

# Welcome to Brick Presbyterian Church



111 Drum Point Road  
Brick NJ, 08723  
732 477-0676

# ORDER FOR WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas

December 29, 2024

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\* Please stand as you are able

Congregational responses are in **bold**

## GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

### Hymn Sing Service

*"Carrying the Light of Christ into the New Year"*

How can we carry the light of Christ into the New Year  
by showing love, kindness, compassion, and forgiveness like Jesus did?

**Words of Welcome & Announcements**

Abby Alino

**Prelude**

*"Little Drummer Boy"*

Cindy Dwyer

### **Call To Worship**

L: Open our ears, Lord,

**P: to hear your word.**

L: Open our eyes, Lord,

**P: to see your presence.**

L: Open our arms, Lord,

**P: to the embrace of community.**

L: Open our minds, Lord,

**P: to the beauty of truth.**

L: Open our hearts, Lord,

**P: to the joy of new life in Christ. Amen!**

## Opening Hymn

*"O Come, All Ye Faithful"*

#133 (vs. 1 & 3)

### *Focus on the Light of Christ*

#### Prayer 1: Love

Liturgist: Gracious God, as we step into the New Year, help us carry the light of Christ by showing love to everyone we meet. Teach us to love unconditionally, as Jesus did, embracing others with open hearts and open arms. May our love reflect your divine love, bringing warmth and hope to those around us. **Amen.**

#### Hymns for Love:

- *"O Come, Little Children"* (vs. 1 & 4)

**O come, little children, O come, one and all.  
To Bethlehem haste, to the manger so small.  
God's Son for a gift has been sent you this night.  
To be your redeemer, your joy and delight.**

**See Mary and Joseph with love beaming eyes  
Are gazing upon the rude bed where He lies,  
The shepherds are kneeling, with hearts full of love,  
While angels sing loud hallelujahs above.**

- *"O Little Town of Bethlehem"* #121 (vs. 1 & 2)

#### Prayer 2: Kindness

Liturgist: Heavenly Father, guide us to embody kindness in all that we do. Let our words be gentle and our actions reflect your goodness. May the kindness we show inspire others to see your light within us, creating a ripple of goodness that touches every corner of the world. **Amen.**

## Hymns for Kindness:

- *“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”* #132 (vs. 1 & 3)
- *“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”* #123 (vs. 1 & 4)

## Prayer of Confession

(unison)

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed: by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

## Assurance of Pardon

**L:** Hear the good news! In Christ, we are forgiven. His grace shines brightly upon us, washing away our sins and renewing our spirits.

**P:** Let us rejoice and walk in the light of God's grace, sharing His love with others. Amen.

## *Hearing the Word*

## Prayer for Illumination

**L:** God of Light, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, so that as your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

## Scripture Reading

Isaiah 61:10–62:3

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## Sermon (Recorded):

“This Is My Story”

Rev. David Cotton

## Hymn of Response:

*“Angels from the Realms of Glory”*

#143 (vs. 1, 2 & 4)

## *Focus on the Light of Christ*

### **Prayer 3: Compassion**

Liturgist: Loving God, you sent your Son to teach us what it means to care for one another deeply. Help us to carry the light of Christ by showing compassion to those who are suffering, lonely, or in need. May we see others as you see them, and may our actions bring healing, comfort, and hope. **Amen.**

### **Hymns for Compassion:**

- *“What Child Is This”* #145 (vs. 1 & 3)
- *“Silent Night”* #122 (vs. 1 & 3)

### **Prayer 4: Forgiveness**

Liturgist: Merciful God, as we carry the light of Christ into the New Year, help us to forgive as Jesus forgave. Teach us to let go of anger and resentment, so that our hearts may be filled with peace and love. May we extend the same grace to others that you so freely give to us. **Amen.**

### **Hymns for Forgiveness:**

- *“Angels We Have Heard on High”* #113 (vs. 1 & 2)
- *“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”* #119 (vs. 1 & 3)

## *Responding to the Word*

### **Prayers of the People**

Liturgist: Let us pray. Gracious God, we thank you for the gift of your Son and the joy of Christmas. As we step into the New Year, we ask for your peace, healing, and hope. Guide us with your love and strengthen us in faith. **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.**

## Offering Invitation

Liturgist: We now call the ushers forward to receive our offerings. As we present our gifts, let us reflect on the abundant blessings we have received and consider how we can share those blessings with others.

## Offertory Hymn:

*"In the Bleak Midwinter"*

#144 (v. 4)

## Prayer of Dedication

(unison)

**God of new life, out of the abundance of our lives, we offer these gifts to you. Through your blessing and our willingness to share, may these offerings become a source of hope and love in this church family and in the community beyond us. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## Sending

## Closing Hymn:

*"Joy to the World"*

#134 (vs. 1 & 4)

## Charge and Blessing

Liturgist: As we go forth into the world, may we carry the light of Christ with us in our hearts, sharing the joy, peace, and love that His birth brought into the world. Go in peace and serve the Lord. **Amen.**

## Response Hymn:

*"Go, Tell It on the Mountain"*

#136 (vs. 1)

## Postlude:

*"Simple Gifts"*

Cindy Dwyer



**This morning's chancel flowers**  
are given to the Glory of God by  
The Auriemma family in celebration of  
***Bobby Auriemma III's 35<sup>th</sup> birthday!***

*The Nursery, in classroom #1, is available for young children.*

### Worship Notes

Brick Presbyterian Church CCLI#1853779/Streaming#20110146



Some of our members have expressed a desire to create an **informal grief sharing group**. I am happy to host these gatherings in my home once a month, if there is sufficient interest. Please text me, **Paulette Auriemma**, at **732-925-5944** if this sounds like something you want to be a part of.

**Prayer List**

Gary Baker, Donovan & Family, Carol Chandler, Figueroa family,  
Lori & Harold Fisher, Kiernan Holster, Rich Irwin,  
Greg Morrison, Steve Prioli, Michael Toth, Judy Willbergh



**And Our Homebound:**

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

**BPC's Winter Blood Drive - Wednesday January 8, 2025 - 3PM – 8PM**

**To schedule an appointment:**

Visit [rcblood.org/appt...](http://rcblood.org/appt...) Sponsor Code: Brick Presbyterian Church

*or*

**Call/Text Tracey Podolsky @ 732-300-0886**





<b>Monday, Dec 30</b>	<b>Church Office Closed</b>	
	<b>Seated Strength &amp; Stretch</b>	<b>5:30PM</b>
	<b>Strength Club</b>	<b>6:00PM</b>
	<b>Bells Rehearsal</b>	<b>7:00PM</b>
<b>Tuesday, Dec 31</b>	<b>Holiday</b>	<b>Church Office Closed</b>
<b>Wednesday, Jan 1</b>	<b>Holiday</b>	<b>Church Office Closed</b>
<b>Thursday, Jan 2</b>	<b>Choir Rehearsal</b>	<b>6:30PM</b>
<b>Saturday, Jan 4</b>	<b>Strength Club</b>	<b>9:00AM</b>
<b>Sunday, Jan 5</b>	<b>Sunday School</b>	<b>9:00AM</b>
	<b>Worship</b>	<b>10:00AM</b>

## *NOTES*

## **Brick Presbyterian Church**

111 Drum Point Road, Brick, NJ 08723

732-477-0676 BrickPresby.com [Brick.Presbyterian@Verizon.net](mailto:Brick.Presbyterian@Verizon.net)

*Annemarie Gilman, Clerk of Session - Pro-Tem*

*Tim Towlen, Moderator of Deacons; Michael Candeloro, Vice-Moderator*

### **Session**

#### ***Class of 2025***

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

#### ***Class of 2026***

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

#### ***Class of 2027***

*Brian Aldrich, Michael Auriemma, Missy Brino, Mark Ellis*

### **Board of Deacons**

#### ***Class of 2025***

*Dorothy Aldrich, Carol Orbann, Elorm Banini, Sharon Thomas, Lauren Towlen*

#### ***Class of 2026***

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

#### ***Class of 2027***

*Kevin Nagy, Sabrina Nagy, Tracey Podolsky, Wendy Schweis*

### **Staff**

*Karen Ellis, Financial Secretary*

*Mike Kraynick, Treasurer*

*Patricia Loboda, Administrative Assistant*

*Lauren Dyke, Christian Education Leader*

*Cindy Dwyer, Pianist*

*Bonnie Luton, Handbell Choir Director*

*Edmond Murphy, Director of Vocal Music*

*Christy Tompkins, Praise Team Leader*

*Rev. Doug Chase, Pastor Emeritus*