

WELCOME TO
THE BRICK PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
IN THE CITY OF NEW YORK



The Brick Church Christmas Eve Family Service

DECEMBER 24, 2021 | FOUR P.M.

PRELUDE	La Nativité, from Trois poèmes évangéliques, Op. 2	<i>Jean Langlais (1907–1991)</i>
WELCOME AND INVITATION		<i>Rev. Caroline Unzaga</i>
RINGING OF THE CHRISTMAS BELL		<i>Norah Jin-Rodriguez</i>

THE GATHERING

* CALL TO WORSHIP

John Curran

Reader 1: The singing of angels; the light of a star;

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

Reader 1: 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.

Reader 1: 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.

* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 41

O Come All Ye Faithful

Adeste Fideles

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

Norah Jin-Rodriguez

THE SECOND ADVENT READING

John Curran

THE THIRD ADVENT READING

Norah Jin-Rodriguez

THE CANDLE IS LIT

Sophie Christon

INVITATION TO HEAR THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Ingrid Gower and Kira Smith

THE WORD: THE CHRISTMAS STORY

SCENE 1: Invitation to Hear the Christmas Story

SCENE 3: Caesar's Proclamation

SCENE 2: The Angel Gabriel Visits Mary and Joseph

SCENE 4: No Room at the Inn

HYMN 60

Silent Night

Stille Nacht

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.

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.

SCENE 5: Gabriel Visits the Shepherds

HYMN 23

Angels We Have Heard on High

Gloria

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!

HYMN 25

Away in a Manger

Mueller

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.

SCENE 6: The Gifts of the Magi

HYMN 66

We Three Kings of Orient Are

Three Kings of Orient

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!

THE RESPONSE

INVITATION TO OFFERING

John Curran

HYMN 49

Once in Royal David's City

Irby

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.

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 heaven above; And He leads His children on To the place where He is gone.

A CHRISTMAS PRAYER

Nora Jin-Rodriguez

THE SENDING

*RECESSIONAL HYMN 40

Joy to the World!

Antioch

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

John Curan

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on Joy to the World

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 the sextons and our whole facilities crew for helping us with staging, lighting, and sound. 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. We thank former Children's Ministry Director, Kiah Baxter, who helped to plan this year's pageant. Finally, a special thanks to Courtney Kahn, for directing!

Worship Leaders in the 2021 Brick Church Christmas Pageant

ANGELS

George Bhirud
Eleanor Bhirud
Anna Preston Breen
Coco Christon
Pia Grambling
Emerson Gramins
Phoebe Ingle
Josephine Johnson
Tiggy Mangriotis
Eloise Matter
Charlotte Matter
Vivienne Peers
Elle Peers
Audrey Rodda
Margaret Steen
Kingsley Stone
Betty Thomas
Alice Worrh

LEAD ANGELS

Nancy Hope
Bea Weber

THE ANGEL GABRIEL

Sophie Christon

BELL RINGER

Norah Jin-Rodriguez

CAESAR AUGUSTUS

Vincent Cali

CANDLE LIGHTER

Sophie Christon

CHRISTMAS COWS

Magnus Caspersen
Avery Gower
Casian Grambling
Oliver Griesedieck
Annabelle Harman
Helen Ingle
Willoughby Johnson

INNKEEPER

Nancy Hope
Bea Weber

JOSEPH

Damon Penna

LAMB

Katherine Pettker
James Smith
Amelia Steen

MARY

Brooke Gonzalez

NARRATORS

Ingrid Gower
Kira Smith

READERS

John Curan
Norah Jin-Rodriguez

SHEPHERDS

Avery Coleman
Brooke Coleman
Nancy Hope

MAGI

Peter McCormick
Knowles Johnson
Eleanor Caspersen

SOLDIERS

Nicholas Pettker
Ryan Rodda

STARS

David Clement
Claire Fadale
Daniel Linden
Charlotte McLaughlin

TOWNSPEOPLE

Nancy Hope
Bea Weber

UNDERSTUDIES

John Curan for Joseph
Nancy Hope for Mary
Bea Weber for The Angel
Gabriel

COSTUME AND STAFF

SUPPORT

Jeffrey Shayne

DIRECTOR

Courtney Kahn

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Cristina Soto

ORGANIST

Raymond Nagem

PASTORAL SUPPORT

Rev. Caroline S. Unzaga

USHERS

Officer-in-Charge:
Horace Crary
Team Captain:

Christopher L. Allen
Townsend Baldwin
John Jay Batten
Matt Cashia
Helen Elmiger
Kevin Greene
Charles Higgins
Christopher Mason
Paul Mercurio
Christopher Randall
Jay Steen

GREETERS

Ann Darmstaetter
Mingming Ma
Amy McDonald
Natasha Wolfe