**Berwyn Presbyterian Church**

**6th Sunday of Easter**

**Sunday, May 5, 2024 10:30 a.m.**

**The Gathering**

*Let all enter the sanctuary in a spirit of prayer.   
Please remember to turn off your cell phones for worship.*

*\* indicates please stand if you are able. Congregation reads words in* ***bold.***

*GG indicates Glory to God Hymnal found in the pews.*

*This worship service is being livestreamed to the internet, and you may appear on our Facebook page channel.*

**Prelude** Sing a New Song unto the Lord *Daniel L. Schutte*

**Ringing of the Hour**

**Prelude** He Has Done Great Things for Me *Shirley M.K. Berkeley*

**Welcome  
  
\* Call to Worship**

We join with all creation in praise to God

**for God’s love and faithfulness to us is endless!**

We sing because of God’s great love

**which bears us in fullness beyond compare.**

**\* Hymn GG 15** All Creatures of Our God and King *Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623*

*(see next page for hymn)*

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**\* Call to Confession**

**\* Prayer of Confession**

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be your obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love. We have not loved our neighbors, and we have refused to hear the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\* Assurance of Pardon**

The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

**Alleluia! Amen.**

**\* The Peace**

Leader: May the peace of the risen Christ be with you always.

**People: And also with you.**

(*Please share the peace with a few neighbors.*)

**\* Welcome Song** You’re Welcome in the Name of the Lord *Traditional Cameroon*

You’re welcome in the name of the Lord. You’re welcome in the name of the Lord,  
for we see in you the glory of the Lord, you’re welcome in the name of the Lord.

We love you in the name of the Lord. We love you in the name of the Lord,  
for we see in you the glory of the Lord, we love you in the name of the Lord.

*(Visitors, welcome, please fill out a visitor card and place it in the offering plate.  
Prayer request cards will be collected later in the service, please prepare them ahead of time.)*

**The Word**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Hebrew Bible**  Psalm 98

A Psalm.

O sing to the Lord a new song,

for he has done marvellous things.

His right hand and his holy arm

have gained him victory.

The Lord has made known his victory;

he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness

to the house of Israel.

All the ends of the earth have seen

the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre,

with the lyre and the sound of melody.

With trumpets and the sound of the horn

make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it;

the world and those who live in it.

Let the floods clap their hands;

let the hills sing together for joy

at the presence of the Lord, for he is coming

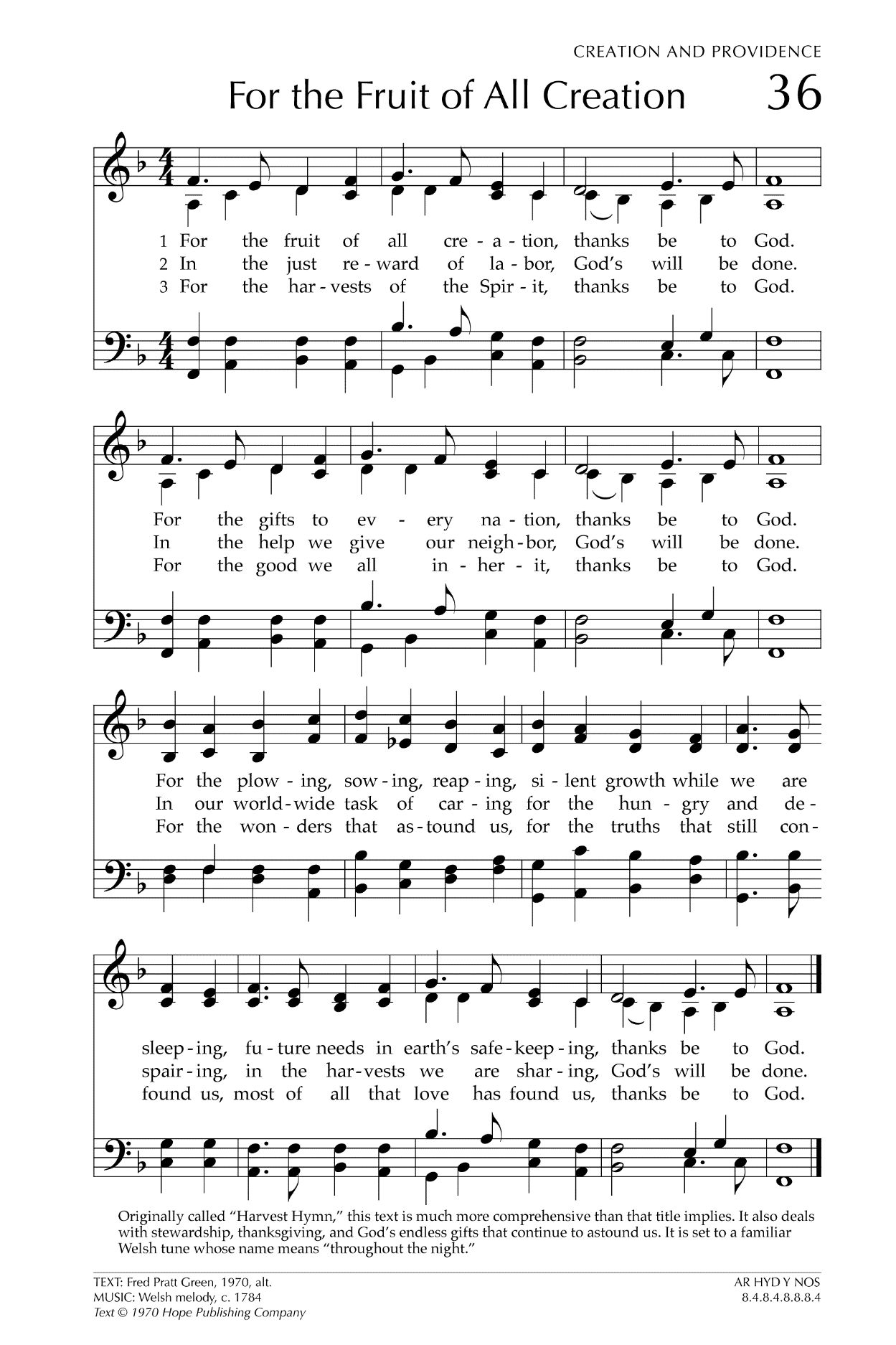
to judge the earth.

He will judge the world with righteousness,

and the peoples with equity.

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Message for Children**  *Rev. Ulmer*

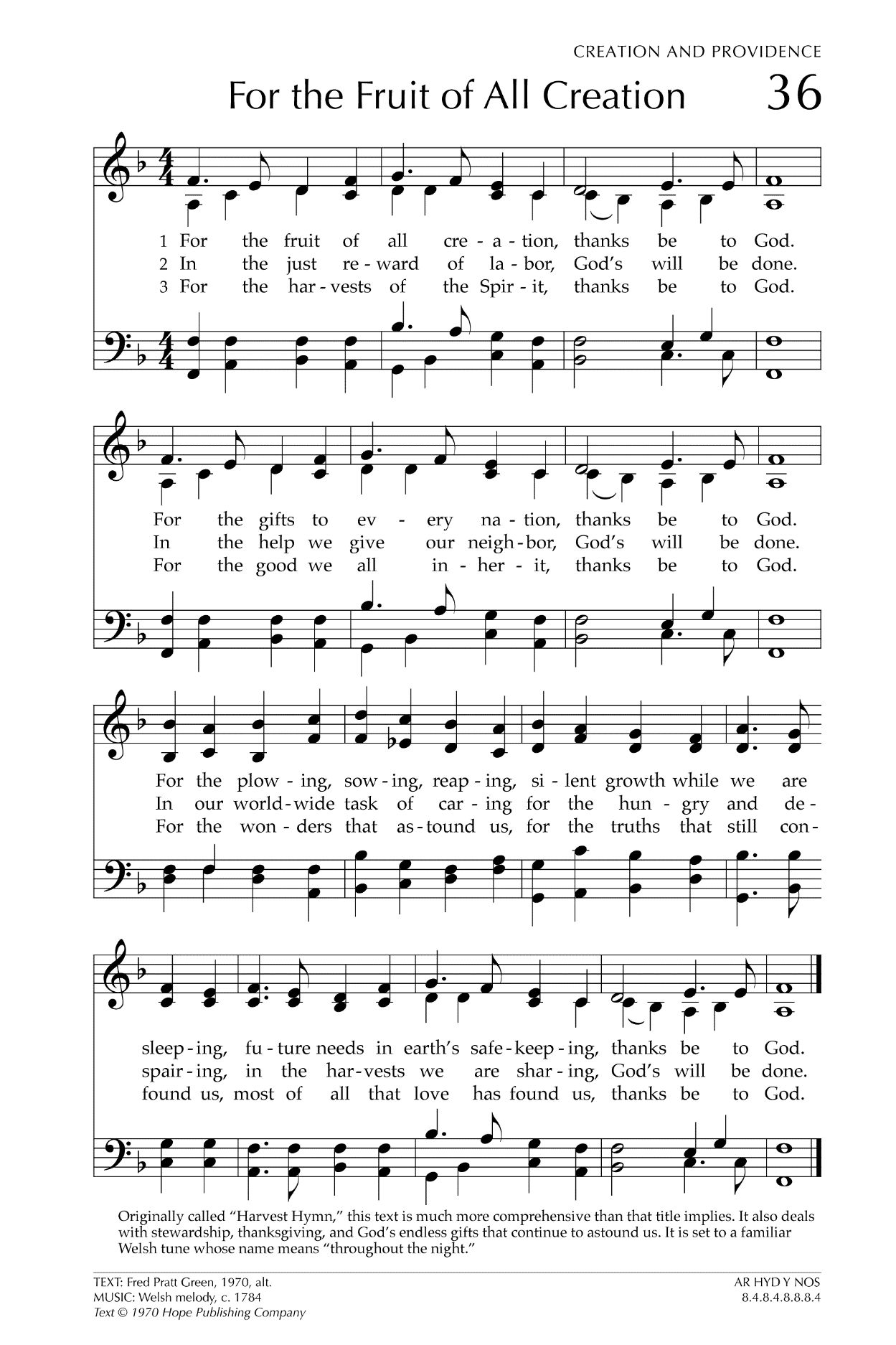
**New Testament** John 15: 9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

‘This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

This is the Word of the Lord!

**Thanks be to God.**

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**Sermon** Abide in My Love *The**Rev. Holly Ulmer*  **\* Hymn GG 137** He Came Down *Cameroon song*

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**Affirmation of Faith** (from Confession of Belhar)

**We believe in one holy, universal Christian church, the communion of saints called from the entire human family. We believe… that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways; in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another.**

**Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord’s Prayer** *Traditional*

**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.**

**The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

**The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Leader: God be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them to God.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**People: It is right to give God thanks and praise**

Leader: Let us continue in prayer…

**Breaking of the Bread**

**Communion of the People**

*Those worshipping in the Sanctuary will share communion by coming forward down the center aisle to the front of the Sanctuary. You will be served the bread by the Pastor and the cup by the Elder. Pause for a moment and stand at the station to receive communion. Eat the bread when served, then move to the next server, take the cup, and drink the cup when served while standing at the station. When finished place the used cup in the basket and return to your seat by the side aisle. We have all the time we need.*

**Prayer after Communion**

**The Thanksgiving**

**Announcements**

**Call for the Offering**

In response to the love of God in God’s great gift to us in Jesus Christ,

**we give now our tithes and our offerings.**

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**\* Prayer of Dedication**

**The Sending**

**\* Hymn GG 366**  Love Divine, All Loves Excelling *Rowland Hugh Prichard*

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**\* Charge and Benediction**

**\* Congregational Response** Amen *African American spiritual*

**\* Postlude** Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*Ludwig van Beethoven  
  
  
  
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Call to Worship from “Call to Worship” Lectionary Companion Vol. 57.1, p. 98. Prayer of Confession from   
“Book of Common Worship,” c. 1993 Westminster John Knox Press, p. 89. Affirmation of Faith and Call for   
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*All scripture readings are from the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) Bible.*

Berwyn Presbyterian Church

A hospitable, multicultural community of faith

6301 Greenbelt Road, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740-2318

Website: [www.berwynpresbyterian.net](http://www.berwynpresbyterian.net/)

Email: [berwyn.office@gmail.com](mailto:berwyn.office@gmail.com)

Music: [http://berwynmusic.com](http://www.berwynmusic.com/)

**Weekly News – May 5, 2024**

**Thank you for joining us online today.** We are delighted for the opportunity to worship God with you. Please feel at home and join us again. Visitors are encouraged to drop us a line at our church website: [https://berwynpresbyterianchurch.net](about:blank), or to write to the church email address:   
[berwyn.office@gmail.com](mailto:berwyn.office@gmail.com). We would love to be in touch.

**NOTE:** Prelude will start at 10:20 a.m. The church bell will ring at 10:25 a.m. between two Preludes. Come a little early and relax with a few minutes of music before the start of the service.

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**LEADING WORSHIP TODAY:**

The Rev. Holly Ulmer, *Minister*

Dr. Gabriel Ruiz-Bernal, *Music Director*

Elder Victoria Uche, *Worship Associate*

**SUPPORTING WORSHIP TODAY:**

Camera, Facebook and sound system operation provided by the Berwyn Stream Team.

Members of the Choir *(recorded music or in person)*

Lydia Kengwa and Ola Isu, *Deacons, Ushers*

**THIS WORSHIP SERVICE IS BEING LIVESTREAMED TO THE INTERNET.**

**YOU MAY APPEAR ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE CHANNEL.**

**PRAYER REQUESTS** will be collected during the worship service. Please fill out a prayer request card found in the pew racks so you will be ready to pass it in at the appropriate time.

**TIME FOR PRAYERS with the Board of Deacons**

Sundays from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm for all prayers. Members are encouraged to join by zoom or telephone by clicking on this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83559134324?pwd=YkszemlaTDJMMzJpeWZqR3ZjcU9XQT09>

Meeting ID: 835 5913 4324

Passcode: 478708

For more details, contact Elder Victoria Uche, Worship Chair, or Alain Moudji

**SESSION RETREAT has been rescheduled for May 11, 9:30 am - 12 pm, Blue room, at the Church!**

Please mark your calendars for this important leadership event.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS will be starting soon!**

Last chance to sign-up for the 2024 year class. Another class won't be offered again until next year, in 2025. If you are interested in the spring confirmation class email Rev. Holly at revhollyulmer@gmail.com ASAP!

**SPRING CLEANING AT BPC**

Deacon Alain Moudji in collaboration with the property management is organizing a 3 day spring cleaning of the church, dates to be announced in worship. We are inviting all members of the congregation to participate in this clean up. For the last 3 years, we haven’t taken care of our church building and environment. Students might earn service hours during this time. Please plan to participate in these 3 day sessions. For more details, please contact Deacon Alain Moudji or Elder Shadrack Fogwe.

**NEW TOTAL FOR PER CAPITA!**

We have received $1,845 toward the $4,953 we will pay Presbytery. That is 37%. Thank you!

**MISS COLLEGE PARK DIAPER DRIVE**

Please donate or share news of the Miss College Park Diaper Drive! A beautifully decorated box is located right outside the chapel. This community service project aims to help parents obtain basic health necessities for their children. Donations are accepted until April 30th. All donations will go to the Greater DC Diaper Bank and the Pregnancy Center on Route 1.

**WANT ENVELOPES?** If you would like a box of offering envelopes, contact Dot Brown, [djbrown7553@ gmail.com](mailto:djbrown7553@gmail.com). Conversely, if you have a box of envelopes for 2024 but would rather not have them for 2025, let her know.

**FEEL FREE TO USE OTHER DOORS**

Door 2 (that goes up to Kidder Hall) was the main entry for worship services until the pandemic. Then after months of being directed to door 5 (front porch), you may have forgotten about using any other door. Door 2 leads up to Kidder Hall and is especially welcome if food is being brought to Kidder Hall for Birthday Sunday. Door 1 (by the office) or door 7 (lower end of the side drive) will also get you into the building and out of the weather more quickly than going to the front door.

**JOIN THE BPC CHOIR!**

We extend an invitation to newcomers who share our passion for music. If you're interested in joining our vibrant music family, please don't hesitate to reach out to our Music Director, Dr. Gabriel, at berwynmusic@gmail.com. We invite you to attend our choir practice on Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm, where you can create beautiful melodies with us. We can't wait to make music with you!

**GIVING TO THE CHURCH**

Thank you for your continued giving to support Berwyn Church! Here are the various ways we can continue to make our contributions and pledges. Choose the most convenient method!

* Pay by your cell phone using CashApp, and texting to **$B2God** or dialing   
  301-768-2729 and then checking that the name Rex Powell, treasurer, appears confirming that it is going to the church account.
* U.S. Mail – send your check to Berwyn Presbyterian Church,   
  6301 Greenbelt Road, Berwyn Heights, MD 20740
* Use BillPay through your bank and they will mail us the check.
* Place your offering in the basket in the sanctuary if you are worshiping in-person.

**HAVING A MEETING OR OTHER ACTIVITY?**

Be sure to advise Property team members Shadrack Fogwe and Rex Powell well in advance to get it on the office planning calendar if it will be in the church building.

**Also please email Lynne at berwyn.office@gmail.com** **on Mondays** so that it can be included in the calendar part of the Weekly News, whether in-person or by Zoom.

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**CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Rev. Holly Ulmer, Stated Supply Pastor**, please email her at [revhollyulmer@gmail.com](mailto:revhollyulmer@gmail.com)

Rev. Holly is happy to meet with you either in-person or via zoom by setting up an appointment.

**Victoria Uche, Clerk of Session**, send an email to [clerkofsession.berwynpc@gmail.com](mailto:clerkofsession.berwynpc@gmail.com)

**Dr. Ophilia Mbah, Moderator, Board of Deacons,** send an email to deaconboard.bpc@gmail.com

**Dr. Gabriel Ruiz-Bernal, Music Director,** regarding music at Berwyn or the stream team that operates camera, sound, and Facebook, send an email to [berwynmusic@gmail.com](mailto:berwynmusic@gmail.com)

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**THIS WEEK AND NEXT AT BERWYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

**Sunday, May 5, 2024 ~ Communion Sunday**

10:30 am, Worship Service (in Sanctuary and on Facebook)

6:00 pm, Time for Prayer (Zoom, Contact: Elder Victoria Uche)

**Tuesday, May 7, 2024**

12:15 pm, Weekly News Deadline ([berwyn.office@gmail.com](mailto:berwyn.office@gmail.com))  
 7:15 pm, Worship Committee Meeting (Zoom, Contact: Natalie Murray)

**Wednesday, May 8, 2024**

6:00 pm to 7:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal

**Thursday, May 9, 2024**

7:30 pm, PW Esther Circle Meeting (Blue Room)

**Saturday, May 11, 2024** 9:30 am - 12 pm, Session Retreat (Blue room, at the Church!)

**Sunday, May 12, 2024**

10:30 am, Worship Service (in Sanctuary and on Facebook)

11:30 am, Birthday Sunday (Kidder Hall)

6:00 pm, Time for Prayer (Zoom, Contact: Elder Victoria Uche)

**Tuesday, May 14, 2024**

12:15 pm, Weekly News Deadline ([berwyn.office@gmail.com](mailto:berwyn.office@gmail.com))

**Wednesday, May 15, 2024**

6:00 pm to 7:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal

**For Church Calendar items, please send an email to** [**berwyn.office@gmail.com**](mailto:berwyn.office@gmail.com) **(Contact: Lynne Brady) For Weekly News items, deadline is Tuesday, 12:15 pm.   
Send to** [**berwyn.office@gmail.com**](mailto:berwyn.office@gmail.com)**.**

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**FOR ALL THE SAINTS WHO   
FROM THEIR LABORS REST   
2023**

Alex, brother of Zandra Brown’s brother-in-law

Ed, first cousin to Dottie Brown

Grandma Bobbie, family member of friend of Zandra Brown

Greg, Betsy Dowling’s niece Paula’s husband

Joey Lora’s aunt

Peggy Sisson’s father

Teacher colleague of Gwen Mufor

Wife of Alain Moudji’s nephew

Martin Abermethy, friend of Zandra Brown

David Abonu, Stephen Alapa’s uncle

Christina Afor, niece of Maceline Chah

Samson Alapa, family member of Stephen Alapa

Purita Berces DeLeon, friend of Carmen Brown

Kathy Dillard, a longtime member of Berwyn

Jeanine Fort, Zandra and Carmen Brown’s cousin

Bobby Goll, cousin of Rev. Holly

Priscilla Wilson Hupp, childhood friend of Carmen Brown

Mr. Robert Johnson, Elizabeth Helm-Frazier’s cousin

Eric Mbah, Junior Brother of Godlove Mbah

Diana Mbah, Elder Sister of Godlove Mbah

Barbara Murphy, cousin of Rev. Todd and Ceska

Nkechi Odaka, friend of Victoria Uche

Charlene Sisson, mother of Elder David Sisson, mother- in-law of Peggy Sisson

Mme. Toure Sylla, friend of Zandra Brown

Mirabel Mah Toh, cousin of Maceline Chah

Edith Ulmer, mother of Rev Holly Ulmer