

Welcome to Brick Presbyterian Church



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

ORDER FOR WORSHIP OF THE LIVING GOD
Christmas Eve
December 24, 2025

* Please stand as you are able

Congregational responses are in **bold**

GATHERING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Jack Cherry

PRELUDE

"O Holy Night"

by Adolphe C. Adam

Keyboardist: Cindy Dwyer

CALL TO WORSHIP

Adapted from Isaiah and St. John

L: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made Heaven and Earth.

P: Amen.

L: In the Beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness has never overcome it.

P: With a hope that is sure and certain, we welcome God's love into our hearts once again on this night. we have prepared ourselves for the renewed search for God's Peace, we have lifted many valleys, we have leveled many Mountains.

L: And the crooked ways shall be made straight, and the rough ways shall be made smooth;

P: In the darkness of this night, we look for the light of Joy; in the silence we listen for the love of Angels' songs; together with all of God's people we wait for our salvation.

L: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us and we have seen his glory, full of grace and truth.

P: Call us again to the task of beating swords into plowshares and turning spears into pruning hooks, until the nations stop lifting swords against nations, until there is no more warfare.

L: The time has now come when the wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the kid.

P: Let those who love, and those who are angry, and those who are joyous, and those who mourn, all sit together with each other and when we are ready to move forward, let the little child of Bethlehem lead us. Amen.

* HYMN

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!

O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!

Come and behold him, born the King of angels.

Refrain:

O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,

O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,

sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!

Glory to God, all glory in the highest: [Refrain]

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;

Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n!

Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing: [Refrain]

THE EVENING PRAYERS AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

THE GIFTS OF THE PEOPLE

THE OFFERTORY

"Mary, Did You Know?"

arr. Joel Raney

Flutist: Susan Gargano | Keyboardist: Cindy Dwyer

THE OFFERTORY PRAYER

* HYMN

"Christmas Song"

There's a song in the air!

There's a star in the sky!

There's a mother's deep prayer

And a baby's low cry!

And the star rains it's fire,

While the beautiful sing.

For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

There's a tumult of joy

O'er the wonderful birth,

For the virgin's sweet boy

Is the Lord of the earth.

Ay! The star rains it's fire

While the beautiful sing.

For the manger of Bethlehem cradles a King!

* HYMN

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

It came upon the midnight clear,

that glorious song of old,

from angels bending near the earth,

to touch their harps of gold:

"Peace on the earth, good will to all,

from heaven's all-gracious King":

the world in solemn stillness lay,

to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world:
above its sad and lowly plains
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

FIRST LESSON:

Isaiah 9:6-7

Prophet's Promise

The Auriemma Family

Pew Bible p. 593

SPECIAL MUSIC:

"See Amid the Winter's Snow"

arr. Lloyd Larson

BPC Choir | Keyboardist: Cindy Dwyer

The Candle of Hope

L# 1: O God, we light the first candle on the advent wreath.

(The First Advent Candle Is Lit.)

L# 2: This evening, we seek God's Hope, as we pray together:

All: You are the maker and keeper of great promises, O God. From the beginning you have provided your people with a sure sense of Hope in all circumstances, a firm conviction that you will be with us, guiding, protecting and blessing us. Amen.

* HYMN:

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Come, thou long-expected Jesus,

born to set thy people free;

From our fears and sins release us;

let us find our rest in thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
Dear Desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver,
born a child and yet a king,
Born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit,
rule in all our hearts alone;
By thine all-sufficient merit,
raise us to thy glorious throne.

SECOND LESSON:
Luke 2:1-7

The Birthplace of Christ

The Auriemma Family
Pew Bible p. 889

SPECIAL MUSIC:
BPC Choir | Keyboardist: Cindy Dwyer

"No Room, No Room"

Ruth Morris Gray

The Candle of Peace

L# 1: O God, we light the second candle of the Advent wreath.

(The Second Advent Candle Is Lit.)

L# 2: This night, we seek a Prince of Peace, as we pray together:

All: In the midst of turmoil and chaos, we ask for your peace Lord. In our world, in our nation, in our Church, in our homes, in our hearts, we ask the fulfillment and abundance of your Shalom. Amen.

* HYMN

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
the silent stars go by.

Yet in thy dark streets shineth
the everlasting light;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary and, gathered all above,
while mortals sleep, the angels keep
their watch of wondering love.

O morning stars, together
proclaim the holy birth,

and praises sing to God the king, and peace to all on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!

So God imparts to human hearts
the blessings of his heaven.
No ear may hear his coming,
but in this world of sin,

where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
cast out our sin and enter in;
be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels
the great glad tidings tell;

O come to us; abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

THIRD LESSON:
Luke 2:8-14

The Angels Proclamation

The Auriemma Family
Pew Bible p. 889

SPECIAL MUSIC:

"Sing We Now of Christmas"
BPC Choir | Keyboardist: Cindy Dwyer

arr. Lloyd Larson

The Candle of Joy

L# 1: O God, we light the third candle of the Advent Wreath.

(The Third Advent Candle Is Lit.)

L# 2: This night we share the Joy that God provides for us, as we pray together:

All: You have created us for Joy in good times and in bad times. Help us to recognize your presence in humble places and fragile people, even those as humble and fragile as a babe in a manger, and to share the gift of your Joy with all. Amen.

* HYMN

“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”

Hark! The herald angels sing,

“Glory to the newborn king!”

Peace on earth and mercy mild,

God and sinners reconciled.

Joyful, all ye nations rise,

join the triumph of the skies

With th’angelic host proclaim,

“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”

Hark! The herald angels sing,

“Glory to the newborn king!”

Hail the heav’n born Prince of Peace!

Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings,

ris’n with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by,

born that we no more may die,

Born to raise us from the earth,
born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn king!”

FOURTH LESSON:
Luke 2:15-20

The Shepherds Response

The Auriemma Family
Pew Bible p. 889

SPECIAL MUSIC:
BPC Choir | Keyboardist: Cindy Dwyer

“Jesus, Infant Holy”

arr. Linda Spevacek

The Candle of Love

L# 1: O God, we light the fourth candle of Advent.

(The Fourth Advent Candle Is Lit.)

L# 2: This is a night of great love, received and given, by the God who is truly a God of Love and awaits our prayers of love together:

All: We seek your love, we share your love, we offer your love, all in Christ’s name. Amen.

* HYMN: “*Away in a Manger*”

Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus lay down his sweet head.
The stars in the sky look down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.

Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay
Close by me forever and love me I pray.
Bless all, the dear children in thy tender care,
And fit us for heaven to live with thee there.

FIFTH LESSON:
John 1:1-5

The Promise of the Light

The Auriemma Family
Pew Bible p. 922

The Christ Candle

L# 1: O God, we light the candle of Christ.

(The Christ Candle Is Lit.)

L# 2: For God so loved the world that he sent his only begotten Son so that the whole world would be saved by him.

All: We celebrate you, O God, once again this Christmas Eve. Allow us to find and share new blessings with the people encounter tonight, tomorrow and forever. Amen.

THE SERMON

* HYMN: *Angels We Have Heard on High*"

Angels we have heard on high,
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.

Glo-ri-a in excelsis De-o,
Glo-ri-a, in excelsis De-o.

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why, your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be,
which inspire your heav'nly song?

Glo-ri-a in excelsis De-o,
Glo-ri-a, in excelsis De-o.

**Come to Bethlehem and see,
him whose birth the angels sing.
Come adore on bended knee,
Christ the Lord the newborn King.**

**Glo-ri-a in excelsis De-o,
Glo-ri-a, in excelsis De-o.**

SHARING THE LIGHT THAT HAS COME

The candles will be lit during the Anthem.

Once all the candles are lit, the congregation will sing “Silent Night”. At this time, we reflect upon the wonder of the Light that shines in our deepest darkness and can never be overcome, the Light that has come to us, and to all people, in the birth of Christ.

ANTHEM: *“All Is Well”* Michael W. Smith

Vocalists: Sharon Thomas & Edmond Murphy
Flautist: Susan Gargano | Keyboardist: Cindy Dwyer

HYMN: *“Silent Night”*

**Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright,
‘Round yon virgin, mother and child,
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace; sleep in heavenly peace.**

Silent night, holy night, Shepherds quake at the sight,
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'ly hosts sing alleluia;

Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light.
Radiant beams from thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at the birth. Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.

Silent night, Holy night, wondrous star, lend thy light;
With the angels let us sing
alleluia to our King;
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!

BENEDICTION

* RECESSIONAL HYMN: *"Joy to the World!"*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare him room.

And heaven and nature sing,

And heaven and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.

POSTLUDE

“Ding Dong! Merrily on High!”

Keyboardist: Cindy Dwyer

*Tonight, we have gathered to celebrate the beginning, not the end,
of the miracle we have come to know as Christmas.*

*In the hours, days, and months to come we will have countless opportunities
to recognize God in our midst.*

*We invite you to continue to worship with us throughout 2026
as the miracle continues.....*



DECORATIONS FOR OUR SERVICE ARE GIVEN BY:

The Aldrich Family
in memory of our loved ones

The Auriemma Family
in memory of our mother & grandmother, Irene Auriemma

The Auriemma Family
in memory of our loved ones

Paulette Auriemma
in memory of my parents, Anita & Carmine Marinelli

Mary & Bill Burdge and Nancy and John
in memory of Lew & Ruth Cook and Irene Hoffman

Terry Delgado
in memory of Celin, James and Ivan Delgado

Art & Terry Duckworth
in memory of Roy & Teresa Galiardi and Kaitlyn Duckworth

The Ellis Family
in loving memory of all our loved ones

Carol Farley

In memory of loved ones

Lori Evans

in memory of my sister-in-law, Barbara

The Fortier Family

in memory of Oreste Costa, Margaret Costa and Bob Fortier

Susan Gargano

in memory of Alice & Fred Schwankert

Carol Irwin

in memory of my husband Rich and our mothers, Marion Irwin and Violet Korte

Joan Horan

in memory of Gary Horan, Jr. and Arthur & Muriel Best - Always in my heart

Joe & Debbie Johnson

in memory of all our loved ones

Jimmy Kathenes

in memory of Larry Kathenes

The Kathenes Family

in memory of Hank & Gloria Kathenes

The Kathenes Family

Florence Mallinson

The Law Family

in memory of our loving parents, Don & Patricia Bertrand and Jewell & Dorothy Law

Arlene & John Liegl

in memory of our family, Andrew & Sally Bock, Andrew Bock, John & Ruth Liegl

Cheryl McCue

in memory of my husband, Jimmy McCue

Jill, Ray, Konstantine & Kyle Nalewicki

in memory of Barry Polonsky & Joan Breitenbucher

The Paschedag and Schweis Families

in loving memory of Henry Paschedag

Jean Reilly

in loving memory of Doug, Tim & Erin Reilly and Christine Meiselman

Fred & Wendy Schweis

in loving memory of Mandy Sue

Sofia Thalheimer

in memory of Brian S. Klein "BK"

Bob & Sue Towlen

in memory of our parents, Bob & Gerry White and Ellsworth & Daisy Towlen

Wayne Tutzauer

in memory of Barbara Tutzauer