

WORSHIP NOTES

Today marks The Brick Church's sixth annual "Festival of Hymnody," a Sunday on which we celebrate the great music of the church. This year's Festival is organized around American Hymns. Singing has been a part of Christian worship since New Testament days. Today, church is the only place where most people have opportunity to sing.

There Is A Balm in Gilead is a traditional African American spiritual. The "balm in Gilead" is a reference from the Old Testament, but the lyrics of this spiritual refer to the New Testament concept of salvation through Jesus Christ. "The balm of Gilead" is interpreted as a spiritual medicine that is able to heal Israel (and sinners in general). In the Old Testament, the "balm of Gilead" is taken most directly from Jeremiah 8:22: "Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then is there no healing for the wounds of my [God's] people?" Another allusion can also be found in Jeremiah 46:2 and 11: "This is the message (of the Lord) against the army of Pharaoh Neco ... Go up to Gilead and get balm, O Virgin Daughter of Egypt, but you multiply remedies in vain; here is no healing for you." A version of this spiritual's text was known to African-American communities in the early 19th century. However, we do not currently know the date of the first appearance of the spiritual in its current form.

Sir John Milford Rutter CBE (born London, Sept. 24, 1945), composer of *A Gaelic Blessing*, is an English composer, choral conductor, editor, arranger, and record producer. Educated at Highgate School and Clare College, Cambridge, he was Director of Music at Clare College from 1975-1979. In 1981 he founded his own choir, The Cambridge Singers, that is known worldwide for its many award-winning recordings. Rutter's choral compositions are beloved and widely performed. In 1996 the Archbishop of Canterbury conferred a Lambeth Doctorate of Music upon Rutter in recognition of his contributions to church music.

Elizabeth Poston (born Stevenage, England, October 24, 1905; died Stevenage, March 18, 1987), composer of *Jesus Christ the Apple Tree*, was an English composer, pianist, and writer. She studied at the Royal Academy of Music in London where she was encouraged by both Peter Warlock and Ralph Vaughan Williams. Poston composed scores for radio and television productions and collaborated with writers such as E. M. Forster, C. S. Lewis and Dylan Thomas. In addition to her composing, Poston was also an academic. She wrote articles and program notes for the Arts Council of Great Britain and was the editor of a number of folksong, carol, and hymn collections.

THE FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Miriam Thompson by Sybil Thompson.



NEXT SUNDAY'S PREACHER will be Rev. Dr. Kimberly L. Clayton.

THE BRICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Parish House: 62 East 92nd Street, New York, New York 10128-1398 | On the web at www.brickchurch.org
phone: 212-289-4400 day school: 212-289-5683 email addresses: www.brickchurch.org/contact

MINISTERS

The Rev. Dr. Kimberly L. Clayton, *Transitional Senior Minister*
The Rev. Douglas T. King, *Senior Associate Minister*
The Rev. Adam D. Gorman, *Associate Minister*
The Rev. Michael L. Lindvall, *Pastor Emeritus*
Anthony Jones, Jacob Kennedy, Margaret Poteet, *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: M. Douglas Watson Jr.; *Team Captain:* Richard G. Faux Jr.; Mark R. Altherr, John P. Argenti, Thomas P. Auth, Henry C. Barkhorn III, Walter F. Bottger, David L. Chiang, Jonathan M. Conrad, Richard G. Corey, Michael G. Fisch, John C. Michaelson, Paul W. Perkins, Richard L. Peters, Willis G. Ryckman IV, Gibbons H. Sinclair, Richard H. Stowe.

GREETERS

Leader: Gail P. Crutchfield; Sean P. Breen, Ronald A. Brown, Theodore D. Clement, Diana C. Clement, Jonas M. Kumpitch, Kirsten W. Morgan, Margaret E. Pennoyer, Marilyn T. Dikkers, Elizabeth P. Philipp.

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: Alina Lee, Isabella Livorni, Tonna L. Miller-Vallés, Artemisz Polonyi, Elizabeth Van Os. *Alto:* Sónia Batten, Agueda Fernández-Abad, Erica Koehring, Melissa Raymond. *Tenor:* Nathan Carlisle, Sean Clark, Johnny Maldonado, Jeffrey Taveras. *Bass:* Buddy Crutchfield, Daniel Hoy, Steven Moore, Ryan Stoudt.

YOUTH CHOIR

Blu Belle Bradley Bota, Bud Bradley Bota, Eleanor Caspersen, Charlotte Rose, Lilly G. R. Taylor, Riley Wordsman

SESSION

Sallie J. Abelow, Raj J. Alva, David M. Blais, Colette O. Bryce, Susan P. Crary, William S. Crutchfield, Paul J. Elmlinger, R. Scott Froehlich, Scripture Z. Gonzalez, Harold P. Hope III, Anne R. Huneke, Stefan Kruger, Michael F. Magsig, Robert D. McCrie, Oliver T. Moses, Helen B. Pennoyer, Clare C. Pickering, Alexander N. Rahman (Youth Elder), Richard H. Stowe, Conor S. Tochilin, Katherine C. Vosters, Ryan E. Widener, Suzanne W. Wilson, Victor L. Wu, Mario J. Verdolini Jr., *Clerk of Session*, Debra N. Seraphim, *On-Call Clerk of Session*.

DEACONS

Nathan P. Appleby (Youth Deacon), Beth A. Bell, Arthur W. Bingham, Nancy T. Blair, Stephana Bottom, Paige M. Cali, Christopher A. Carroll, Tenley L. Chepiga, Olivia V. Cranshaw (Youth Deacon), Carl C. Cordova III, E. Graham Clark, David M. Darst, Mark E. Dingle, Helen T. W. Elmiger, William J. Gambrell, Sylvia A. Gower, Kate S. Hrobsky, Amy E. Johnson, Loren E. Kittilsen, Christopher Lanning, Katrina K. Masterson, Amelia McDonald, John P. Muller, Grace Sarno, Andrew R. Skobe, Oscar T. Sloterbeek, Kristin S. Steen John D. Tuttle, Tanya S. Wells.

TRUSTEES

Charles S. Anderson, Kenneth W. Austin, David E. Barrett, Patrick D. Barrett, Jonathan S. Bean, Erik M. W. Caspersen, Kevin R. Greene, Linda B. Gridley, Valerie S. Mason, *Secretary*, Richard A. Miller, *President*, Drucilla A. Richards, Louisa J. Palmer, *Treasurer*.



— THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR —
Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Festival of Hymnody
— ELEVEN O' CLOCK —

NOTICE: The Brick Church Call to Congregational Meeting

By Order of the Session and the Board of Trustees of The Brick Presbyterian Church in the City of New York, a Meeting of the Congregation and Corporation will be held **next Sunday, Oct. 27**, immediately following morning worship in the Sanctuary. This meeting is called for the following purposes: to elect a Ruling Elder to succeed Susan A. Powell for a partial term; to elect a Trustee to succeed James D. Lindemuth, Jr.; to transact any such other business as may come before the meeting.

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

Jeremiah 31:27-34 Psalm 119:97-104
2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 Luke 18:1-8

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

The Brick Church Brass and Percussion Ensemble
Thomas Hoyt and John Dent, *trumpet*
Judy Lee, *French horn*
George Hoyt and Donald Hayward, *trombone*
Benjamin Harms, *percussion*

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

CHORAL INTROIT

John Rutter (b. 1945)

“A Gaelic Blessing”

Deep peace of the running wave to you. Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you. Deep peace of the shining stars to you. Deep
peace of the gentle night to you. Moon and stars pour their healing light on you.
Deep peace of Christ, of Christ the light of the world to you. Deep peace of Christ
to you.—*text adapted from an old Gaelic rune*

The Youth and Chancel Choirs

* CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 119)

Leader: How sweet are Your words to my taste, O God,
sweeter than honey to my mouth!

**People: Your word is a lamp to my feet
and a light to my path.**

Leader: Your decrees are my heritage forever;
they are the joy of my heart.

**People I incline my heart to perform Your statutes
forever, to the end.**

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 361

Foundation

“How Firm a Foundation”

REFLECTION ON HYMN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Our prayers are faint, O God, because our faith is weak. Strengthen us in
the same, lest our religion be in word and form alone, and not in power. Let
that mind be in us which was in our Savior, that relationships may matter
more to us than possessions, and the Kingdom of God count for more than
the kingdoms of this world. Give us sight to see our sins, the grace to confess
them, the will to forsake them, that we may grow into the likeness of Christ,
more faithfully to do Thy will. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

—*A Prayer by Ernest T. Campbell, Pastor of the Riverside Church 1968-1976*

* HYMN 294

New England

“Wherever I May Wander”

THE WORD

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

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE AND PRAYER

* HYMN 302

Simple Gifts

“I Danced in the Morning”

REFLECTION ON HYMN

ANTHEM

Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987)

“Jesus Christ the Apple Tree”

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit and always green: the trees of
nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree. His beauty doth all things
excel: by faith I know, but ne’er can tell the glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ
the apple tree. For happiness I long have sought, and pleasure dearly I have bought:
I missed of all; but now I see ‘tis found in Christ the apple tree. I’m weary with my
former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile: under the shadow I will be of Jesus Christ
the apple tree. This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive;
which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.

—*“Divine Hymns or Spiritual Songs”, compiled by Joshua Smith (New Hampshire, 1784)*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION AND SCRIPTURE LESSON

Debra N. Seraphim

Philippians 2:1-11 (*Pew Bible, page 197 N.T.*)

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

*HYMN 305

Pleading Savior

“Jesus, Our Divine Companion”

REFLECTION ON HYMN

* HYMN 507

Dove of Peace

“I Come with Joy”

THE RESPONSE

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND PETITION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray...

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.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

spiritual, arr. William L. Dawson

“There is a Balm in Gilead”

There is a Balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole, there is a Balm in Gilead,
to heal the sin-sick soul. Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work’s in vain,
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. If you cannot sing like angels, if you
cannot preach like Paul, You can tell the love of Jesus, and say “He died for all.”

Tonna L. Miller-Vallés, *soprano*

* DOXOLOGY 592

Old Hundredth

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SENDING

* RECESSIONAL HYMN 564

Materna

“O Beautiful for Spacious Skies”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

trad. arr. Jari Villanueva

“Amazing Grace”

The Brick Church Brass and Percussion Ensemble

*Our profound thanks to Don and Lynn Wilson for their generous support
which made this Festival of Hymnody possible.*

*Please share your joys and concerns while praying for the needs of others by joining us
in group prayer, today after worship. There is great strength in praying as a group. As
Jesus said, “For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of
them.” We will meet from 12:30 to 1 p.m. in the Chapel.*

*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.*