

11th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

June 13, 2021

1st Presbyterian of Rockaway

Join Zoom Worship (login beginning at 12 Noon EDT)

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

“Morning Has Broken”

Traditional

Arr. by Jim Brickman

Please use this time to silently prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

CALL TO WORSHIP

In the morning you hear our voices. Through the abundance of your steadfast love, we will enter your house.

We will bow down toward your holy temple in awe of you.

But let all who take refuge in you rejoice; let them ever sing for joy. Spread your protection over them, so that those who love your name may exult in you.

For you bless the righteous, O LORD; you cover them with favor as with a shield.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Mighty God, to you belong the mysteries of the universe. You transform shepherds into kings, the smallest seeds into magnificent trees, and hardened hearts into loving ones. Bless us with your life-giving Spirit, re-create us in your image, and shape us to your purposes, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

HYMN 663

AWAKE MY SOUL, AND WITH THE SUN

Awake, my soul, and with the sun your daily stage of duty run;

Off dull sloth, and joyful rise to pay your morning sacrifice.

Lord, I my vows to you renew. Disperse my sins as morning dew;

Guard my first springs of thought and will, and with yourself my spirit fill.

Direct, control, suggest, this day, all I design or do or say,

That all my powers, with all their might, by your sole glory may unite.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners, Christ died for us. Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence. In faith and penitence, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We bring our sins to you, God. We are quick to turn away from Christ and follow a false gospel, such as one that fixates on material prosperity or one that neglects the teachings of Jesus in favor of our own desires. We worry more about pleasing people than serving you. We forget we are frail sinners in need of your mercy and grace. For the sake of the Savior, forgive us.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Jesus Christ, the Son of God, loved us and gave himself for us. We are put right with God through our faith in Christ. Therefore Jesus says to us: "Your faith has saved you." Sisters and Brothers, our sins are forgiven; be at peace.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 SAMUEL 15:34-16:13

³⁴ Then Samuel went to Ramah; and Saul went up to his house in Gibeah of Saul. ³⁵ Samuel did not see Saul again until the day of his death, but Samuel grieved over Saul. And the LORD was sorry that he had made Saul king over Israel.

16 The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." ² Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you, and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.'" ³ Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do; and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." ⁴ Samuel did what the LORD commanded, and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling, and said, "Do you come peaceably?" ⁵ He said, "Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

⁶ When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely the LORD's anointed is now before the LORD." ⁷ But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him; for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." ⁸ Then Jesse called Abinadab, and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ⁹ Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." ¹⁰ Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." ¹¹ Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him; for we will not sit down until he comes here." ¹² He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy, and had beautiful eyes, and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him; for this is the one." ¹³ Then Samuel took the horn of oil, and anointed him in the presence of his brothers; and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

PSALM 20

¹The LORD answer you in the day of trouble! The name of the God of Jacob protect you!

²**May he send you help from the sanctuary, and give you support from Zion.**

³May he remember all your offerings, and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices.

⁴**May he grant you your heart's desire, and fulfill all your plans.**

⁵May we shout for joy over your victory, and in the name of our God set up our banners.
May the LORD fulfill all your petitions.

⁶**Now I know that the LORD will help his anointed; he will answer him from his holy heaven with mighty victories by his right hand.**

⁷Some take pride in chariots, and some in horses, but our pride is in the name of the LORD our God.

⁸**They will collapse and fall, but we shall rise and stand upright.**

⁹Give victory to the king, O LORD; answer us when we call.

MARK 4:26-34

²⁶ He also said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, ²⁷ and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. ²⁸ The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. ²⁹ But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come."

³⁰ He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? ³¹ It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; ³² yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade."

³³ With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; ³⁴ he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

SERMON

MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

HYMN 175

SEEK YE FIRST

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and its righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you. Allelu, Alleluia!**

**Ask, and it shall be given unto you; seek and you shall find;
Knock, and the door shall be opened unto you. Allelu, Alleluia!**

**You shall not live by bread alone, but by every word
That proceeds from the mouth of God. Allelu, Alleluia!**

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (From Romans 8)

We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

MINUTE FOR MISSION – Laurie Morse

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 310 I LOVE THY KINGDOM, LORD

I love thy kingdom, Lord, the house of thine abode,
The church our blest Redeemer saved with his own precious blood.

I love thy church, O God. Her walls before thee stand,
dear as the apple of thine eye, and graven on thy hand.

For her my tears shall fall; for her my prayers ascend;
To her my cares and toils be given, till toils and cares shall end.

Beyond my highest joy I prize her heavenly ways;
Her sweet communion, solemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.

Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zion shall be given
The brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heaven.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “All Creatures of our God and King” Arr. by Hal H. Hopson
Please remain seated and give thanks to God.

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Offering plates are available in the narthex and at the exit door.

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