

I THESSALONIANS 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

PRE-SERVICE ANTHEMS

“Jesus Christ the Apple Tree”

Elizabeth Poston (1905-1987)

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)*

“The Lamb”

John Tavener (1944-2013)

Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee? Gave thee life, and bid thee feed, by the stream and o'er the mead; gave thee clothing of delight, softest clothing, woolly, bright; gave thee such a tender voice, making all the vales rejoice? Little Lamb, who made thee? Dost thou know who made thee? Little Lamb, I'll tell thee, Little Lamb, I'll tell thee: He is called by thy name, for he calls Himself a Lamb: He is meek, and He is mild; He became a little child. I, a child, and thou a lamb, we are called by His name. Little Lamb, God bless thee! Little Lamb, God bless thee!

— *William Blake (1757-1827)*

WEEKLY CALENDAR

All programming is virtual unless otherwise indicated

Event Time	Event Name
Sunday, 13 December 2020	
9:30 AM to 10:30 AM	Adult Ed. Lecture Series
11:00 AM to 12:15 PM	Sunday Worship
12:00 PM to 5:00 PM	Christmas Pageant Recording
12:15 PM to 1:30 PM	High School Youth Group
4:00 PM to 5:00 PM	Stations of the Cradle
Monday, 14 December 2020	
8:00 AM to 10:30 AM	Keep Fit 2020-21 - Monday Class
Tuesday, 15 December 2020	
4:30 PM to 5:30 PM	Keep Fit 2020-21 - Tuesday Class
6:30 PM to 7:30 PM	Stewardship Committee
Wednesday, 16 December 2020	
9:00 AM to 10:00 AM	Communications Committee Meeting
6:00 PM to 8:30 PM	Session Meeting
6:00 PM to 6:20 PM	Wednesday Evening Prayer Service
Thursday, 17 December 2020	
7:45 AM to 8:45 AM	Men's Bible Study
9:15 AM to 10:15 AM	Women's Bible Study
10:00 AM to 11:30 AM	Keep Fit 2020-21 - Thursday Class



— THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR —
Third Sunday in Advent
 — ELEVEN O'CLOCK —

LECTIONARY SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR THE DAY

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Psalms 126:1-6

John 1:6-8, 19-28

TODAY'S WORSHIP

Today's choral music is sung by Chancel Choir members Tonna Miller-Vallés, Elizabeth van Os, William Ferguson and Edward Hanlon. Today's organ music is played by Keith S. Tóth. Our preacher today is the Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Evans.

LIVESTREAM MINISTRY

Services are broadcast, recorded and archived each Sunday via LiveStream and are available on the Brick Church website at <https://www.brickchurch.org/worship/livestream/>. For more hymn recording from E. Deane Turner's "A Legacy of Sacred Songs," visit our online audio companion to the book at www.brickchurch.org/a-legacy-of-sacred-songs.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Like us on Facebook (Brick Presbyterian Church), and follow us on Instagram (@brickchurchnyc) and Twitter (@BrickChurchNYC). Please watch for announcements of special events and other programming on our social media platforms and the front page of our website.

THE FLOWERS in the Sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of A. Alex Porter Jr. by his nieces Alexis Boehmler, Jean Boehmler Reynolds and Liz Boehmler.



NEXT SUNDAY'S PREACHER will be The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Evans.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Jeanne Demessieux (1921-1968)
“Rorate coeli, *op. 8*”
Keith S. Tóth, *organist*

WELCOME AND CALL TO WORSHIP

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH & ADVENT PRAYER

Heavenly Father, creator of the world, thank You for the promise of joy. Guide us as we prepare for the coming of Jesus Christ, Who brings light to the world. Amen.
Connor, Katie and Andrew Lynagh

HYMN

Winchester New
“On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”
(See music at the end of this bulletin)

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God beyond time and space, be with us in our time of waiting. We long to place our trust in Your promises, but it often seems like we are on our own. We yearn to be found faithful in our waiting, but Your kingdom seems so far away. We seek the strength of Your mighty hand, but are betrayed in our weakness. We dream of being people of perseverance, but our work often seems fruitless. Heal our doubts, O God, and nurture the seeds of hope in our hearts, that our souls may find peace. Amen.

KYRIE

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.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

The child being baptized today is:

Harriet Lee Blankenship
daughter of Margaret Pendarvis Blankenship and Preston Taylor Blankenship

Elder Helen B. Pennoyer will assist with today’s baptisms.

BAPTISMAL QUESTIONS AND PRAYER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise...

BAPTISM

BLESSING AND WELCOME

THE WORD

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION AND SCRIPTURE LESSON

I Thessalonians 5:16-24
(See scripture text at the end of this bulletin)

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

Allston Chapman

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Thomas E. Evans
“Prayer and a Holy Kiss”

THE RESPONSE

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (*Our World Belongs to God, st. 1-2*)

As followers of Jesus Christ, living in this world— which some seek to control, but which others view with despair— we declare with joy and trust: Our world belongs to God! From the beginning, through all the crises of our times, until His kingdom fully comes, God keeps covenant forever. Our world belongs to Him! God is King! Let the earth be glad! Christ is Victor; His rule has begun. Hallelujah! The Spirit is at work, renewing the creation. Praise the Lord!

DOXOLOGY

Old Hundredth

CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP AND INVITATION TO OFFERING

Will Ryckman

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

“There is no Rose”

John Joubert (1927-2019)

There is no rose of such virtue as is the rose that bare Jesu; Alleluia. For in this rose contained was Heaven and earth in little space; Res miranda (wondrous thing). By that rose we may well see there be one God in persons three: Pares forma (in equal form). Then leave we all this worldly mirth, and follow we this joyful birth: Transeamus (let us follow). —*15th century text*

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION, AND PETITION

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray...

HYMN

Llangloffan
“Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers”
(See music at the end of this bulletin)

THE SENDING

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
“Nun komm der Heiden Heiland, *BWV 599*”
Keith S. Tóth, *organist*

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry 10

WINCHESTER NEW LM

Charles Coffin, 1736

Trans. John Chandler, 1837; alt.

Musikalisches Handbuch, 1690

Harm. William Henry Monk, 1847; alt.

1. On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An -
 2. Then cleansed be ev - ery life from sin; Make
 3. We hail You as our Sav - ior, Lord, Our
 4. All praise to You, e - ter - nal Son, Whose

noun - ces that the Lord is nigh; A - wake and heark - en,
 straight the way for God with - in, And let us all our
 ref - uge, and our great re - ward; O let Your face up -
 ad - vent has our free - dom won, Whom with the Fa - ther

for he brings Glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
 hearts pre - pare For Christ to come and en - ter there.
 on us shine And fill the world with love di - vine.
 we a - dore, And Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

15 Rejoice! Rejoice, Believers

LLANGLOFFAN 7.6.7.6 D

Laurentius Laurenti, 1700

Trans. Sarah Borthwick Findlater, 1854

Alt. *The Hymnal* 1982

Welsh folk melody

Evans' *Hymnau a Thonau*, 1865

As in *English Hymnal*, 1906

1. Re - joice! Re - joice, be - liev - ers, And let your lights ap - pear;
 2. See that your lamps are burn - ing, Re - plen - ish them with oil;
 3. Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing And dark - er night is near.
 Look now for your sal - va - tion, The end of sin and toil.
 A - rise, Thou sun so longed for, A - bove this sha - dowed sphere!

The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing And soon He will draw nigh;
 The mar - riage feast is wait - ing, The gates wide o - pen stand;
 With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see

Up, watch with ex - pec - ta - tion, At mid - night comes the cry.
 A - rise, O heirs of glo - ry, The Bride-groom is at hand!
 The day of earth's re - demp - tion, And ev - er be with Thee!