

Brick Presbyterian

Church



ORDER FOR WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD  
SIXTENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
September 17, 2023

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\* Please stand as you are able

Congregational responses are in **bold**

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WELCOME

Sandy Alho

OPENING SONG *"One Thing Remains (Your Love Never Fails)"*

Verse 1:

Higher than the mountains that I face  
Stronger than the power of the grave  
Constant in the trial and the change  
One thing remains,  
One thing remains  
(Chorus)

Verse 2:

Because on & on & on & on it goes  
It overwhelms and satisfies my soul  
And I never ever have to be afraid  
One thing remains,  
One thing remains  
(Chorus)

Chorus:           Your love never fails it never gives up  
                      Never runs out on me (REPEAT)  
                      Your love

Bridge:           In death, in life I'm confident and  
                      Cover'd by the power of Your great love  
                      My debt is paid there's nothing that  
                      Can separate my heart from Your great love.  
                      (Chorus)

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Teach us, oh Lord, your ways of grace and mercy,  
**And we will observe them to the end!**

Remind us, God of our minds, that even if only two or three gather,  
**You reside among us with your whole self.**

Guide us into the love of all people and things,  
**For love is the fulfillment of your covenant.**  
**Let us worship the rabbi, teacher, Christ.**

Lord, we remember how you taught us by the sea, on a mountain, on a plain, And we ask that you come teach us now– through the ordinary things – About how we are to live as your people, So that we might be your witnesses of love in the world That cannot keep quiet. In the name of Christ we pray, **Amen.**

\* HYMN

*“Blessed Assurance/My Story”*

(Blessed Assurance) Blessed assurance Jesus is mine  
Verse 1: O what a foretaste of glory divine  
Heir of salvation purchase of God  
Born of His Spirit washed in His blood

*Chorus:* *This is my story this is my song*  
*Praising my Savior all the day long*  
*This is my story this is my song*  
*Praising my Savior all the day long*

(My Story)  
Verse 1: If I told you my story  
You would hear hope that wouldn't let go  
And if I told you my story  
You would hear love that never gave up  
And if I told you my story  
You would hear life but it wasn't mine

Pre-Chorus:                    If I should speak then let it be of

Chorus:                    *Of the grace that is greater than all my sin  
Of when justice was served, and when mercy wins  
Of the kindness of Jesus that draws me in  
Oh to tell you my story is to tell (of Him)*

(Blessed Assurance)      Perfect submission all is at rest

Verse 2:                    I in my Savior am happy and blest  
Watching and waiting looking above  
Filled with His goodness lost in His love

Chorus:                    *This is my story this is my song  
Praising my Savior all the day long  
This is my story this is my song  
Praising my Savior all the day long*

## BLESSING FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

*All students and teachers are invited to come forward for a special blessing.*

## CALL FOR NEW BEGINNINGS

We all need a fresh start, a second chance, a clean slate. The Good News is that in Christ Jesus, we are given such a gift, only by asking and receiving open-heartedly. So let us pray, first asking for the unique new beginning we individually need, and then collectively.

## PRAYER FOR NEW BEGINNINGS

*(we begin with a moment of silence for personal confession)*

**Almighty God, through your grace, mercy, and unstoppable love, forgive yesterday's mistakes, teach us your better way today, and guide us tomorrow in the confidence that you make all things – including us – new.**

## ASSURANCE OF NEW BEGINNINGS

2 Corinthians 5:17

“So, if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; look, new things have come into being!”

## PASSING OF THE PEACE

Since God has reconciled us through Jesus Christ, let us also be reconciled to one another. The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

\* RESPONSE TO GRACE

*“Doxology”*

Charles Coffin<sup>2</sup>

**To God, all glorious heavenly light;  
To Christ, revealed in earthly night;  
To God, the Spirit now we raise;  
Our joyful songs of thankful praise.**

## THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. **Amen.**

1<sup>ST</sup> SCRIPTURE READING

1 Kings 11:38

p. 304 in pew Bible

ANTHEM

*“The Gift of Love”*

by Hal H. Hopson

BPC Choir | Keyboardist: W. R. Mahns

2<sup>ND</sup> SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 6:25-34

p. 840 in pew Bible

MESSAGE

*"Priorities"*

Rev. Kristie Miles

**Rocks: Most Important**

**Pebbles: Medium Importance**

**Sand: Least Importance**

## RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

*“Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching,” 1 Timothy 5:17*

### PASTOR EMERITUS STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Life together in the body of Christ, like our individual lives, can often be best understood as a series of events that helpfully respond to the past, occur in the present, and positively shape the future. These events, however, are never created, developed, or completed in isolation. Rather, life is always influenced by the presence and power of God's Holy Spirit, who leads, directs, challenges, and affirms the faith and experience of God's people.

Today, we celebrate a most significant event along the faith journey of this congregation and the greater church; it is the bestowing of the honor of Pastor Emeritus upon the Rev. Doug Chase, pastor of this congregation from 1991 - 2018.

From the moment I arrived last July, Doug immediately offered a warm welcome and his support to me; he has always been extremely careful not to overstep or interfere in the leadership of the church, but rather has given appropriate and appreciated counsel, support, encouragement and collegiality.

The scriptures teach us that each Christian is a minister, and together we are the body of Christ. As such, we are called, individually and collectively to Christ's ministry of reconciliation. While today we are honoring Doug's expression of this call through his life in ordained ministry, we are also celebrating the common bond we each share amidst the priesthood of all believers.

### PRESENTATION OF PASTOR EMERITUS

Rev. Doug Chase, even though this is an honorary position, the distinction of being named Pastor Emeritus carries with it the responsibilities to continue to live your ordination vows, abide by our ordination vows, and be an example for the people of this congregation. You are charged in this position to continue to be a supportive colleague to all lay persons and the pastor of this congregation, to offer considerate and wise counsel when sought. In this time, we claim you as one of the church's senior keepers of Christian faith and wisdom, through whose experience and ministry we have inherited the church today.

Thus, on behalf of this congregation and our gracious God, whom you have loved and served through the years, it is my pleasure to present to you a certificate of honor as Pastor Emeritus of Brick Presbyterian Church.

We thank God for your ministry of dedicated service in the mission of Jesus Christ, for your life-investment of witness to the larger community of God's people, and for your ongoing presence in our midst.

#### CONGREGATIONAL CONFIRMATION

**We are each part of the one body in Christ, an expression and witness to God's unlimited love for all people. Since we have been baptized into the body of Christ we have received Jesus' ministry of reconciling love. We rejoice that this ministry is shared with Doug. We will accept him now and in the future as Pastor Emeritus of this congregation, as one ordained for service to God's church. We pledge to him our ongoing Christian love and support. We offer our continued prayers and promise a steadfast unity in God's Spirit. Together, we will seek to glorify God and serve Christ in a mission and ministry of love in this place and throughout creation.**

#### DECLARATION OF HONOR



Because of the example of your life, your professional service of ministry to and among us, your ongoing active ministry as a member of this congregation, and by the presence of God's Spirit through this congregation's activity of love and gratitude demonstrated here today, I now declare you to be a Pastor Emeritus of Brick Presbyterian Church. And so does this congregation heartily affirm this declaration.

May the blessing and love of God be yours now and always as you continue to undertake the ministries you perform so well with us, and through the empowering Spirit of God. Amen.

\* HYMN            *"Now Thank We All Our God / Goodness of God"*

Verse 1: Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices  
Who wondrous things has done in whom his world rejoices  
Who from our mothers' arms has blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love and still is ours today

Verse 2: I love You Lord! Oh Your mercy never fails me  
All my days I've been held in Your hands  
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head  
I will sing of the goodness of God

Verse 3: O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us  
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us  
To keep us in his grace and guide us when perplexed  
And free us from all ills of this world in the next

Chorus:            *All my life You have been faithful  
All my life You have been so so good  
With every breath that I am able  
I will sing of the goodness of God*

Verse 4:        I love Your voice! You have led me through the fire  
                      In darkest night You are close like no other  
I've known You as a father, I've known You as a friend

                      I have lived in the goodness of God  
Chorus:         *For all my life You have been faithful*  
                      *All my life You have been so so good*  
                      *With every breath that I am able*  
                      *I will sing of the goodness of God*  
                      *Oh I will sing of the goodness of God*

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

(unison)

**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.**

### MOMENT FOR GRATITUDE

*You are invited to silently thank God for one of your recent blessings.*

### OFFERING OF OUR LIVES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

#### OFFERTORY

*"Kumbaya"*

arr. Neil Ginsburg

BPC Choir

\* RESPONSE TO BLESSINGS    *"Lord, We Thank You for this Food"*<sup>3</sup>                    # 660

**Lord, we thank you for these gifts; help us share with all in need;  
body, soul refresh anew to live the Gospel, give your people love.**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

(unison)

**O God, with faith and hope, we offer these gifts. Use them, even as you use us, to accomplish your purposes in Jesus Christ, the Head of the church and the Lord of our lives. Amen.**

**RETURNING TO THE WORLD IN GOD'S NAME**

\* HYMN

*"Let There Be Peace on Earth" by S. Miller & J. Jackson*

Verse 1

**Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me  
Let there be peace on earth  
The peace that was meant to be  
With God as our Father  
Brothers all are we  
Let me walk with my brother  
In perfect harmony**

Verse 2

**Let peace begin with me  
Let this be the moment now  
With ev'ry step I take  
Let this be my solemn vow  
To take each moment  
And live each moment  
In peace eternally  
Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me**

\* CHARGE AND BLESSING

CLOSING SONG <sup>6</sup> *"And All the People Said Amen"*

by Matt Maher, Paul Moak, Trevor Morgan

**Worship Notes**

Brick Presbyterian Church CCLI#1853779/Streaming#20110146

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<sup>1</sup> By Brian Johnson, Christa Black Gifford, Jeremy Riddle. CCLI Song #5508444/CCLI License #1853779

<sup>2</sup> Blessed Assurance by Fanny Jane Crosby, Phoebe Palmer Knapp. CCLI Song #22324, CCLI License #1853779. My Story by Jason Ingram, Michael Weaver CCLI Song #7036037/License #1853779

<sup>3</sup> written by Carol Penner, posted on Leading in Worship. <http://carolpenner.typepad.com/>

<sup>4</sup> [www.discipleshomemission.org](http://www.discipleshomemission.org)

<sup>5</sup> Now Thank We All Our God by Johann Cruger, Martin Rinkart, Nathan Drake

CCLI Song #7197414/License #1853779

Goodness Of God by Ben Fielding, Brian Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Jenn Johnson

CCLI Song #7117726/License #1853779 <sup>6</sup> CCLI Song #6518275/CCLI License #1853779

CCLI Song #93690



**This morning's chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God  
by Joe & Debbie Johnson,  
in memory of Carolyn Smith.**

**Children and Families have options in worship!** At the front of the sanctuary on the right-hand side, we have our new **PrayGround area**. This space is for children to sit together and do quiet activities while being present for the worship service. Children's bulletins, lap desks, crayons / colored pencils, puzzles, soft toys, and children's Bibles are available in the narthex.

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### **PRAYER LIST**

Gary Baker, Elba Figueroa, The Irwin Family,  
Christine Licknack, Jim McCue, Michael Toth



### **And Our Homebound:**

Don Bertrand, Jack Macaluso,  
Christine Meiselman - Hampton Ridge, Toms River  
Ada Trinidad - Monmouth Crossing, Freehold

## **BPC Happenings**

### **TODAY**

**A pancake breakfast** will follow the morning service

*Stop by the FLC Treasure Table today after worship*

**The Youth Group kicks of their 2023-2024 season** from 6-7pm

**Mum sale on Saturday, September 23, 10:00 - 2:00 and Sunday, September 24, until sold out.** Mums sell for \$10.00 each or 3 for \$25.00. You will be able to pre-order, but we cannot guarantee colors at the time of delivery. Free local delivery is also available. Stop by the fundraising table in the Narthex. Cash or check will be accepted. All check will be made out to Brick Presbyterian Church or BPC.

**Country Line Dance Tickets are Available.** There will be a caller to teach you a few line dances and of course you can dance your own way. Light refreshments will be available. There is so much entertainment and games you don't want to miss this event on **Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> from 7-10pm.** This is going to be a great fellowship evening. Tickets will be limited as we need plenty of dancing room. **Cost is \$20.00** per person, so don't wait to get your tickets as you don't want to miss this fun evening.

**Boscov's Friends Helping Friends 25% discount coupons are now available for \$5.00 for the October 18 event.** Our committee will be in Boscov's on several occasions pre-selling discount coupons **prior to the event on October 18.** If you would like to join us, please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex or any committee member.



<i>MONDAY</i>	Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00pm
<i>WEDNESDAY</i>	Food Pantry Open	10am - 2:00pm
<i>THURSDAY</i>	Choir Rehearsal	6:30pm
<i>SATURDAY</i>	Mum Sale	10am - 2:00pm
	Country Line Dance	7:00pm - 10:00pm
<i>SUNDAY</i>	Sunday School	9:00am
	Adult Bible Study	9:00am
	Mum Sale <i>Until Sold Out</i>	



## **Upcoming Red Cross Blood Drive!**

**If you are feeling healthy and well, please consider donating.**

**Friday, October 6th, 2023**

**1:00 pm – 6:00 pm**

### **Brick Presbyterian Church Family Life Center**

**Blood donation is a safe process, and people should not hesitate to give and receive blood. At each blood drive, Red Cross employees follow extensive safety protocols. In addition to standard procedures, you will notice the following for your local blood drive:**

### **To Schedule an Appointment**

**go to [rcblood.org/appt](http://rcblood.org/appt) and use sponsor code Brick Presbyterian Church or call/text Sandra at 732-948-6447**

***Please Tell a Friend!***

**Brick Presbyterian Church**



Rev. Kristie Miles, *Pastor*  
Patrice Law, *Clerk of Session*  
Sandy Alho, *Moderator of Deacons*

**Session**

***Class of 2024***

*Brian Aldrich, Bob Auriemma Jr., Linda Kathenes, Jill Moberg, Elaine Salto*

***Class of 2025***

*Chuck Cumella, Tom Fortier, Patrice Law, Christy Tompkins, Craig Trautweiler*

***Class of 2026***

*Katie Candeloro, Marty Haluza, Michael Kraynick, Lynn Mizer, Jean Reilly*

**Board of Deacons**

***Class of 2024***

*Sandy Alho, Tom Erickson, Jennifer Kathenes, Tracey Podolsky, Wendy Schweis*

***Class of 2025***

*Dorothy Aldrich, JoAnne Habenicht, Carol Orbann, Elorm Banini, Sharon Thomas*

***Class of 2026***

*Sue Britton, Michael Candeloro, Joan Horan, Tim Towlen, Shawn Trautweiler*

**Staff**

*Karen Ellis, Financial Secretary*

*Mike Kraynick, Treasurer*

*Patricia Loboda, Administrative Assistant*

*Lorrie Haluza, Interim Christian Education Coordinator*

*Bonnie Luton, Handbell Choir Director*

*Edmond Murphy, Director of Vocal Music*

*Christy Tompkins, Praise Team Leader*

*W R Mahns, Pianist / Organist*

*Rev. Doug Chase, Pastor Emeritus*