

DEDICATION SUNDAY
November 14, 2021
1st Presbyterian of Rockaway

Join Zoom Worship (login beginning at 9:30 AM EDT)

<https://zoom.us/join>

Phone in: (mobile or home phone) +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)
<https://zoom.us/j/4683220487?pwd=OHBUB2V4RmJVMGF2U3VEVEFLMWNjUT09>

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 “Open the Eyes of My Heart with Be Thou My Vision” Arr. Mark Hayes
Please use this time to silently prepare your hearts and minds for worship.

CALL TO WORSHIP

All that we are is a gift from God.

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,

All that we have is a gift from God.

The world, and those who live in it;

There are no words to describe the wonders of God's creation.

For God has founded it on the seas,

God created the wonders in water, in earth, in the heavens.

Rejoice as we join together in praise for God's great gifts.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Gracious and generous God, Creator and Giver of all that is good, we thank you for our many blessings. We acknowledge that all that we have is from you. We offer you thanks and praise for the beauty of the earth, our work, our family, our loved ones, and all the gifts we have been given.

You are with us always. In each dark hour, you are here. In each bright hour, you are here. Blessed by your grace, may we show gratitude by sharing what we have been given.

By serving our brothers and sisters, we serve you. We remain ever grateful for your constant love, the gift of your Son Jesus, and the presence of your Holy Spirit with us.

**Protect and guide us on our journey as we seek to be your faithful stewards.
Amen.**

***HYMN 716 GOD, WHOSE GIVING KNOWS NO ENDING**

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone.
Born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your grace conferred:
ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel word.
Open wide our hands in sharing, as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Sinners we are and sinners we will always be, except for the grace of Jesus the Christ.
We are told in 1 Corinthians 4:2 that a steward must be found trustworthy.
Acknowledging that in our sin we have neglected and rejected gifts that have been
provided by God, let us confess our sins together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, you have called us to give ourselves completely to you. Yet, we
often hold back part for worldly pursuits. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us. You
have given us the gift of time. You give us time to serve, time to learn, time to
grow, time to share. We spend our time serving self. Lord, in your mercy, forgive
us. You provide us with opportunity to serve in numerous ways using the talents
and abilities we have been given. We tend to hide our gifts. Lord, in your mercy,
forgive us. You have provided even the least among us with more financial
resources than most of the world. We resist sharing because of fear for the
future. Lord, in your mercy, forgive us. You have provided us with a beautiful
creation to enjoy. We take it for granted and abuse this incredible earth. Lord, in
your mercy, forgive us.

Silent Prayer

In the name of Jesus Christ we pray, **Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

While God knows our sin, God also hears our cries. In our sin, God still reaches out to
forgive and restore us. Having confessed our sins, rejoice in forgiveness through Christ
and live in God's love.

***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.

CHOIR ANTHEM “His Eye Is On the Sparrow” Words by Civilla Durfee Martin, 1905
Music by Charles Hutchinson Gabriel

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God, one of the great gifts that you have shared with us is your word. Open our hearts and minds as the scriptures are read and the message is proclaimed. Help us to hear with anticipation what you have to say and give us a sense of urgency to share it with others. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

ISAIAH 43: 16-21

. ¹⁶ Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters,¹⁷ who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸ Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹ the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

PSALM 16

¹ Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

² **I say to the LORD, “You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.”**

³ As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble, in whom is all my delight.

⁴ **Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows;
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out
or take their names upon my lips.**

⁵ The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

⁶ **The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.**

⁷ I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

⁸ **I keep the LORD always before me;
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.**

⁹ Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

¹⁰ **For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.**

¹¹ You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy;
in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

MATTHEW 6:25-34

⁵ “Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸ And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they

neither toil nor spin, ²⁹ yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹ Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³² For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. ³⁴ "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today.

SERMON

BECOMING SOMETHING NEW

Rev. Dr. Nancy Young

***HYMN 175**

SEEK YE FIRST

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God
And His righteousness;
And all these things shall be added unto you.
Allelu, alleluja!**

**Ask, and it shall be given unto you;
Seek, and you shall find.
Knock, and it shall be opened unto you.
Allelu, alleluja!**

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

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Rev. Lisa Frenz)

**We believe in God the Creator, who created and is creating everything:
the universe, the world, the plants and animals, and us;
each of us, unique, individual and beloved of God.**

**We believe in God the Christ, who saved and is saving everything:
the universe, the world, the plants and animals, and us:
each of us; unique, individual and beloved of the Christ.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who guided and is guiding everything:
the universe, the world, the plants and animals, and us;
each of us, unique, individual and beloved of the Spirit.**

**We believe that this one God in three persons, is present among us,
working directly in our lives and the lives of all who are born into this world,
striving to bring us back into harmony with all creation and with God:
forgiving, healing, touching everyone,
never rejecting any who willingly receive
this freely offered gift of love and grace and eternal life.**

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.

DEDICATION OF OUR STEWARDSHIP AND CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GIFTS

Creator of all, the earth is yours, the world and all who live in it.

You have entrusted us with gifts— time, talent, energy, money— and asked us to use them to build your kingdom.

With thanks and praise we respond to your call.:

We bring these gifts you have given, returning your generosity, paying it forward.

We offer ourselves, our lives, our hopes and fears, our dollars and our hours.

We commit ourselves to work for your world, to love and serve wherever you call.

We ask your blessing on this, your church, as we seek to follow you with heart, mind, and soul.

Bless also these gifts, our investment in your future, that they may multiply in faith, hope, and love. Amen.

***HYMN 757 TODAY WE ALL ARE CALLED TO BE DISCIPLES**

**Today we all are called to be disciples of the Lord,
To help to set the captives free, make plowshare out of sword,
To feed the hungry, quench their thirst, make love and peace our fast,
To serve the poor and homeless first, our ease and comfort last.**

**God made the world and at its birth ordained our human race
To love as stewards of the earth, responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud; we sow not peace but strife.
Our discord spreads a deadly cloud that threatens all of life.**

**Pray justice may come rolling down as in a mighty stream,
With righteousness in field and town to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore an earth where conflicts cease,
A world that was created for a harmony of peace.**

**May we in service to our God act out the living word,
And walk the road the saints have trod till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we give thanks in one accord
To God who calls us all to be disciples of the Lord.**

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Encore Toccata"

by Craig A. Penfield

Please remain seated and give thanks to God.

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GIVING TO 1ST PRESBYTERIAN OF ROCKAWAY

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

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

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ADULT BIBLE STUDIES

SUNDAYS, 9:00 AM GENESIS

For next Sunday

We meet in the Fellowship Hall.

Email Pastor Nancy for further information and the schedule.

Youngnancy501@gmail.com

TUESDAY MORNING STUDY – THE PARABLES OF JESUS

9:30 am. We meet on Zoom.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83842008669?pwd=MnFSQlpgZXNKK2NvVIA4eFhoVTNnQT09>

Meeting ID: 838 4200 8669

Passcode: 749308

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83842008669>

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HOLIDAY WISHES

There are almost 200 children who attend school in Rockaway Borough or Township who qualify for the federal program providing free (or reduced price) lunches. We have the opportunity to help them enjoy the holidays this year.

If you would like to provide gifts for one or more children you can contact Brenda Budd at Rockawayholidaywishes@gmail.com.

If you would rather send a check, make it out to Holiday Wishes and send it to her at 43 Willow Ave. Rockaway, NJ 07866. She is asking that all gifts be collected by Nov 30.

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Update of the Stewardship Campaign

We received 65 pledges for a total of \$155,480

Update of the Capital Funds Campaign

We received 30 commitments for a total of \$81,000

CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON

We are pleased to announce the return of the Christmas Luncheon on December 12 at 11:30am following the worship service in Fellowship Hall. The cost is \$10 per person, children under 5 free. Tickets will be on sale November 14, 21, 28 and December 5. Contact Linda Urwin if you have any questions.



Sox-in-Box

Here is your opportunity to help local residents in need...and during this lingering pandemic, they really need your help.

Sox-in-Box: We're collecting brand new, warm socks to be distributed to locals as we approach the cold winter months. Donations will be received up through November 28. Simply bring the socks to any one of our nearby drop-off locations or place them in the box in our sanctuary marked "Socks". The other drop off locations are: Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (24-hour drop off vestibule) 508 Green Pond Rd. Rockaway Township, White Meadow Temple 153 White Meadow Rd. Rockaway, St. Simon The Apostle RC Church 1010 Green Pond Rd. Newfoundland.

And...by the way...you can still make your cash donations to support our COVID Relief Campaign, established to assist those economically devastated by this pandemic. Simply write checks payable to RISE UP and send to: RISE UP 508 Green Pond Rd. Rockaway Township, NJ 07866 or visit our website to give electronically at: www.riseupnj.org. All gifts are tax deductible as per tax legislation. RISE UP Rockaway, Inc. is a fully licensed 501-c-3 "not for profit" corporation composed of volunteers helping the impoverished of Rockaway and surrounding communities. Thank you for your generous support! Dr. Jack DiMatteo President & Executive Director, RISE UP Rockaway, Inc.