

# Welcome to Brick Presbyterian Church



# ORDER FOR WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

## EPIPHANY SUNDAY

January 7, 2024

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\* Please stand as you are able

Congregational responses are in **bold**

### GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Sandy Alho

PRELUDE

*"Sing Noel, Noel"*

arr. Jerry Ray

LIGHTING OF THE CHRISTMAS CANDLE

We have been waiting; waiting in hope, peace, joy, and love.

Now - Arise, shine; for your light has come!

The glory of God has risen upon us.

LITANY FOR EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Arise, shine; for your light has come!

The glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Nations will come to his light, and rulers will seek his radiance.

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

He will judge the people with righteousness and defend the cause of the poor.

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

The mystery of the ages is revealed; the eternal plan of God is known to all.

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Let us kneel down before him to give him honor, glory, and praise.

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

Let us offer him all the treasures of our hearts and our lives.

**Jesus Christ is the light of the world.**

God of endless light, you sent a star – rising from darkness, guiding seekers and sages, overwhelming us with joy. Let the splendor of your dawning light grow in us and in all the world until the whole creation shines with your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

\* HYMN

*“The First Nowell”*

# 147 v. 1, 4

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

Pastor Kristie

CALL TO CONFESSION

Like a great light in a land of deep darkness, the mercy of the Lord shines on us. Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sin, first individually and silently, then together in our collective prayer of confession. Let us pray:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*(unison)*

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

**God of glory, you sent Jesus among us as the light of the world, to reveal your love for all people. We confess that our sin and pride hide the brightness of your light. We turn away from the poor; we ignore cries for justice; we do not strive for peace.**

**In your mercy, cleanse us of our sin, and pour out the gifts of your Spirit, that, forgiven and renewed, we may show forth your glory shining in the face of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the promise of the Lord: See, your salvation has come! You are a holy people, redeemed by God; sought out and not forsaken. In the name of Jesus Christ, I proclaim to you, we are forgiven! Hallelujah, **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

God of clarity and author of illumination, as we read, shine the light of understanding, of wisdom, and of revelation onto the pages of Scripture and in our hearts, minds, and spirits so that we may continue to grow into who you have created us to be. In the name of the Son of Righteousness we pray, **Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 1:1-5 p. 1 in pew Bible

ANTHEM *“Carols Around (And a Around)”* arr. Carl J. Nygard  
BPC Choir

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 2:1-12 p. 835 in pew Bible

The Words of Holy Scripture for the people of God;  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE

*“Tailgating the Magi”*

Rev. Kristie Miles

**RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD**

\* HYMN

*“We Three Kings of Orient Are”*

# 151 v. 1,2,5

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

John 8:12

**We believe that Christ is the light of the world. Whoever follows Christ will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, let us pray for the life of the whole world, saying: O Christ, our light, **hear our prayer . . .**

. . . Lord Jesus Christ, hope of the world, help us to bear witness to your light so that all may believe and have life in you; in your holy name we pray. **Amen.**

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

*“There Is Faint Music”*  
BPC Choir

by Dan Forrest

\* DOXOLOGY

*“Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow”*  
**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
praise Christ, all people here below;  
praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

# 607

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

Hallelujah! The Lord our God the Almighty reigns! Let us rejoice and exult and give God the glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come.

**Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.**

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy One, the beginning and the end,  
**the giver of life:**

Blessed are you  
**for the birth of creation.**

Blessed are you  
**in the darkness and the light.**

Blessed are you  
**for your promise to your people.**

Blessed are you  
**in the prophets' hopes and dreams.**

Blessed are you  
**for Mary's openness to your will.**

Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,  
**the Word made flesh.**

#### THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We give you thanks . . .

. . . We look with hope for his coming. Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God,  
**we long for your Spirit.**

Come among us.  
**Bless this meal.**

May your Word take flesh in us.  
**Awaken your people.**

Fill us with your light.  
**Bring the gift of peace on earth.**

Come, Holy Spirit.  
**All praise and glory are yours,**





## **Worship Notes**

Brick Presbyterian Church CCLI#1853779/Streaming#20110146

1 Cover art by Pittman, Lauren Wright. Shining Hope, from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=57077> [retrieved January 2, 2024]. Original source: Lauren Wright Pittman, <http://www.lewpstudio.com/>.



**This morning's chancel flowers are given to the  
Glory of God by the Kraynick family in memory of  
their beloved Father and Pop-Pop,  
Michael Kraynick.**

**Your donation envelopes for 2024 are in the Narthex. If you would like to use envelopes but did not receive a box, you may call the church office or call **Karen Ellis** at 732-232-1495.**

**Spread the Budding Excitement!**

**Brick Presbyterian Church Food Pantry** has been selected as a beneficiary of the Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program for the month of January 2023. The Stop & Shop Bloomin' 4 Good Program, which launched in February 2021, supports local hunger organizations.

**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!



**Committee Reports are Due by Friday, January 12**

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](mailto:brick.presbyterian@verizon.net)**



***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.*

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.

### PRAYER LIST

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



### And Our Homebound:

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

## **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 Caneloro, 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 Caneloro, 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*