

**17<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**  
**July 26, 2020**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian of Rockaway**

**Time: Jul 26, 2020 12:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86448723035?pwd=OHREVGlvEjkrLzJjcHk5ZDgxOG9iUT09>**

**Meeting ID: 864 4872 3035**

**Passcode: 466264**

**One tap mobile**

**+19292056099,,86448723035#,,,,,0#,,466264# US (New York)**

**+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**PRELUDE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Blessed be God whose word gives hope and shapes our dreams,  
**Whose love has conquered death.**

Blessed be God who orders our way and guides our steps,  
**Who leads us into life.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**God, you have given us a dream of your world made whole, a heavenly realm that is near in heart and close at hand, and it is ours to choose each day. May our smallest acts of courtesy, when transformed by your love, grow abundantly into a realm of flourishing for all.**

**Amen.**

**HYMN 402**

**HOW LOVELY, LORD**

**How lovely, Lord, how lovely is your abiding place;  
My soul is longing, fainting, to feast upon your grace.  
The sparrow finds a shelter, a place to build her nest;  
And so your temple calls us within its walls to rest.**

**In your blest courts to worship, O God, a single day  
Is better than a thousand if I from you should stray.  
I'd rather keep the entrance and claim you as my Lord  
Than revel in the riches the ways of sin afford.**

**A sun and shield forever are you, O Lord Most High;  
You shower us with blessings; no good will you deny.  
The saints, your grace receiving, from strength to strength shall go.  
And from their life shall rivers of blessing overflow.**

### **INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

If God is for us, who can be against us? Let us confess our sins to the One who searches us and knows us.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**We confess that we have turned away from you and have not lived with upright hearts. Forgive us for failing to follow you. Guide our feet to walk in your ways and serve your world to the glory of your name.  
In the name of Christ we pray,  
Amen.**

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Our sins are forgiven; we can be at peace, for all things work together for good for those who love God.

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Guide us, O God, by your Word and Spirit, that in your light we may see light, in your truth find wisdom, and in your will discover your peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

#### **PSALM 105:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>O give thanks to the LORD, call on his name, make known his deeds among the peoples.

<sup>2</sup>**Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all his wonderful works.**

<sup>3</sup>Glory in his holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the LORD rejoice.

<sup>4</sup>**Seek the LORD and his strength; seek his presence continually.**

<sup>5</sup>Remember the wonderful works he has done, his miracles, and the judgments he uttered,

<sup>6</sup>**O offspring of his servant Abraham, children of Jacob, his chosen ones.**

<sup>7</sup>He is the LORD our God; his judgments are in all the earth.

<sup>8</sup>**He is mindful of his covenant forever, of the word that he commanded, for a thousand generations,**

<sup>9</sup>the covenant that he made with Abraham, his sworn promise to Isaac,

<sup>10</sup>**which he confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant,**

<sup>11</sup>saying, "To you I will give the land of Canaan as your portion for an inheritance."

## **GENESIS 29:1-28**

**29** Then Jacob went on his journey, and came to the land of the people of the east. <sup>2</sup> As he looked, he saw a well in the field and three flocks of sheep lying there beside it; for out of that well the flocks were watered. The stone on the well's mouth was large, <sup>3</sup> and when all the flocks were gathered there, the shepherds would roll the stone from the mouth of the well, and water the sheep, and put the stone back in its place on the mouth of the well.

<sup>4</sup> Jacob said to them, "My brothers, where do you come from?" They said, "We are from Haran." <sup>5</sup> He said to them, "Do you know Laban son of Nahor?" They said, "We do." <sup>6</sup> He said to them, "Is it well with him?" "Yes," they replied, "and here is his daughter Rachel, coming with the sheep." <sup>7</sup> He said, "Look, it is still broad daylight; it is not time for the animals to be gathered together. Water the sheep, and go, pasture them." <sup>8</sup> But they said, "We cannot until all the flocks are gathered together, and the stone is rolled from the mouth of the well; then we water the sheep."

<sup>9</sup> While he was still speaking with them, Rachel came with her father's sheep; for she kept them. <sup>10</sup> Now when Jacob saw Rachel, the daughter of his mother's brother Laban, and the sheep of his mother's brother Laban, Jacob went up and rolled the stone from the well's mouth, and watered the flock of his mother's brother Laban. <sup>11</sup> Then Jacob kissed Rachel, and wept aloud. <sup>12</sup> And Jacob told Rachel that he was her father's kinsman, and that he was Rebekah's son; and she ran and told her father.

<sup>13</sup> When Laban heard the news about his sister's son Jacob, he ran to meet him; he embraced him and kissed him, and brought him to his house. Jacob told Laban all these things, <sup>14</sup> and Laban said to him, "Surely you are my bone and my flesh!" And he stayed with him a month.

<sup>15</sup> Then Laban said to Jacob, "Because you are my kinsman, should you therefore serve me for nothing? Tell me, what shall your wages be?" <sup>16</sup> Now Laban had two daughters; the name of the elder was Leah, and the name of the younger was Rachel. <sup>17</sup> Leah's eyes were lovely, and Rachel was graceful and beautiful. <sup>18</sup> Jacob loved Rachel; so he said, "I will serve you seven years for your younger daughter Rachel." <sup>19</sup> Laban said, "It is better that I give her to you than that I should give her to any other man; stay with me." <sup>20</sup> So Jacob served seven years for Rachel, and they seemed to him but a few days because of the love he had for her.

<sup>21</sup> Then Jacob said to Laban, "Give me my wife that I may go in to her, for my time is completed." <sup>22</sup> So Laban gathered together all the people of the place, and made a feast. <sup>23</sup> But in the evening he took his daughter Leah and brought her to Jacob; and he went in to her. <sup>24</sup> (Laban gave his maid Zilpah to his daughter Leah to be her maid.) <sup>25</sup> When morning came, it was Leah! And Jacob said to Laban, "What is this you have done to me? Did I not serve with you for Rachel? Why then have you deceived me?" <sup>26</sup> Laban said, "This is not done in our country—giving the younger before the firstborn. <sup>27</sup> Complete the week of this one, and we will give you the other also in return for serving me another seven years." <sup>28</sup> Jacob did so, and completed her week; then Laban gave him his daughter Rachel as a wife.

## **SERMON**

## **Promises, Promises**

### **HYMN 408**

### **THERE'S A SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT**

**There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,  
and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;  
there are sweet expressions on each face,  
and I know the feel the presence of the Lord.**

**Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove,  
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love;  
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;  
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived  
When we shall leave this place.**

**There are blessings you cannot receive  
Till you know him in his fullness and believe;  
You're the one to profit when you say,  
"I am going to walk with Jesus all the way." Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly  
Dove,  
Stay right here with us, filling us with your love;  
And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise;  
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived  
When we shall leave this place.**

### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth  
is named.**

**We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us  
with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on  
high.**

**We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

#### **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.**

### **HYMN 276**

### **Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

## CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

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### GIVING TO 1<sup>ST</sup> PRESBYTERIAN OF ROCKAWAY

- Go to our web page (fpcrockaway.org), scroll down to “donate” and give electronically
- Mail your donation to:  
1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian of Rockaway  
35 Church St.  
Rockaway, NJ 07886

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

## ZOOM LINK FOR SUNDAY MORNING ADULT STUDY

Time: Jul 26, 2020 09:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88998639321?pwd=T0xLc1R0d3lLN25Nc2J3MFlxWUpiUT09>

## ZOOM LINK FOR TUESDAY MORNING ADULT STUDY

Time: Jul 28, 2020 09:30 AM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83326527747?pwd=SDFTeGRmbmNYMSsrL1RMWnhXWnphdz09>

## ANNOUNCEMENT ABOUT BACKPACKS

Backpacks will be distributed to needy children at the Methodist Church August 26 -29. Because of the Coronavirus much is uncertain at this time but we know there will be a need for school supplies. Because of this uncertainty the committee is asking for **money donations only for this year**. You can send your check made out to United Methodist Church of the Rockaways (U.M.C. of the Rockaways) and mail it to United Methodist Church, 1 Hoagland Ave., Rockaway, NJ 07866 with “Backpacks” written in the memo line, preferably by August 3. We are expanding the list of eligible participants so if you know someone who lives in Rockaway Boro or Twp. And might need this help have them contact the Methodist Church (973-625-2989). Volunteers might be needed the last week of August; if you are willing please contact Betty Shuman or Carol Lutcza.

Thank you for supporting this important program.