

Welcome to

**BRICK
PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH**

111 Drum Point Road, Brick, NJ 08723

732-477-0676 * BrickPresby.com

Brick.Presbyterian@verizon.net

ORDER FOR WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

December 31, 2023

1st Sunday of Christmas

* Please stand as you are able

Congregational responses are in **bold**

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WORDS OF WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gary Tutzauer

PRELUDE

"Emmanuel"

by Janis Ian & Kyle Fleming

Vocalists: Maria Cambria, Sharon Thomas, Christy Tompkins

Keyboardist: W.R. Mahns

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: This is the fullness of time, when we live the promise of Christmas –
God is with us.

**P: Our eyes have seen God's salvation,
the light of Christ that reveals God's mercy and grace.**

L: Come, oh come, dear Lord,
and make your light shine throughout creation!

* HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel!"

(verses 1 5, 6, 7) # 88

CALL TO CONFESSION

L: In God's presence, dreams are fulfilled.

P: By God's power, lives are transformed.

L: Let us lay aside all that may distract us,
and be present with God in prayer.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(unison)

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

Holy God, in this season of hope, joy, peace and love, our hearts, at times, despair. And our eyes grow dim. In the New Year, we pray, O God, that you let the light of Christ guide our every step and our every word. And help us to live and to share the promise of Christmas. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

L: In Christ, we are made sons and daughters of God.

P: **We are given the gifts of forgiveness and grace.**

L: Sing with joy for these glorious gifts!

P: **Amen. We will live as children of light.**

PASSING OF THE PEACE

As God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another, and God will be glorified. Let us turn to our neighbors and extend the peace of Christ. The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

* RESPONSE TO GRACE

“Gloria Patri”

**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.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy God, we have come to celebrate a birth that offers us rebirth. Transform our hearts and minds by your word, that we may grow in your likeness, be filled with your wisdom, and become beacons of good news to the world.
Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 148 p. 4 in pew Bible

ANTHEM *"I Wonder as I Wander"* Appalachian Carol
Susan Gargano, Flautist – W. R. Mahns, Keyboardist arr. Schrader

2nd SCRIPTURE READING Luke 2:22-40 p. in pew Bible

The Words of Holy Scripture for the people of God;
Thanks be to God, Amen.

MESSAGE *"God IS With Us!"* Rev. Christina Hindley

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

HYMN *"Go Tell It on the Mountain"* # 136

LITANY FOR THE NEW YEAR

L: We survived another year, O God – a year that was full of change,
both joyous and concerning.

P: Through it all, You were with us!

L: We welcomed babies into our families and new members into our church.
We discovered new talents, and celebrated recoveries and health.

P: And you celebrated with us!

L: We said good-bye to beloved family and friends,
and grieved as well smaller changes in our life and in the world.

P: And you grieved with us, O God!

L: As we move into the New Year, if ever our hearts despair or our eyes dim,
remind us of Christmas when your Word became flesh and dwelt among
us.

**P: And help us grow in trust that Christ continues to dwell with us
and in us!**

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

"O Holy Night"

arr. John Wilson

Susan Gargano, Flautist – W. R. Mahns, Keyboardist

* DOXOLOGY

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

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**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 DEDICATION

(unison)

We repeat our vows of commitment to you, gracious God, as we dedicate this offering. We are disciples of Jesus Christ, commissioned to share the Good News. May all that we dedicate here – our abilities, the fleeting moments of our days, the resources entrusted to our management – announce your reign and the nearness of your kingdom. We give with joy and serve with delight, thanking you for this opportunity to share what you have given. Amen.

RETURNING TO THE WORLD IN GOD'S NAME

* HYMN

"Love Has Come"

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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Our God Leads Us"

arr. Ruth E Schram

Susan Gargano, Flautist – W. R. Mahns Keyboardist



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.

*The Nursery, in classroom #1,
is available from 9:00AM-11:00AM for children pre-k and under.*



**This morning's chancel flowers are given to the
Glory of God and Hope for the New Year!**



Worship Notes

Brick Presbyterian Church CCLI#1853779/Streaming#2011014

PRAYER LIST

Gary Baker, Elba Figueroa, Lori & Harold Fisher, Marlene Hirt,
Rich Irwin, Jim McCue, Andy Meehan, Michael Toth, Bob Towlen



And Our Homebound:

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



January 1-7

MONDAY **Happy New Year** **Church Office Closed**

TUESDAY **Fundraising Committee mtg** **7:00PM**

WEDNESDAY **Food Pantry Open** **10:AM – 2:PM**
Stewardship Committee mtg **7:00PM**
PB& G Committee mtg **7:00PM**

THURSDAY **Choir rehearsal** **6:30PM**

SUNDAY ***Church School** **9:00AM**
***Adult Bible Study** **9:00AM**
***Worship** **10:00AM**

**The Nursery, in classroom #1,
is available from 9:00AM-11:00AM for children pre-k and under.*

It's almost time! -- On January 1st, Brick Presbyterian Church Food Pantry starts benefiting from the Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program at: 55 Brick Boulevard, Brick NJ.

Spread the budding excitement and make sure everyone knows that for every specially marked \$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet purchased during January, Stop & Shop will donate \$1 to Brick Presbyterian Church Food Pantry!

Committee Reports are Due by Friday, January 19



If you are the **Chairman of a Committee/Group** that usually has a report in the Annual Meeting Packet, please send your reports via e-mail to:

brick.presbyterian@verizon.net

Your donation envelopes for 2024 are in the Narthex. If you would like to use envelopes, you may call the church office or call **Karen Ellis at 732-232-1495.**

SAVE THE DATE – The Annual Congregational meeting is January 28th. Please prayerfully consider if you are called to serve as a **Member-at-Large** on the **Standing Nominating Committee**. We will be seeking to fill these positions at the Annual meeting.



***Call for the Annual Meeting
of the Congregation and Corporation***

The Annual Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation of Brick Presbyterian Church will be held at 11:15am on Sunday, January 28, 2024, in the church Family Life Center following the 10:00am worship service. The meeting will begin with prayer and a light lunch offered by our amazing Fellowship Committee.

The business to be conducted will include: validating the Pastor's Terms of Call, receiving committee and organizational reports, the nomination and election of officers to serve on the Board of Deacons and the Session, and a review of the church's financial reports and audit. ***Please mark your calendar now and make Sunday, January 28, 2024, a must - attend date.***

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 Tomkins, Praise Team Leader
W R Mahns, Pianist / Organist

Rev. Doug Chase, Pastor Emeritus