

**Brainerd Presbyterian Church, EPC**  
**Order of Worship**  
**January 25, 2026**

**Welcome & Announcements**

*\*Majesty - No. 74*

**\*Call to Worship Psalm 116:5,12-14,**

Gracious is the LORD, and righteous; our God is merciful.

**What shall I render to the Lord for all his benefits to me?**

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord,  
**I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.**

**\*Prayer of Adoration**

**Prayer for Our New BPC Pastor**

**Thank you, Lord, for opening and preparing our hearts to receive Your Pastor.**

**Thank you, Lord, for sending us a humble and inspirational shepherd.**

**Thank you, Lord, for sending us the pastor You have chosen to lead BPC.**

**Thank you, Lord, for directing the search team to have faith and “know” in our hearts  
Your Divine choice for BPC. Amen.**

**Statement of Faith Apostles' Creed - No. 716**

**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 Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hades; 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 Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

*\*Sweet, Sweet, Spirit – No. 252*

**Prayer of Praise for the People and Confession of Sin**

*(A moment for reflection and silent prayers of confession)*

**Special Music      Holy, True and Faithful God**

**(Children ages K-3rd grade are dismissed for Children's Sermon)**

**Scripture:** *Matthew 12:22-37 (ESV)*      **Title:** “Vindicating the Spirit”

Then a demon-oppressed man who was blind and mute was brought to him, and he healed him, so that the man spoke and saw. <sup>23</sup> And all the people were amazed, and said, “Can this be the Son of David?” <sup>24</sup> But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, “It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this man casts out demons.” <sup>25</sup> Knowing their thoughts, he said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. <sup>26</sup> And if Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? <sup>27</sup> And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. <sup>28</sup> But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you. <sup>29</sup> Or how can someone enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? Then indeed he may plunder his house. <sup>30</sup> Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. <sup>31</sup> Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. <sup>32</sup> And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come. <sup>33</sup> “Either make the tree good and its fruit good, or make the tree bad and its fruit bad, for the tree is known by its fruit. <sup>34</sup> You brood of vipers! How can you speak good, when you are evil? For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks. <sup>35</sup> The good person out of his good treasure brings forth good, and the evil person out of his evil treasure brings forth evil. <sup>36</sup> I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, <sup>37</sup> for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned.”

Pastor:      This is the Word of the Lord.

Response:    **Thanks be to God.**

- Discern for the Spirit: Son of David or Beelzebub? (vv 22-24)
- Follow the Spirit: For Him or Against Him (vv 25-32)
- Prove the Spirit: Proof in the Puddin! (vv 33-37)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*\*They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love - No. 284 (Verses 1,2,4)*

*\*Offering*

*\*The Closing Prayer Song*

*\*Benediction*

*Postlude*

*\*Please stand as able*

**Rev. Dan Gilchrist, Guest Pastor / Roy Treoyer, Director of Music Ministry**  
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