

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Keith S. Tóth, *organist*

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

* CALL TO WORSHIP *(from Psalm 139:1-5)*

Leader: O Lord, You have searched me and known me.

All: You know when I sit down and when I rise up;

Leader: You discern my thoughts from far away.

All: You search out my path and my lying down,

Leader: and are acquainted with all my ways.

All: Even before a word is on my tongue,

Leader: O Lord, you know it completely.

All: You hem me in, behind and before,

Leader: and lay Your hand upon me.

All: Come, let us worship the Lord.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 382

Somebody's Knockin'

“Somebody’s Knocking at Your Door”

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

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become, for us, a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. 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 response, all children are invited to come forward and sit on the chancel steps for the Children’s blessing.

BLESSING OF THE CHILDREN

Pastor: People of God, what is our prayer for God’s children?

People: That God be with the children as they learn of Jesus and His love.

* HYMN 363

Sojourner

“I Want Jesus to Walk With Me”

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION AND

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Thomas D. Robinson

Luke 14:1, 7-14 *(Pew Bible, page 77 N.T.)*

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rev. Adam D. Gorman

“Where to Sit”

THE RESPONSE

* CONFESSION OF FAITH *(From The Second Helvetic Confession)*

In regards to communion, the eating of the flesh, and drinking of the blood of the Lord, is so necessary for salvation, that without it, no man can be saved. But this spiritual eating and drinking, also occurs apart from the Supper of the Lord, and as often, and wherever a man believes in Christ. To which that sentence of St. Augustine’s applies: “Why do you provide for your teeth and your stomach? Believe, and you have eaten.”

* GLORIA PATRI 579

Henry W. Greatorex (1813-1858)

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.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND PETITION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray...

* CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

America

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.

* INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Richard Shephard (b. 1949)

“The Secret of Christ”

For a long time I have held my peace, but now will I speak. I will lead the blind in a way they know not, in paths that they have not known I will guide them. I will turn their darkness into light, and I will not forsake them. And He showed me a pure river of the water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God; and on either side of the river was there a tree of life, and the leaves of the trees were for the healing of the nations. Help us, Lord, to persevere in prayer with minds awake and thankful hearts, that we may share the secret of Christ with those we meet on our earthly pilgrimage, following in the steps of Jesus, our Master and our Friend. Amen.

—*Text from Isaiah 42, Revelation 22, and The Pilgrim Prayer*

* 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 369

I’m Gonna Live

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Keith S. Tóth, *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.