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

# November 15, 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
Ruth Burgin | Hardin Freberg (Y) | Ella Hall (Y)

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**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**

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

## 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** *All Creatures of Our God and King* arr. Curnow
Amy Shortt, piano | Tim Altman, trumpet

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

**News of the Church Alive** Steve McLean

**Minute for Mission** Joyfully Alive Stewardship Campaign Jeff Ward

## The Praise of God

**+Call to Worship** Steve McLean

Church, hear the invitation of God: When the world grows in apathy,
**God calls us to love.**
When compassion becomes inconvenient,
**God call us to love.**
When fear tells us to withdraw,
**God calls us to love.**
We come to worship the One who loved us first.
**We come to worship, to be reminded to love as Christ has loved us.**
**May our worship honor You, our fellowship display Your grace, and our lives become witnesses to the love of Christ.**

**+Hymn 14** *For the Beauty of the Earth* DIX

## Confessing

**Call to Confession** Steve McLean

**Prayer of Confession**

**We come before You with humble hearts, acknowledging that too often we have failed to live rooted and established in Your love. We confess that: We have allowed the things of this world to take root in our hearts instead of allowing Your love to be our foundation. We have withheld love from those who are different from us. We have been quick to anger and slow to forgive, forgetting the immense mercy you have shown us. We have prioritized our own needs and desires above the needs of our neighbors. Our hearts have been hardened by indifference to the suffering of others. Lord, search out hearts and renew our spirits. Remove what hinders us from loving You and loving one another. Teach us again to live as your disciples marked by love.**

**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 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** Roy Cameron

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.**

**+Please stand if you are able**

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| **Scripture Lesson** | Ephesians 3:16-19<br>The Word of the Lord<br>**Thanks be to God.** | Holy Bible, page 1067 |
| **Sermon** | Joyfully Alive: Rooted and Grounded in Love | Rev. Rod Stone |
| **+Hymn 693** | *The Gift of Love* | GIFT OF 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.*

**+Affirmation of Faith** — 1 John 4:7-12 — Steve McLean

**Let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.**

**+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** — Allison McLean

**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** — Allison McLean

**Musical Meditation** — *She Danced in the Rain* — Cait Nishimura
Amy Shortt, piano | Tim Altman, trumpet

**+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.**

*If you are a veteran or want to recognize a veteran during today's roll call, come forward at this time and line up on the May Street side of the Sanctuary*).

**Veterans Roll Call**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** — Sam Kessell

## Departing

**+Hymn 366** — *Love Divine All Loves Excelling* — HYFRYDOL

**+Benediction**

**+Choral Response 654** — *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.**

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

**+Postlude** — *Be Thou My Vision* — SLANE
Amy Shortt, piano | Tim Altman, trumpet

# Announcements

**Veterans Roll Call—**Join us this morning where we will acknowledge those in our congregation who have served and currently serve in the armed forces.

**2027 Stewardship Campaign—Joyfully Alive!** The 2027 Joyfully Alive Campaign is underway. Last week you should have received a letter and pledge card in the mail. Please save the date for Celebration Sunday on December 6 where we will bring our pledge cards forward along with canned goods to share with our friends at the Coalition for Human Care. To submit your pledge online, please use this QR code or visit brownsonchurch.org/give.

**The Presbyterian Women** will be selling note cards in the Atrium before and after worship each Sunday in November. Please plan to stop by for a package of eight of our Presbyterian Women artists original designs for $12.50. Proceeds support Mission initiatives.

**Decorating the Sanctuary**: You are invited to join the Worship Team in decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas on **Saturday, November 28 at 9 AM.** If you have any questions or would like to RSVP that you will join the fun, please contact Donna Chapin at dc43104@gmail.com.

**Meet & Greet for Prospective New Members, Sunday, November 29, 9:30 AM, Parlor**. If you have been visiting Brownson and want to learn more about church membership, please join Rev. Elizabeth H. Doolin and members of the New Member Welcome Team for conversation and information about membership.

**Advent Adventure and Potluck** - On Sunday, November 29 at 9:30 AM Brownson will be celebrating the start of advent with a church-wide breakfast potluck, advent activities for all ages and resources for families for the advent season. Bring a dish to share and join us in celebrating this season!

The rescheduled **Blessing of the Animals service** is coming up on Sunday, November 22 at 4PM in the Grass Parking Lot. Join us with your pets as we celebrate the gift of God's creation! Please only bring pets that socialize well and are up to date on vaccines. Cats and small animals should be in a carrier. You can bring a picture or collar if your pet would prefer to stay home. We are also collecting food donations for the The Coalition's Pet Pantry, so please bring sealed dog or cat food to share with our pet owners and animal friends in need!

**The Fellowship of Churches invites you to a community-wide 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.

**Holiday Flowers –** All are welcome to dedicate Poinsettias for Christmas by using the Special Offerings envelope in the pews. When a dedication is received, you will be sent an email to confirm your dedication. If Holiday Flowers are dedicated, but confirmation is not received, please call Lia at the church office at 910-692-6252. Deadline to submit dedications is December 10.

Today, we give thanks for **Allison and Steve McLean**, members of Brownson who are helping lead us in worship. Allison and Steve serve at FirstHealth as chaplains, sharing Christ's love and offering care to others in our community. We are grateful for their gifts, their willingness to serve, and the ways they embody Christ's love both within our congregation and throughout our community. Please join us in thanking Allison and Steve for their ministry and in helping to serve in worship today.

**Guest Preacher– Rev. Rod Stone**. Rod is a retired pastor Community Presbyterian Church. Please join us in thanking Rev. Rod for leading us in worship today.

# Announcements

Thank you all who have supported and participated in worship service today so that our Brownson staff may participate in the church retreat this weekend.

# Kids & Youth Connect Groups

**KIDS CONNECT**

Many of our kiddos and families are on the church retreat this weekend, so there are no evening kids programs.

**YOUTH CONNECT**

There is no Faith Lab and no youth group today because of the Church Retreat. High School Bible Study is Thursday morning 7:30-8:20 AM at PineScone Southern Pines.

# Music Notes

We are grateful to Dr. Timothy Altman for sharing his gifts on trumpet with us this morning. Dr. Timothy Altman is Professor of Music at UNC Pembroke where he teaches trumpet and conducting and directs the Wind Ensemble and Concert Band. He served as Department Chair for 10 years. A Fulbright U.S. Scholar to Malta in 2019, he has also taught at all levels of music education in Virginia, Wisconsin, Kentucky, and North Carolina.

Our choirs are preparing for our annual Christmas Cantata on December 13 at 10:30 a.m. If you would like to sing or have a child or youth who would like to participate in this joyful event, contact Amy Shortt for more information. All are welcome.

# 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, November 3 at 7 AM at Sizzlin' Steak or Eggs, 1850 US 1, Southern Pines. Led by Bill Berger.

**PW Circle 7—**Monday, November 19 at 10 AM, in Conf. Room C.

# 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.

# Prayers and Praise

Today's **Chancel Flowers** are dedicated to the Glory of God given in loving memory of Mary McLauchlin "Mary Mac" Pope by Jim and Linda Webb.

**Celebrations:** The rose on the baptismal font, given by the Coleman Baby Rose Fund, is in celebration of the birth of Harrison Wendell Taylor. Grandson of Lenny and Linda Taylor and nephew of Charlie and Abby Taylor, born on October 18, 2026.

# Serving Today

**Thank you to our Greeters serving today:** Head Usher: Rick Burgin, Ruth Burgin, Duck Rufty, Shirley Rufty