Welcome to

Brick Presbyterian Church

The fear of the LOI is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. Psalm 111:10, NRSV

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ORDER FOR WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

January 28, 2024

* Please stand as you are able

Congregational responses are in **bold**

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Sharon Thomas

PRELUDE

"Jesus Makes My Heart Rejoice" BPC Bell Choir Gregor - J. Kimball

CALL TO WORSHIP 1

Thinking we know all the answers, yet wondering if we haven't missed something:

We enter this sanctuary of Truth.

In the company of sinners, in cahoots with saints:

We gather as God's people.

Standing by folks of deep, abiding faith; seated with those who stumble through the Kingdom:

We lift our praise to God.

We hunger for power, and you feed us the bread of humility; we long for freedom, and you invite us to drink the cup of self-denial. Faithful and Just God:

Our songs of gratitude will echo down the hallways of creation.

You speak and all the props are knocked out from under our pride. Then, you astound us by reaching out your hand to lift us to our feet so we may follow you. Holy Gift of God:

Our songs of praise will echo down the hallway of our hearts.

Without your wisdom, we would be speechless; without your peace, we would be heartless; without your presence, we would be graceless. Bearer of Truth:

Our songs of joy will echo down the hallways of eternity.

* HYMN "All Creatures of Our God and King" # 15, v. 1 & 4

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Pastor Kristie

CALL TO CONFESSION ²

To open our hearts to God is to risk vulnerability, judgment, and condemnation. But throughout the scriptures, we learn that God is merciful and just, slow to anger, and eager to forgiven. Let us then risk our confession, first in silent, individual prayer and then together in our collective prayer. Let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION ^k

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

Judge of Creation, Owner of Truth: from time immemorial your people have heard your instructions and gone the other way, we have fashioned false gods and followed false prophets. Yet even now your Word calls us to follow only the One who is King *and* Priest *and* Prophet, Divine *and* Human, Wisdom *and* Judgment.

Forgive our waywardness and our tendency to follow fads and trends instead of what is Eternal. Open our eyes to the ways we have been misled and open our hearts to follow you once again. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Did you hear the words of the Call to Confession? Throughout the scriptures, God has demonstrated that God is merciful and just, slow to anger, and eager to forgive. We have made ourselves vulnerable; the Invulnerable One responds with overwhelming grace. Hallelujah, we are forgiven! **Amen**!

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 "Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me" # 582, v.1

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, may the words of my mouth and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you, our Rock and Redeemer. **Amen**.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Deuteronomy 18:15-20 p. 168 in pew Bible

ANTHEM *"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"* Pritchard - M. & S. Eithun BPC Bell Choir - W R Mahns, Keyboard

2nd SCRIPTURE READING Mark 1:21-28 p. 867 in pew Bible

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

MESSAGE *"How Do You Tell the Difference?"* Rev. Kristie Miles

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed, part one

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

* HYMN "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies" # 662

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE

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.

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 *"Be Thou My Vision"* Arr. John Purifoy Susan Gargano, Flute / W R Mahns, Keyboard

* RESPONSE TO BLESSINGS "Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow" # 607

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION ³

Gather the gifts of our hands and hearts, living Spirit. Use these gifts to build – not monuments to your distant glory – but testaments to your intimate love. Amen.

(unison)

(unison)

RETURNING TO THE WORLD IN GOD'S NAME

HYMN

"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"

12, v. 1 & 4

CONNECTING OUR FAITH TO THE ACTIONS OF OUR CHURCH

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Great Is the Lord" Arr. Lloyd Larson Susan Gargano, Flute / W R Mahns, Keyboard



Worship Notes

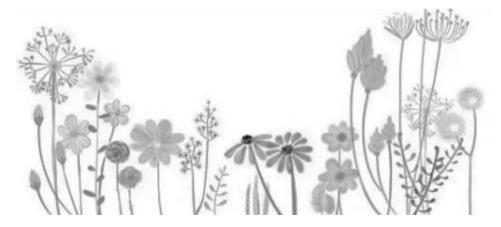
Brick Presbyterian Church CCLI#1853779/Streaming#20110146 ¹ by Tom Shuman https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2006_01_01_archive.html ² by Beth Merrill Neel. https://holdfasttowhatisgood.com/liturgy/prayer-of-confession/ ³ by Katherine Hawker, and posted on Liturgies Outside. http://liturgyoutside.net/



Children and Families Have Options in Worship!

At the front of the sanctuary on the right-hand side, we have a "**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 by the Kraynick family, in memory of their beloved grandmother, Susan Kraynik.

PRAYER LIST

Gary Baker, Elba Figueroa, Lori & Harold Fisher, Marlene Hirt, Rich Irwin, Andy Meehan, the Morris family, Michael Toth, Bob Towlen

And Our Homebound:

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



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 TODAY 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 prayerfully consider if you are called to serve as a **Member-at-Large** on the **Standing Nominating Committee**



Jan 29 - Feb 4

MONDAY	Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00PM
TUESDAY	Worship Com Mtg	5:45PM
WEDNESDAY	Food Pantry Open	10:00AM – 2:00PM
THURSDAY	Choir Rehearsal	6:30PM
SUNDAY	*Church School For children & adults	9:00AM
	*Worship	10:00AM

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



The following items are on the Deacons Food Pantry wish list:

Soups: cream of chicken soup, chicken broth Canned Goods: canned chili, spam baked beans, yams, potatoes, chickpeas, fruit Packaged Goods: brownie mix, cake/cornbread mixes mashed potatoes, ramen noodles, crackers, granola bars Dog/Cat Food (small portions) Beverages: coffee

Thank You for Your Support! <u>Spread the Budding Excitement!</u> - Brick Presbyterian Church Food Pantry has been selected as a beneficiary of the Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program for the month of January 2024. *For each* **\$10.99 Bloomin' 4 Good Bouquet bought this January** at our Brick Stop & Shop, 55 Brick Blvd, \$1 will be donated to our food pantry. Treat yourself, or someone special to you, with these lovely flowers and you will be helping feed those in need!

The Brick Presbyterian *Faithful Remnant* Is Starting Up Again!!

INTERESTED??

Please call **Elaine Salto** 732-477-6332. We are working on meeting once a month during the week to start off. Details to follow in newsletter.



Worship Committee Opportunities

Members are welcome to join in the work of providing meaningful Worship of God at BPC. A wide variety of responsibilities dedicated to Worship are shared among all committee members. Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of the month at 5:45 p.m.

Contact Tom Fortier at tfortier111@gmail.com or 848-333-2599.

We are looking for volunteers to clean and restock the pews at your convenience either after the service on Sunday or during the week. This would be a once-a-month commitment. Please contact Tom if you are able to help out.



Red Cross Blood Drive

Looking forward to March, please check your calendar and consider signing up to donate blood on March 19, 2024, from 2:00-7:00 pm. For more information speak with Sandy Alho.

Each donation helps to save lives!

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, Carol Orbann, Elorm Banini, Sharon Thomas

Class of 2026

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

<u>Staff</u>

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