

WORSHIP NOTES

The opening hymn, *O Lord How Shall I Meet You?*, is set to the tune *Valet will ich dir geben*, written by Melchior Teschner. It was written for a 1613 text that began with these words is German: “I will bid you farewell,” a song written for people who were dying of the plague. We sing this tune in Advent, and it is also the tune for the Palm Sunday hymn, *All Glory, Laud, and Honor*.

The closing hymn today, *Watchman, Tell Us of the Night*, was written by John Bowring and first published in 1825. This unusual dialogue text may be based on the interchange between a traveler and a sentinel in Isaiah 21:11-12, but it is doubtless colored by John Bowring’s many travels in faraway lands. Though a Unitarian, this hymn and his other well-known hymn (*In the Cross of Christ I Glory*) expresses Christian belief. Though first published in London, this hymn has long enjoyed much more popularity in North America than in Great Britain.

Notes on the text from New Testament scholar, Sharon Ringe: Luke 3:10-14 is a passage found only in Luke among the Gospels. Here, John’s preaching is taken beyond mere warning of impending judgment to provide some guidelines for living in the meantime. Though the crowds in general are said to have posed the question, the response is directed specifically to those wealthy enough to have extra food or clothing, to tax collectors and soldiers. In this reading, Luke tells the story of John’s impending arrest earlier in his Gospel than does Mark or Matthew, thereby ensuring that after the Luke 1 and 3, Jesus and John never again share the spotlight.

Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (born Palestrina, Italy, between February 3, 1525 and February 2, 1526; died Rome, February 2, 1594), composer of *Fuit homo missus a Deo*, was an Italian composer of the Renaissance. He was the most famous 16th-century representative of the Roman School of musical composition. Palestrina had a vast influence on the development of Roman Catholic church music, and his work can be seen as a summation of Renaissance polyphony.

THE FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Clarence W. and Emma Elliot Slocum and Dr. Alexander Gordon Bearn by Margaret Slocum Bearn and the Russell P. Pennoyer Family.



NEXT SUNDAY’S PREACHER will be the Rev. Adam D. Gorman.

THE BRICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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MINISTERS

The Rev. Dr. Kimberly L. Clayton, *Transitional Senior Minister*
The Rev. Douglas T. King, *Senior Associate Minister*
The Revs. Rebekah McLeod Hutto & Adam D. Gorman, *Associate Ministers*
The Rev. Michael L. Lindvall, *Pastor Emeritus*
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: Kent McKamy; *Team Captain:* Christopher L. Allen; Townsend Baldwin, John J. Batten III, David Berkman, Horace I. Crary, Jr., Helen T. W. Elmiger, Kevin R. Greene, Charles C. Higgins, Michael F. Magsig, Christopher M. Mason, Paul F. Mercurio, Jennifer D. Morton, Christopher L. Randall, Petra S. Slater, John W. Steen II, William T. Fennebresque.

GREETERS

Leader: Catherine M. Rowland; Colette O. Bryce, Patricia R. Chapman, Wendy J. Hilburn, Kristen L. Kellas, Catherine J. Kerr, Helen M. Lynch, Helen B. Pennoyer, Linda P. Simpson.

ORDER OF ST. PAUL

Michael J. Appleby, Nathan P. Appleby, Leah C. Lee, Deborah M. Li, Caroline C. Pickering, Alexander N. Rahman, Christopher L. Allen, *Beadle*.

CHANCEL CHOIR

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

SESSION

Sallie J. Abelow, Patrick A. F. Blott, Susan P. Crary, Paul J. Elmlinger, R. Scott Froehlich, 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, Frances G. Laserson, *Clerk of Session*.

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 —

Third Sunday in Advent

— 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	
Zephaniah 3:14-20	Isaiah 12:2-6
Philippians 4:4-7	Luke 3:7-18

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Veni, Veni Emmanuel”
Meg Cutting, *organist*

Leo Sowerby (1895-1968)

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

“Savior of the Nations, Come”

Eyn Enchiridion, 1524

Savior of the nations, come, Virgin’s Son, make here Your home. Marvel now, O heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD CANDLE OF THE ADVENT WREATH

“Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart. Do not fear, O Zion, do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives you victory. He will rejoice over you with gladness, He will renew you in His love as on a day of festival. The Lord says, I will deal with your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast. At that time, I will bring you home.”

Zephaniah, Chapter 3, selected verses 14-20

Karin and Henry Barkhorn

PRAYER FOR ADVENT 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.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 11

“O Lord, How Shall I Meet You?”

Valet will Ich dir geben

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Refining God, You have sent us prophets to call us back to Your ways in the world, but we have not listened to them. We have not walked in Your ways. We have not welcomed Your reign in our lives, in the church, or in the world. We continue old patterns of oppression and injustice. We turn away from those in need and pass by the most vulnerable among us. Forgive us, we pray, and renew Your covenant within us. Help to hear and to heed Your call and claim upon our lives. We pray in the name of the One who is coming, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

KYRIE 574

**Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

David N. Johnson (1922-1987)

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.
People: **And also with you.**

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *(Hymn 8, verse 3)*

**Redeemer, come! I open wide my heart to Thee; here, Lord, abide.
Let me Thy inner presence feel; Thy grace and love in me reveal.**

Truro

ANTHEM

16th Century Plainchant, arr. R. Ramsey

“Puer Natus Est”

Puer natus est nobis, alleluia. Unde gaudet Jerusalem. Alleluia!

A child is born in Bethlehem, alleluia, therefore rejoice, Jerusalem. Alleluia!

Puer natus est nobis, alleluia. Deo dicamus gratias. Alleluia!

A Son is given on that day, alleluia. Rejoice before the Lord and pray, alleluia!

The Junior and Youth Choirs

Joel Bramble, Colette Bryce, Maya Christina Vartiainen, *handbells*

THE WORD

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE AND PRAYER

* HYMN 10

“On Jordan’s Banks the Baptist’s Cry”

Winchester New

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION AND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 3:1-20 *(Pew Bible, page 60 N.T.)*

Kevin R. Greene

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

SERMON

“What Should We Do?”

Rev. Kimberly L. Clayton

THE RESPONSE

* CONFESSION OF FAITH *(From A Brief Statement of Faith)*

We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human and fully God. Jesus proclaimed the reign of God: preaching good news to the poor and release to the captives, teaching by word and deed and blessing the children, healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted, eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners, and calling all to repent and believe the gospel. Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition, Jesus was crucified, suffering the depths of human pain and giving His life for the sins of the world. God raised this Jesus from the dead, vindicating His sinless life, breaking the power of sin and evil, delivering us from death to life eternal. With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

* GLORIA PATRI 57

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

Henry W. Greatorex (1813-1858)

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND PETITION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray...

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Not for this land alone,
But be God’s mercies shown from shore to shore;
And may the nations see that we must loving be,
And form one family the wide world o’er. Amen.**

America

* INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“Fuit homo missus a Deo”

Fuit homo missus a Deo, cui nomen erat Ioannes. Hic venit in testimonium, ut testimonium perhiberet de lumine, et pararet Domino plebem perfectam.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came in witness, to bear witness to the light, and to prepare for God a perfect people.

—Based on John 1:6-8

* DOXOLOGY 592

**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.**

Old Hundredth

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SENDING

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 20

“Watchman, Tell Us of The Night”

Aberystwyth

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

“Helmsey”
Meg Cutting, *organist*

James Vivian (b. 1974)

*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.*