ourselves and apart from you. We have turned from our neighbors and refused to bear the burdens of others. We have ignored the pain of the world and passed by the hungry, the poor, and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive our sins and free us from selfishness, that we may choose your will and obey your commandments, through Jesus Christ our Savior. 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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**Musical Meditation Hymn 466** *Come and Fill Our Hearts* CONFITEMINI FOMINO  
**Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You alone, O Lord, are holy.**  
**Come and fill our hearts with your peace. Alleluia!**  
Congregation to join on repeat

**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.

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<b>Song of Illumination 698</b>	<i>Take, O Take Me as I Am</i> <b>Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be; set your seal upon my heart and live in me.</b> <i>Congregation to join on repeat.</i>	TAKE ME AS I AM
<b>Scripture Lesson</b>	Luke 18:1—8 The Word of the Lord. <b>Thanks be to God.</b>	Holy Bible, page 957
<b>Sermon</b>	Persistent Prayer	Rev. Austin Vernon, <i>Associate Pastor for Discipleship and Missions</i>
<b>Hymn 695</b>	<i>Change My Heart, O God</i> (Repeat)	CHANGE MY HEART

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## 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**      Apostle's Creed      Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin, *Associate Pastor for Congregational Care*  
**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*      GREATOR EX  
**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

**Offertory**      *I Love You, Lord*      arr. Larson  
Matt Franks, tenor | Amy Shortt, alto

**+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**      Dave Malan

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## Departing

**+Hymn 465**      *What a Friend We Have in Jesus*      CONVERSE

**+Benediction**      Rev. Austin Vernon, *Associate Pastor*

**+Choral Response**      *What a Friend (Reprise)*      CONVERSE  
Matt Franks, tenor

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

**Postlude**      *Song of the Redeemed*      Robert J. Powell

## Announcements

**New Member Meet and Greet** will be held today, immediately following the Worship Service, in the Parlor. Join us to learn more about becoming a member of Brownson Memorial Presbyterian Church.

**Summer in the Psalms** - This summer, a take-home devotional will be provided that guides you through the riches of the book of Psalms by studying one Psalm per week. This faith formation resource is geared toward all ages and families. The study will be available in the Atrium with a new edition coming out on August 3.

**Summer Giving** - As you travel this summer, please consider continuing your giving while you are away. We tend to see a decline in giving, while our expenses remain the same. You can do this through our website: [brownsonchurch.org/give](http://brownsonchurch.org/give) and schedule a weekly or monthly payment, or through your bank's bill pay option or by using this QR code.



**Sunday, August 17**—The American tradition of **Kirkin' of the Tartans** was initiated by Rev. Peter Marshall at the New York Avenue Presbyterian Church in Washington D.C. During WWII, Rev. Marshall was a Scot and used the Kirkin' to raise funds for the British war effort. The St. Andrew's Society of Washington D.C. conducted the Kirkin' which is now held annually at the National Cathedral. Thanks to the St. Andrew's Society of NC for conducting this service. Presbyterian Churches across the country, including Brownson, have continued this tradition in celebration of our Scottish heritage.

The New Member Welcome Team will be hosting a Summer Social on **Sunday, August 17**. Join us outside on the lawn immediately following worship for *Lemonade on the Lawn* and a fun time of fellowship as we connect with one another.

**Join us for the 2025 Church Retreat** - Registration for the 2025 Brownson Church Retreat is open! The retreat will be November 7-9 at Camp Caraway and the retreat speaker is Rev. Ernie Thompson. Ernie is a retired PC(USA) pastor who led congregations in Wilmington and Greensboro and will be speaking on the theme "Fully Alive" for the retreat. For the past three years, the retreat has served as a wonderful time of fellowship, laughter, great food, fun activities and worship. It is for ALL ages and all size families! You can register at [www.brownsonchurch.org/registration](http://www.brownsonchurch.org/registration). The deadline to register is September 21.

## Music Notes

Our Chancel Choir is on a well-deserved break during the month of July and will return to the choir loft on Communion Sunday, August 3.

We have 3 special musical presentations in August: Guest musician, Dan Fenn on August 3; aCHOIRing Voices on August 10; and Kirkin' of the Tartans on August 17. Each musical offering is unique, and you don't want to miss out. We hope to see YOU in worship each Sunday!

Chancel Choir rehearsals resume in September. Bell Choir will also kick off rehearsals in September! Stay tuned for more details. We'd love to have you make music with us!



**A CHOIRING**  
Voices

Join us this summer for a fun, friendly,  
non-auditioned choir!  
All ages and abilities welcome!  
9 AM in the Sanctuary—August 10

## Sunday Morning

### NURSERY

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

### CHILDREN and YOUTH

Kids, pre-K through grade 5, are invited after Moment with the Children 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**—Non-partisan current events are discussed each Sunday morning using *The Wired Word* curriculum with Biblical references. Conference Room A at 9 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 9 AM. Led by Linda Branch and Mary Margaret McNeill.

**Donuts and Devotionals**—Join us in Conference Room C at 9 AM. We discuss some of the most important stories in the Bible. Led by Rev. Austin Vernon.

## Kids & Youth Connect

### KIDS CONNECT

Kids Connect activities will resume in September. Be on the lookout for emails about summer activities!

Reach out to Kelli at [children@brownsonchurch.org](mailto:children@brownsonchurch.org) with any questions.

### YOUTH CONNECT

Youth group will resume in September. Parents, look for emails about summer youth activities and trip updates.

Reach out to Erin at [youth@brownsonchurch.org](mailto:youth@brownsonchurch.org) with any questions.

## 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](mailto:cschunk@guilford.edu).

### THE FOOD BANK

- Pack food boxes for low income seniors.
- Sign up to volunteer on the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of each month, 1-3 PM.
- Contact: Don Branch at [debranch@gmail.com](mailto:debranch@gmail.com).

### NORTHERN MOORE FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

Beginning in August, Brownson is hosting its second annual summer shoe drive for the children at Northern Moore Family Resource Center. Please consider donating new shoes for children grades K-12 in the collection bins, which will be located in the Atrium. Our goal this year is 130 pairs of shoes!

## Prayers and Praise

**Christian Sympathy** to Jim Ferguson upon the death of his sister, Marjorie Armbruster, on July 19, 2025.

**Member Death:** We share in the hope of the risen Christ with the family of Myra Hall upon her death on July 21, 2025. A graveside service was held at the Old Bethesda Presbyterian Church Cemetery on July 26, 2025.

## Serving Today

**Thank you to our Greeters serving today:**

Head Usher: Jim Webb, Linda Webb, Burt Ozment, Bob & Peggy Flygar, Hope Dugenske.