

**Third SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY**  
**January 23, 2022**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian of Rockaway**

**Online Zoom Worship (login beginning at 10:30 AM EST)**

<https://zoom.us/join>

**Phone in: (mobile or home phone) +1 929 205 6099 US**  
**(New York)**

**Meeting ID: 468 322 0487**  
**Passcode: FPCR2021**  
**(One tap mobile):**

**+16465588656,,4683220487#,,,,\*67022253# US (New York)**  
*Participate in body or in spirit.*



*Growing In  
Love and Com*

**WORSHIP AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Worship Song: "Open the Eyes of My Heart with Be Thou My Vision"** arr. by Mark Hayes  
*Please use this time to silently prepare your hearts and minds for worship.*

**WORSHIP**

Light of God is upon us.

We are called to be God's people.

Light of God is upon us.

We are called to be the body of Christ.

Let us worship God!

God who binds us together in love and service.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Gracious God, on this holy day, we have gathered together once again to celebrate your presence among us, to praise you, and to thank you for all you have given us. May your Spirit strengthen and refresh us, and fill us with such joy that we cannot help but rejoice with everyone around us. Though we are very different people, with many different talents and gifts, make us one in your Spirit, that we may be your ministers in the world.

**Psalm 110:1 OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES TO SING**

A thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise,  
Of God's triumphs and King, the triumphs of God's grace.

The word of Jesus charms our fears, and bids our sorrows cease,  
Sweet music in the sinner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.

Heavenly peals, and listening to his voice new life the dead receive;  
The mournful waken to rejoice, the poor in heart believe.

Gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
And through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.

All glory, praise, and love be now and ever given  
To God the Father below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.

## TO CONFESSION

God overflows for us through Christ Jesus who came into the world to save sinners. Confess our sins before God.

## OF CONFESSION

**God, One, you call us to be your presence, your body in this world, but too often we get up in being a hand or a foot, and lose sight of the overarching mission you have given us. We fracture into pieces. We go our separate ways, forgetting we need each other. You have given us your law to be our guide, but we turn our backs on what you have said. We are bound by restrictions, fearful that we will not live up to your expectations. Help us to live and hear with the ears of our heart, the liberating spirit of the law that strengthens and enables us to be and do all you call us to be and do.**

For the sake of Jesus Christ we pray, **Amen.**

## OF FORGIVENESS

God is upon us. God has called us to bring good news and liberation to the poor and to all who are in need anywhere. God's joy is our strength. God's Spirit sustains us in forgiveness and love. Through God we can do all things.

## ATRI (581)

**to the Father; and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;**

**from the beginning, is now and ever shall be,**

**without end. Amen, Amen.**

## FOR ILLUMINATION

**God, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word; and give us grace that we may clearly understand and choose the way of your wisdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## OF READINGS

### 1:1-3;5-6;8-10

The people gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe to read the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. <sup>2</sup> Accordingly, the people gathered before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. <sup>3</sup> He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and the elders who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. <sup>4</sup> When he had finished reading the book, Ezra stood up and said, "Blessed be the name of the LORD forevermore." <sup>5</sup> Then he opened it, all the people stood up. <sup>6</sup> Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God of Israel. <sup>7</sup> All the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and prostrated themselves before the LORD with their faces to the ground.

<sup>8</sup> Then Ezra the scribe read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, and all the people understood the reading.

<sup>9</sup> Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who were teachers of the law, said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep. For today is the day of our liberation, and we have been freed from our bondage. Weep not on this day, for today is a day of joy and gladness, for we have been freed from our bondage. Drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for today is a day of joy for our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

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us, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him  
the surrounding country. <sup>15</sup> He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised  
<sup>16</sup> When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the syna-  
gogue as was his custom. He stood up to read, <sup>17</sup> and the scroll of the prophet  
was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: <sup>18</sup> "The Spirit  
of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent  
me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go,  
and to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." <sup>20</sup> And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the atten-  
dants, and the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> Then he began to say to them,  
"The scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." <sup>22</sup> All spoke well of him and were amazed at the  
words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" <sup>23</sup> He said to  
them, "You will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say to me,  
'Perform here in your hometown the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" <sup>24</sup> And he said  
to them, "I assure you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's hometown. <sup>25</sup> But the truth is, there were  
many widows in Israel in the time of Elijah, when the heaven was shut up three years and six months  
because of a severe famine over all the land; <sup>26</sup> yet Elijah was sent to none of them except to  
Zarephath in Sidon. <sup>27</sup> There were also many lepers in Israel in the time of the prophet Elisha,  
but none of them was cleansed except Naaman the Syrian." <sup>28</sup> When they heard this, all in the  
synagogue were filled with rage. <sup>29</sup> They got up, drove him out of the town, and led him to the  
cliff which their town was built, so that they might hurl him off the cliff. <sup>30</sup> But he passed  
by them and went on his way.

**"Faithful Men"**

Words and Music by Twila Paris

#### SERMON

**"Coming Home: A Story of an Unaccepted Prophet"**  
Candidate Ryon Herin

#### OPEN MY EYES THAT I MAY SEE

Open my eyes, that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me.  
Open my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free.  
Now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear.  
Open my heart the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear.  
Now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere.  
Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share.  
Now I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see.  
Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!

#### DECLARATION OF FAITH (APOSTLES' CREED)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ  
the only begotten Son: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered  
under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried, the third day he rose again from the  
dead, went into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from  
whom he will come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy  
and catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body  
and life everlasting. Amen.

## ERS OF THE PEOPLE

### 'S PRAYER

ather who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom com  
ill be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily  
, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us  
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and  
r, and the glory, forever. Amen.

### N 726 WILL YOU COME AND FOLLOW ME

ou come and follow me If I but call your name?  
ou go where you don't know And never be the same?  
ou let my love be shown,  
ou let my life be grown In you and you in me?

ou leave yourself behind If I but call your name?  
ou care for cruel and kind And never be the same?  
ou risk the hostile stare  
d your life attract or scare?  
ou let me answer prayer In you and you in me?

ou let the blinded see If I but call your name?  
ou set the prisoners free And never be the same?  
ou kiss the leper clean,  
o such as this unseen,  
dmit to what I mean In you and you in me?

ou love the 'you' you hide If I but call your name?  
ou quell the fear inside And never be the same?  
ou use the faith you've found  
hape the world around,  
gh my sight and touch and sound In you and you in me?

your summons echoes true When you but call my name.  
e turn and follow you And never be the same.  
r company I'll go  
your love and footsteps show.  
'll move and live and grow In you and you in me.

### GE AND BENEDICTION

LUDE "Toccatà in C Major" by Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)  
Edited by Hal H. Hopson