

**Fifth Sunday of Easter
May 15, 2022**

1st Presbyterian of Rockaway

Join 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)**

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PRELUDE “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”
by William Bradbury arr. by Darrell V. Archer**

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

You are making all things new.

A new heaven. A new earth.

A new way of thinking. A new way of being.

You are making all things new.

No more Death. No more mourning.

No more crying. No more pain.

You are making all things new.

Renew our minds to renew the world
by living out your commandment of love.

You are making all things new.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Living God, Maker of heaven and earth, we come into your presence and we know ourselves to be recipients of great and wonderful gifts — the earth, the sky, the waters — given to us here in such abundance and beauty. We lead enormously privileged lives. Don't let our comfort blind us to the newness you are making in our midst: a newness that is taking us in directions we would not choose on our own. A newness that moves our safe horizons out beyond what we can control. Amen

***HYMN 81 GLORIOUS THINGS OF THEE ARE SPOKEN**

1 Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God.
God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode.

On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?

With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

2 Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear for a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near.

Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day, safe they feed upon the manna which God gives them when they pray.

3 See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love, well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of

want remove.

Who can faint while such a river ever flows, their thirst to assuage? Grace, so like the Lord the giver, never fails from age to age.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

The Gospel calls us to turn away from sin and be faithful to Christ. As we offer ourselves to him in penitence and faith, we renew our confidence and trust in his mercy.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of the clean and the unclean,
We too easily think we can see from your point of view. We exclude, hold grudges and nurse contempt, all the while hiding ourselves for fear we too would be found wanting. We think we are justified because we are made holy by your love, and we assume holiness means more like us. We forget, or never really knew, that all you touch is holy, and that you created all that is. So when we exclude, we exclude you. When we hold grudges, we hate you. When we show contempt, we are contemptuous of those you love. May we be made holy in truth, loving as you love, clean and unclean alike. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Hear these words of comfort from the prophet Isaiah:
"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old.

I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."

Friends, even among us, sinners though we are, God is doing a new thing!

The mercy of God has washed us all clean and brought water to our thirsty souls. **Amen.**

***GLORIA PATRI (581)**

Glory be to the Father; and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World without end. Amen, Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Ryon Herin

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 11:1-18

11 Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were in Judea heard that the gentiles had also accepted the word of God. ² So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, ³ saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" ⁴ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ⁵ "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners, and it came close to me. ⁶ As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. ⁷ I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' ⁸ But I replied, 'By no means, Lord, for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' ⁹ But a

second time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' ¹⁰ This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. ¹¹ At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. ¹² The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. ¹³ He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; ¹⁴ he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' ¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' ¹⁷ If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" ¹⁸ When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the gentiles the repentance that leads to life.

Revelation 21:1-6

21 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³ And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; ⁴ he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." ⁵ And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶ Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

ANTHEM "Wonderful, Merciful Savior" **by Dawn Rodgers and Eric Wyse**

SERMON "Doing New Things: Opportunities for Growth
in the Spirit" Rev. Ryon Herin

***HYMN 754 HELP US ACCEPT EACH OTHER**

1 Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us; teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace. Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe we are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.
2 Teach us, O Lord, your lessons, as in our daily life we struggle to be human and search for hope and faith. Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
to love them as we find them, or as they may become.
3 Let your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved in living situations to do the truth in love; to practice your acceptance until we know by heart the table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.
4 Lord, for today's encounters with all who are in need, who hunger for acceptance, for justice and for bread, we need new eyes for seeing, new hands for holding on:
renew us with your Spirit; Lord, free us; make us one!

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles'

Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

**OFFERTORY “All Things Bright and Beautiful”
By Larry Visser**

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Gracious God,

You are the creator and source of all things. In your goodness and love you have provide for our needs and with hearts full of gratitude we give you thanks. For your grace and mercy, your love and patience we give you thanks. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 819 BE STILL MY SOUL**

1 Be still, my soul: the Lord is on thy side. Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain.

Leave to thy God to order and provide, who through all changes faithful will remain.

Be still, my soul: thy best, thy heavenly Friend through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

2 Be still, my soul: thy God doth undertake to guide the future surely as the past. Thy hope, thy confidence let nothing shake; all now mysterious shall be bright at last.

Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know his voice who ruled them while he dwelt below.

3 Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on when we shall be forever with the Lord;

when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone, sorrow forgot, love’s purest joys restored. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE “All Creatures of Our God and King” arr. by Hal H. Hopson

Please remain seated and give thanks to God.

GIVING TO 1ST PRESBYTERIAN OF ROCKAWAY

- **Go to our web page (fpcrockaway.org), scroll down to “donate” and give electronically or mail to:**

**1st Presbyterian of Rockaway
35 Church St.,
Rockaway, NJ 07866**

Sunday May 22 - Kathy Shuey - Open & Close

9:15 am - Adult and Children Sunday School

10:30 am - Worship Service in Sanctuary,
via Zoom and Facebook

Congregational Meeting – Sanctuary – immediately following worship

11:45am – Congregational Luncheon – outside weather permitting

2:00 – 4:00 pm - MORE – Fellowship Hall

First Presbyterian Church

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Reverend Ryon Herin

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Website: www.fpcrockaway.org

Church School—9:15 am

Sunday Morning Worship Service—10:30 am

Office Hours: 9:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday,

Bonnie Pomeroy, *Director of Music*

Robert Nichols, *Cemetery Sexton*

Karen Basile, *Clerk of Session*

Vacation Bible School vbs@fpcrockaway.org

Presbyterian Church Co-op Nursery School (PCCNS) - 973-586-3665

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