



*Drawing by Leah Adams, age 7*

## The Brick Church Christmas Eve Family Service

*The Christmas Pageant is a joyful service of worship and an opportunity to hear the Christmas story. The children have worked hard to prepare their parts in this service. Since this is a worship service and children need to concentrate on their roles, please refrain from using flash photography, applauding, or waving to your children. May the readings, carols, lights and stories of this pageant help your family to welcome Christ on this Christmas Eve.*

### **Prelude**

“A Nativity Suite”  
Keith S. Tóth, *organ*

*Wilbur Held (1914-2015)*

### **Welcome and Invitation**

*Rev. Rebekah McLeod Hutto*

### **Ringling of the Christmas Bell**

*Cole Durham*

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DECEMBER 24, 2018 | ELEVEN A.M.

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“Once in Royal David’s City”

**Duet:**

Once in royal David’s city  
stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby  
in a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild,  
Jesus Christ, her little child.

*Caroline Pickering, Katherine Thorpe*

**All:**

He came down to earth from heaven  
who is God and Lord of all,  
and His shelter was a stable,  
and His cradle was a stall:  
with the poor, oppressed, and lowly  
lived on earth our Savior holy.

Jesus is our childhood’s pattern;  
Day by day, like us, He grew;  
He was little, weak, and helpless,  
Tears and smiles, like us He knew;  
And He feels for all our sadness,  
And he shares in all our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see Him,  
through His own redeeming love;  
for that child so dear and gentle,  
is our Lord in heav’n above,  
and He leads His children on  
to the place where He is gone.

## THE GATHERING

**\* CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Robert Giuffra*

Leader: The singing of angels; the light of a star;

**People: the love of a simple family around a manger call us to this place.**

Leader: For here we gather, to celebrate the good tidings of Christmas!

**People: For unto us a child is born, unto us a Son is given.**

Leader: And so it is that our hearts are full of love and our lives are changed forever!

**People: Let us worship the giver of this great gift!**

**All: Let us worship God on this special day.**

“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!**

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

**Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to Thee be all glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing.**

*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 heaven above! Glory to God, all glory in the highest!**

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

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

#### **The First Advent Reading**

*Zabra Toure*

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ. *Advent* means *coming*. We are preparing ourselves for the days when nations shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nations shall not threaten each other, nor will the people learn war anymore.

#### **The Second Advent Reading**

*Eloise Widener*

The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall blossom and rejoice with joy and singing.

#### **The Third Advent Reading**

*Campbell Coleman*

At that time, declares the Lord, I will be the God of all the clans of Israel, and they will be my people. I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving kindness. I will build you up again and you will be rebuilt, O Virgin Israel. Again you will take up your tambourines and go out to dance with the joyful.

### THE CANDLE IS LIT

*Zabra Toure*

### INVITATION TO HEAR THE CHRISTMAS STORY

*Martha Higgins*

Come away, come away, come today to Bethlehem. Come adore on bended knee, One whose birth the angels sing. Come away, come away, from your noisy celebration, to a place of quietness and peace. Come with wonder, come with awe. Take your place among sheep and cattle. Sing with joy! Praise God! For the time of promise has come. Sing the good news of Emmanuel: God with us! The Christ has come! Come away, come away, come today to Bethlehem.

Listen now to the story of Christmas. It begins long ago, long before we were born, long before our parents were born. The story of Christmas begins with the very creation of the world, at the beginning of all things. Listen now to this sacred story.

# THE WORD: THE CHRISTMAS STORY

SCENE 1:

**The Prophets Foretell the Coming of the Christ**

SCENE 2:

**The Angel Visits Zechariah**

SCENE 3:

**Elizabeth Learns About the Angel's News**

SCENE 4:

**The Angel Gabriel Visits Mary**

SCENE 5:

**Mary Visits Elizabeth**

SCENE 6:

**Joseph Learns What Will Happen**

SCENE 7:

**Caesar Augustus Calls for a Census**

SCENE 8:

**Mary and Joseph Come to Bethlehem**

HYMN 60

*Stille Nacht*

“Silent Night”

**Duet: Mary and Joseph:**

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.

**All:**

Silent night, holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight; Glories stream from heaven afar, Heavenly 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 Thy 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!

SCENE 9:

**The Angels Visit the Shepherds and Cows and Lambs**

SCENE 10:

**A Multitude of the Heavenly Host Appears**

HYMN 23

*Gloria*

“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. *Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? What the gladsome tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song?

*Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

Come to Bethlehem and see, Him whose birth the angels sing; Come, adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord, the newborn King.  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

See Him in a manger laid, Whom the choirs of angels praise; Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, While our hearts in love we raise.  
*Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!*

SCENE II:

The Shepherds and Animals Look for the New King

HYMN 50

*African-American Spiritual*

“Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow”

There’s a star in the east on Christmas morn, Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

It will lead to the place where the Christ was born, Rise up, shepherd and follow.

*Follow, follow, rise up, shepherd, and follow. Follow the star of Bethlehem, Rise up, shepherd and follow.*

If you take good heed to the angel’s words, Rise up, shepherd, and follow,

You’ll forget your flocks, you’ll forget your herds, Rise up, shepherd, and follow.

*Follow, follow, rise up, shepherd, and follow. Follow the star of Bethlehem, Rise up, shepherd and follow.*

SCENE 12:

The Shepherds Find the New King

SCENE 13:

The Magi Follow the Star of Bethlehem

HYMN 66

*Three Kings of Orient*

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

All: We three kings of Orient are, Bearing gifts we traverse afar, Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star.

*O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light!*

**Magi Solo 1:**

Born a King on Bethlehem’s plain, Gold I bring to crown Him again. King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign.

All: *O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light!*

**Magi Solo 2:**

Frankincense to offer have I; Incense owns a Deity nigh; Prayer and praising, we are raising, Worshipping God Most high.

All: *O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light!*

**Magi Solo 3:**

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume, Breathes a life of gathering gloom. Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, Sealed in a stone cold tomb.

All: *O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light!*

All: Glorious now behold Him arise; King and God and Sacrifice; Alleluia, Alleluia, Sounds through the earth and skies

*O star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright, Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light!*

# OFFERING

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

*Martha Higgins*

## OFFERTORY 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

## \* 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

*Campbell Coleman*

## HYMN 25

*Mueller*

*“Away in a Manger”*

**Away in a manger, no crib for His bed, The little Lord Jesus laid down His sweet head. The stars in the sky looked down where He lay, The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the poor Baby wakes, But little Lord Jesus, no crying He makes; I love Thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky, And stay by my side till morning is nigh.**

**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.**

# THE RESPONSE

## A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

*Robert Giuffra*

## A CHRISTMAS CHARGE (POEM BY HOWARD THURMAN)

*Eloise Widener*

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the Magi and the shepherds have found their way home, the work of Christmas begins: To find the lost one, to heal the broken soul with love, to feed the hungry children with warmth and good food, to feel the earth below and the sky above, to see God’s children everywhere!

# THE SENDING

\*RECESSIONAL HYMN 40

*Antioch*

“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 nature sing, And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.**

**Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let us our songs employ; While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground; He comes to make His blessings flow, Far as the curse is found, Far as the curse is found, Far as, far as, the curse is found.**

**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.**

**The Benediction**

*Zahra Toure*

**Organ Postlude**

*Wilbur Held*

“Improvisation on Joy to the World”

Keith S. Tóth, *organ*

*All children must return to the Youth Floor to turn in costumes and meet their parents.*

*Thanks for being a part of the pageant!*

## THIS YEAR'S PAGEANT

*Once a year we gather together to hear the familiar story of Christ's birth as told through the voices of our children and youth. Storytelling has the power to make the familiar unfamiliar to us. Even if we know the words by heart, the act of watching the ancient drama unfold transports us back to the first time we learned of the baby who was born in a manger because there was no room in the inn. Together, we are caught up with Mary and the Angel Gabriel or the Shepherds and the Magi who behold the shining star. Together, we are once again transformed by the light that the darkness cannot overcome. Together, we re-tell the story of our faith and answer the call to worship from our God made flesh who has come to live among us. Together we proclaim the Good News that hope is alive and peace will come.*

*Many thanks to the children and youth who have worked hard to lead us in worship this evening. Thanks also to George Thomas, Christiane Ramirez, German Trivino, and our whole facilities crew for helping us with staging, lighting, and sound. Many thanks as well to Jeffrey Shayne and Renee Jennings for all the administrative and program support they provide to this event. Thank you to our usher team this morning. We greatly appreciate and thank all the adult volunteers who have helped with costuming, chaperoning, snacks, music, and scripts and our Children's Ministries Committee for its support. Finally, thanks to Keith Tóth, Minister of Music and Organist at The Brick Church, for his beautiful leadership on the organ.*

Rev. Rebekah M. Hutto

*Associate Minister for*

*Christian Education and Discipleship*

Peter J. Manning

*Elder and Volunteer Stage Director*

Amanda Page Smith

*Director of Children's Music Ministries*

# Worship Leaders in The 2018 Brick Church Christmas Pageant

## ANGELS

Leah Adams  
Egan Brecevich  
Sage Caraher  
G.G. Caspersen  
Avery Coleman  
Brooke Coleman  
Charlotte Diamond  
Oona Elmiger  
Mila Gayle  
Ingrid Gower  
Clementine Hamilton  
Annabelle Harman  
Nancy Hope  
Grace Mahland  
Twiggy Mangriotis  
Augusta Pankoff  
Elle Peers  
Annabelle Pierce  
Olivia Pierce  
Parker Pitz  
Piper Pitz  
Luciana Rodriguez  
Catherine Spray  
Margo Steen  
Beatrice Weber

## LEAD ANGELS

Camille Auth  
Elise Cameron

## THE ANGEL GABRIEL

Helena Burger

## THE ANGEL TO JOSEPH

Madeline Widener

## THE ANGEL TO THE SHEPHERDS

Carolina Cali

## BELL RINGER

Cole Durham

## CAESAR AUGUSTUS

Andrew van Dyke

## CANDLE LIGHTER

Zahra Toure

## CHRISTMAS COWS

Bud Bradley Bota  
Eleanor Caspersen  
William Jacobsson  
Dean Veltre  
Ashton Wu

## INNKEEPER

Anders Caspersen

## JOSEPH

Zander Auth

## LAMBS

Jasper Burger  
Magnus Caspersen  
Norah Jin-Rodriguez

## MARY

Cosette Penna

## ELIZABETH

Lillian Auth

## ZECHARIAH

Andrew Pettker

## NARRATORS

Martha Higgins  
Anna McDonald  
Isabella Smith

## PROPHETS

Blu Belle Bradley Bota  
Alexandra Ingle  
William Leung  
Hunter Rossetter  
Alex van Dyke

## READERS

Campbell Coleman  
Robert Giuffra  
Zahra Toure  
Eloise Widener

## LEAD SHEPHERD

Torrey Rossetter

## SHEPHERDS

Charles Andersen  
Vincent Cali  
John Curran  
Cole Durham  
Kip Hamilton  
Taft Moses  
Pax Phillips  
Ryan Rodda

## SINGING MAGI

Sawyer Smith  
Lucy Thorpe  
Riley Wordsman

## CHRISTMAS STAR

Kate Barrett

## WALKING MAGI

Evelyn Anderson  
Camille Henderson  
Elise Henderson

## SOLDIERS

Logan Barrett  
Oliver Burger  
Teddy Gonzalez  
Cameron Haskin

## SPEAKING SHEPHERDS

Ethan Cameron  
Ann Higgins  
Hannah Ruth Hurto  
Elizabeth Jacobsson  
Damon Penna  
Jacob Smith

## STARS

Greer Chepiga  
Addie Masella  
Alexander Oberbeck  
Nicholas Pettker  
Kira Smith

## TOWNSPEOPLE

Margaret Anderson  
Brooke Gonzalez  
Kate Higgins  
Waverly Moses  
Emma Thorpe

## COSTUME AND STAFF SUPPORT

Renee Jennings  
Jeffrey Shayne

## LIGHTING/PROPS

Michael Appleby  
Nate Appleby  
Caroline Pickering  
Katherine Thorpe

## STAGE MANAGER

Sarah van Dyke

## MUSIC DIRECTOR

Amanda Smith

## ORGANIST

Keith S. Tóth

## Ushers

*Officer-in-Charge:*  
Frederick A. Ehlerz;  
*Team Captain:*  
Robert D. McCrie;  
Christopher A. Carroll  
Luc M. Dowling  
Anke K. Ehlerz  
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

