

WORSHIP NOTES

The text for the hymn, *God is Here!*, was commissioned for the rededication of the worship space of University United Methodist Church in Austin, Texas, on April 30, 1978, as the culmination of an eight-month celebration on the theme of “Worship, Music, and the Arts.” Because the author had been informed that the renewed sanctuary would have new furnishings, he lists “table,” “font,” “pulpit,” and “cross” in stanza 2. These items, familiar to churchgoers rarely get mentioned in hymn texts. The frequent use of the word “here” throughout this hymn text situates us in this place of worship and in the presence of God. With stanza 4, the focus shifts and the hymn becomes a prayer for God’s presence and guidance in the midst of life’s changes.

Fred Kaan wrote the text for the hymn, *Lord, When I Came into This Life*, in 1976 for the confirmation of his younger son, Peter, at the National Protestant Church in Geneva. Though not actually sung on that occasion, it was used later when his daughter, Alison, was confirmed in 1977 and his elder son, confirmed in 1978. It is set to an American folk melody, *Land of Rest*, first published in *The Christian’s Harp* appendix in 1836 under the title *Longing for Home*. The opening line of text read, “O land of rest, for thee I sigh,” and later versions of the tune named it from that line.

New Testament scholar at Fuller Seminary, Marianne Meye Thompson, has written about the context in which the earliest Christian Creed was spoken: *Jesus As Lord in a Pluralistic Empire*. “There is a new emphasis in recent NT studies on the significance of the imperial cult, the cult of Caesar, as not just as an interesting aspect of the early church’s social world, but as permeating it to such an extent that any announcement of Jesus as Lord would inevitably have been heard as a challenge and an alternative to the role of Caesar as Lord. Although in the past emperor cult has been understood primarily as a civic duty without real religious overtones, today there is an increasing awareness of the way in which its religious and political aspects were intertwined. Or, as one author puts it, Caesar demanded both taxes and sacrifices. In other words, to say Jesus is Lord means that Caesar isn’t — in whatever way that Lordship might be demonstrated and exercised. ...There are similar later inscriptions and papyri which label other emperors as “God” or Lord” or Savior. Hence when such terms are applied to Jesus, in the context of the Roman Empire, there is little question that the gauntlet is being thrown down. For if Jesus is Lord, then Caesar isn’t.” Her full article is available at www.presbyterianmission.org/what-we-believe/jesus-is-lord.

NEXT SUNDAY’S PREACHER will be the Rev. Douglas T. King.

THE BRICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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MINISTERS

The Rev. Dr. Kimberly L. Clayton, *Transitional Senior Minister*
The Revs. Douglas T. King, Rebekah McLeod Hutto, Adam D. Gorman,
Associate Ministers
Hannah F. Allred, Brian K. Ballard, Joshua H. Narcisse, *Student Ministers*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

Keith S. Tóth, *Minister of Music and Organist*
Amanda Page Smith, *Director of Children’s Music Ministries*
Meg Cutting, *Wilson Family Yale Sacred Music Intern*

USHERS

Officer-in-Charge: Frederick A. Ehler; *Team Captain:* Robert D. McCrie,
Christopher A. Carroll, Luc M. Dowling, Anke K. Ehler, Maxime C. Guignand,
Leigh W. Hoagland, Alex G. Li, Helen M. Lynch, Margaret E. Pennoyer, Paul W.
Shaum, Jonathan D. Stone, John D. Tuttle, Christopher R. Wight.

ORDER OF ST. PAUL

Michael J. Appleby, Nathan P. Appleby, Leah C. Lee, Deborah M. Li, Caroline
C. Pickering, Alexander N. Rahman.

CHANCEL CHOIR

Soprano: R. Lynne Lee, Isabella Livorni, Tonna L. Miller-Vallés, Artemisz Polonyi,
Elizabeth Smith, Catherine Thorpe. *Alto:* Sónia Batten, Agueda Fernández-Abad,
Allison Gish, Jessica Kimple, Melissa Raymond. *Tenor:* Richard Liebowitz, Jeremy
Little, Johnny Maldonado, Jeffrey Taveras. *Bass:* William S. Crutchfield III, Scott
Lindroth, Steven Moore, Ryan Stoudt, Nathaniel Sullivan.

SESSION

Sallie J. Abelow, Patrick A. F. Blott, Susan P. Crary, Paul J. Elmlinger, R. Scott
Froelich, Scripture Z. Gonzalez, Mark A. Greenwood, Shannon D. Henderson,
William S. Hilburn, Harold P. Hope III, Anne R. Huneke, R. Lynne Lee, Sue-
Peng Li, Robert D. McCrie, Helen B. Pennoyer, Elizabeth M. Philipp, Clare C.
Pickering, Brian J. Pitz, Susan A. Powell, Debra N. Seraphim, Richard H. Stowe,
Katherine C. Vosters, Ryan E. Widener, Henry M. Wildermuth (*Youth Elder*),
Suzanne W. Wilson.

DEACONS

Linda R. Arnold, Bret M. Barasch, Beth A. Bell, Arthur W. Bingham, Nancy
T. Blair, Elizabeth A. Boehmler, Christopher A. Carroll, Blythe G. Chace
(*Youth Deacon*), Carl C. Cordova III, E. Graham Clark, David M. Darst,
Helen T. W. Elmiger, Marc T. Engberg, Joseph A. Galloway, William J.
Gambrell, Jeffrey B. Gower, Christopher W. Hamilton, Kate S. Hrobsky,
Cathy Leonhardt, Jane B. Lowry, Katrina K. Masterson, Amelia McDonald, M.
Paige Rustum, Grace Sarno, Andrew R. Skobe, John D. Tuttle, Tanya S. Wells.

TRUSTEES

Charles S. Anderson, Kenneth W. Austin, Patrick D. Barrett, Erik M. W.
Caspersen, Kevin R. Greene, Linda B. Gridley, Timothy D. Haskin, Helen M.
Lynch, Valerie S. Mason, *Secretary*, Richard A. Miller, *President*, Drucilla A.
Richards, Willis G. Ryckman IV, Louisa J. Palmer, *Treasurer*.

— THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR — Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost — ELEVEN O’CLOCK —

WELCOME The moments before worship are a transition from “getting here” to “being here.” Since it usually takes a few minutes to quiet one’s mind, and to become open to the Spirit, it is most appropriate to give one’s friends a silent wave of the hand, a nod of the head, or a friendly smile in lieu of initiating a conversation.

AFTER THE PROCESSIONAL HYMN, in order not to disrupt the worship service, latecomers will be seated by the ushers only at times when the congregation is standing, either during the Congregational Response following the assurance of forgiveness or during the second hymn.

VISITORS, please know how welcome you are. Please sign the Friendship Book when it passes you during the service of worship and identify yourself with a name tag to be found in the book. You are also cordially invited to attend Coffee Hour following worship.

IN THE ORDER OF WORSHIP that follows, an asterisk invites all to stand; items in bold type face indicate that the congregation participates in word or song.

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE DAY
Proverbs 1:20-33 Psalm 19:1-14
James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-38

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Frank Bridge (1879-1941)

“Adagio in E Major”
Meg Cutting, *organist*

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

MINUTE FOR MISSION *Elder Robert D. McCrie*
“Welcome to our Student Ministers”

CHORAL INTROIT *George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)*
“Every Day Will I Give Thanks Unto Thee”
Every day will I give thanks unto Thee: and praise Thy Name for ever and evermore.

* **CALL TO WORSHIP** (*from Psalm 19*)
People: The heavens are telling the glory of God;
Leader: and the firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.
Leader: Day to day pours forth speech, and night to night declares knowledge.
People: Let the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in Your sight, O God, our rock and our redeemer.

* **PROCESSIONAL HYMN 461** *Abbot’s Leigh*
“God Is Here!”

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND 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.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION
Mighty and merciful God, You have called us to be Your people and claimed us for the service of Jesus Christ. We confess we have not lived up to our calling. We have been frightened and timid disciples, forgetful of Your powerful presence and the strength of Your Spirit among us. Forgive our foolish and sinful ways. As You have claimed us in baptism, strengthen us anew to choose Christ’s way in the world. In our varied ministries, fill us with the gifts of grace, that we may fulfill our common calling. Through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

KYRIE 574 *David N. Johnson (1922-1987)*
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* **PASSING OF THE PEACE**
Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

* **CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE** (*Hymn 121, verse 2*) *Puer nobis nascitur*
O Jesus, King of gentleness, do all our inmost hearts possess,
And we to You will ever raise the tribute of our grateful praise.

THE WORD

After the singing of the congregational response, all children are invited to come forward and sit on the chancel steps for the Children’s Message.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE AND PRAYER

* **HYMN 326** *Morecambe*
“Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart”

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION AND SCRIPTURE LESSON
Mark 8:27-38 (*Pew Bible, page 43 N.T.*) *Debra N. Seraphim*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON *Rev. Kimberly L. Clayton*
“What Does Jesus Mean to You?”

THE RESPONSE

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDERS AND DEACONS AND RECOGNITION OF TRUSTEES.

RULING ELDERS
*Sallie J. Abelow, *R. Scott Froehlich, *Mark A. Greenwood, *Harold P. Hope III, Helen B. Pennoyer, *Clare C. Pickering, *Susan A. Powell, *Ryan E. Widener, *Henry M. Wildermuth (*Youth Elder*)

DEACONS
*Blythe G. Chace (*Youth Deacon*), *Beth A. Bell, *Christopher A. Carroll, *William J. Gambrell, *Christopher W. Hamilton, *Kate S. Hrobsky, *Grace Sarno, John D. Tuttle, *Tanya S. Wells
**indicates the officer will be ordained*

TRUSTEES
Patrick D. Barrett, Erik M. W. Caspersen, Drucilla A. Richards, Valerie S. Mason

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND PETITION

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Let us pray..

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Spiritual, arr. Larry L. Fleming*
“Give Me Jesus”

O, when I am alone give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus. O, when I come to die, give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus. And when I want to sing, give me Jesus. You may have all the rest, give me Jesus.

* **DOXOLOGY 592** *Old Hundredth*
Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SENDING

* **RECESSIONAL HYMN 522** *Land of Rest*
“Lord, When I Came Into This Life”

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE *Zachary Wadsworth (b. 1983)*
“Variations on an Old American Tune”
Meg Cutting, *organist*

If you would like someone to pray with you or wish to learn more about the Christian faith and The Brick Church, you may meet with members of our Sunday Prayer Team after the service near the pulpit at the front of the Sanctuary.