

October 29th, 2023

1st Presbyterian Church of Rockaway

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

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

Meeting ID: 468 322 0487 Passcode: FPCR2021

One tap mobile: +16465588656,,4683220487#,,,,*67022253#

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/4683220487?pwd=OHBUB2V4RmJVMGF2U3VEVEFLMWNjUT09>

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE “Through the Love of God Our Savior” Traditional Welsh Melody
Guest Organist: Jude Duane

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

*The Christ Candle will be lit by the **Pulpit Assistant** during the Prelude.*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

In a world that cries out, “Fear me!”

We will listen to Jesus’ words, “Don’t be afraid!”

In a world that wants us to hate the other...

We will live Jesus’ call to, “Love God. Love your neighbor, as you love yourself.”

In a world that radicalizes...

We, too, will be radical. Radical with our hospitality. Radical with our hope. Radical with our love.

Then come to this place, ready to be who we are called to be.

Let us gather together and worship God.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

We thank you, God,

For coming to us as a neighbor, a stranger, an immigrant, binding our wounds and carrying us to safety, so that we might love you with all our heart, soul, and mind, and welcome the stranger, loving our neighbor as ourselves. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***HYMN 687 OUR GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST (VERSES 1-4)**

1 Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

2 Beneath the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

3 Before the hills in order stood, or earth received its frame,
from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.

4 A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Our spirits are like new grass: at the dawn they spring up fresh, but by sunset they dry up and wither, blown away in spiritual death. Let us confess our frailty before our merciful God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, we confess:

We do not live as those worthy to be entrusted with the good news of your grace; we relate to others callously as though we do not trust that gospel ourselves; we seek to please and manipulate, using flattery to gain praise and distinction; we use condescension as a mask to cover insecurity or a need for power. Our motives are mixed, impure. Lord, reassure and cleanse us, in Jesus’ name. *Silent Prayer.* Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Beloved ones, believe again the gospel, that in Christ we are accepted as we are. Believe that we are forgiven, loved with the delight of a nursing mother cherishing her child. Believe that we are the church, the body of Christ, called to love one another as gentle children of God.

***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

Psalm 90:1-6;13-17

A Prayer of Moses, the man of God.

¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations. ² Before the mountains were brought forth or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God. ³ You turn us back to dust and say, "Turn back, you mortals." ⁴ For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past or like a watch in the night. ⁵ You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; ⁶ in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

¹³ Turn, O LORD! How long? Have compassion on your servants!

¹⁴ Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, so that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. ¹⁵ Make us glad as many days as you have afflicted us and as many years as we have seen evil. ¹⁶ Let your work be manifest to your servants and your glorious power to their children. ¹⁷ Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us and prosper for us the work of our hands—O prosper the work of our hands!

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Make Me a Channel of Your Peace"

Arr. Jane Holstein

FPCR Choir, Jude Duane Accompanying

Matthew 22:34-46

³⁴ When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, ³⁵ and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. ³⁶ "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" ³⁷ He said to him, " 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' ³⁸ This is the greatest and first commandment. ³⁹ And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' ⁴⁰ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets."

⁴¹ Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question:

⁴² "What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?" They said to him, "The son of David."

⁴³ He said to them, "How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

⁴⁴ 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet" '?

⁴⁵ "If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?" ⁴⁶ No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

SERMON

"Dwelling in the Lord: Our Greatest Love"

Rev. Ryon Herin

***HYMN 688**

SPIRIT OF GOD, DESCEND UPON MY HEART

1 Spirit of God, descend upon my heart; wean it from earth; through all its pulses move; stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art, and make me love thee as I ought to love.

2 I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies, no sudden rending of the veil of clay, no angel visitant, no opening skies; but take the dimness of my soul away.

3 Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King; all, all thine own, soul, heart, and strength, and mind? I see thy cross; there teach my heart to cling. O let me seek thee, and O let me find!

4 Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh. Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear, to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh. Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

5 Teach me to love thee as thine angels love, one holy passion filling all my frame; the baptism of the heaven-descended Dove, my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

***PROFESSION 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.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

OFFERTORY

“Come Down, O Love Divine”

Ralph Vaugh Williams

***606 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

Generous and life-giving God,

You made your people in your image, sent your Son to be the face of your healing love in our midst, and promised through the Holy Spirit your guidance and power.

We thank you for the ways in which your people have cared for each of us. We thank you for the ability to give for the sake of others. We ask your blessing on these offerings that through them the needs of this world can be met.

In Jesus' name we pray. 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 707**

TAKE THOU OUR MINDS, DEAR LORD

1 Take thou our minds, dear Lord, we humbly pray; give us the mind of Christ each passing day; teach us to know the truth that sets us free; grant us in all our thoughts to honor thee.

2 Take thou our hearts, O Christ; they are thine own; come thou within our souls and claim thy throne; help us to shed abroad thy deathless love; use us to make the earth like heaven above.

3 Take thou our wills, Most High! Hold thou full sway; have in our inmost souls thy perfect way; guard thou each sacred hour from selfish ease; guide thou our ordered lives as thou dost please.

4 Take thou ourselves, O Lord, heart, mind, and will; through our surrendered souls thy plans fulfill. We yield ourselves to thee: time, talents, all; we hear, and henceforth heed, thy sovereign call.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“From All That Dwell Below the Skies”

Please remain seated and give thanks to God. Join us for coffee and fellowship hour after!

Please contact the church office or Pastor Ryon to add a name of a loved one who died this year or if interested in donating flowers to remember a loved one who has died this year, as we celebrate All Saints' Day on November 5th.

GIVING TO 1ST PRESBYTERIAN OF ROCKAWAY

Go to our web page (fpcrockaway.org), go to the Online Giving page, select the “donate” button and give electronically <http://www.fpcrockaway.org/giving>

or mail to:

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

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Stewardship 2024 and your Pledge Cards

Our Stewardship Theme for this year is Giving Thanks for God’s Gifts with Gratitude. We are thankful for all our church members and the many ways that you give abundantly to our church! Your Pledge Cards and Stewardship Letter have been mailed to you! Extra pledge cards are available in the narthex. Put your completed pledge card in the offering plate or mail to the office and fill out your Gratitude Leaf and hang it on the Gratitude Tree in the Narthex.

Word Day at the Church: November 4th

We will have projects inside for all ages to help spruce up and clean our church as we approach Thanksgiving. Please see Pat Budis, Property Chair, if you are interested in helping. We hope to see many people there! We will have Anthony’s pizza for lunch.

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service at Rockaway Assembly of God

113 E. Main Street, Rockaway, NJ
Sunday November 19th at 7 PM.

Join us as we give thanks to God with gratitude and humility as the many congregations of Rockaway. We welcome non-perishable food items for the Rockaway Food Closet to be collected before and after the service. There will also be a freewill offering to RiseUp Rockaway, our local interfaith food and clothing distribution non-profit.

Presbyterian Church Co-op Nursery School Fundraiser

SaveAround North Jersey coupon books for sale and in stock at PCCNS. Either call or email, see PCCNS contact information on the back of the bulletin. They make great HOLIDAY gifts!!

Calling all youth and adult volunteers for a Mission ‘Week-end’ Project. Summer 2024!

Date / Time / Details TBD at a later date.

If this is something you'd be interested in doing, there is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex and in Fellowship Hall. Please write your name / a skill or skills you have that you feel comfortable performing on a job site/ distance you're willing to travel to and from.

Food Closet Needs Your Assistance

There is an increase in families asking for assistance – with the increase in food prices people who were just making it can’t anymore. Please consider donating a couple of items each week – needed most – cereal, peanut butter, tuna, soup, pasta and pasta sauce, canned vegetables, macaroni and cheese, crackers, coffee, and tea.

We are collecting food for our special Thanksgiving food distribution. We need: boxed stuffing mix, boxed mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce and turkey gravy.

Any non-perishable food welcome. Thank You! Linda Kirby

Quarter Tube!

The quarters that are put in the Quarter Tube in the front of the sanctuary are used for the Mission work of our church. Simply place your quarters in the tube so we can further our mission work

SHOP RITE GIFT CARDS!!

When you purchase Shop Rite Gift Cards from our church the church receives 5% of the cost of the gift card. (No extra cost to you). We have been selling Shop Rite Gift Cards at the church for many years. The profits we receive have been used to pay for programs/projects in our church. We all need to eat! It is a 'win win' for our church. Contact Pat Budis if you have any questions 201-230-2286. You can pick them up from Pat or she will even deliver! Another easy way to help support our church!

Calendar

Sunday, October 29 - Open Close – ????

9:15 am – 10:15 am – Adult & Children Sunday School and Confirmation Class

10:30 am – Worship Service – sanctuary, via zoom and Facebook

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm – MORE – FH

Monday – October 30 – Office Closed

Bible Study cancelled

7:00 pm – Worship Committee Meeting – via Zoom

Tuesday – October 31

9:00 am – 12:30 pm – Office Open

9:30 am – Bible Study via Zoom

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm – AA Meeting – BK Room

7:30 pm – FA Meeting – Scout Room

Wednesday – November 1 –

9:00 am – 12:30 pm – Office Open

6:00 pm – Den Scout Meeting – FH

7:00 pm – Cemetery/Property Meeting – Smith's

7:30 pm – Scout Troop 113 – FH & Scout Room

7:30 pm – Venturing Scouts - Canteen

Thursday, November 2 –

9:00 am – 12:30 pm – Office Open

9:30 am – 11:30 am - Baroque Quartet Practice - Sanctuary

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm – AA Meeting – BK Room

6:20 pm – 7:30 pm – Bells Rehearsal

Friday, November 3 – Office Closed

Saturday, November 4 –

9:00 am – 3:00 pm – Church Work Day

Sunday, November 5 – All Saints Day - Open & Close - Kathy Shuey

9:15 am – 10:15 am – Adult & Children Sunday School and Confirmation Class

10:30 am – Worship Service – sanctuary, via zoom and Facebook

2:00 – 4:00 pm – MORE – FH

Elders

Rich Basile – Finance Comm. Chair & Property Comm

Lillian Blair – Church Treasurer & Finance Committee

Debbie Harrington – Outreach Committee

Carol Lutcza – Personnel Comm. Chair & CE Comm.

Joe Martinoni – Worship Comm Chair & Personnel Comm.

Laurie Morse – Outreach Committee

Barbie Restaino – Worship Committee & CE Comm.

Kathy Shuey – Congregational Care Committee

Kathy Siegrist – Christian Ed. Committee & Newsletter

Donna VanDuyne – CE Committee Chair, Nominating Committee Chair

Dan Cassidy – Outreach Committee Chair

Pat Budis – Property/Cemetery Committee Chair

Deacons

Lisa DiBonaventura

Debbie Garris

Alison Molinaro

Vicki Philhower

Linda Sunderman

Linda Urwin

Barbara Weinberg

Linda Urwin – Congregational Committee Chair

First Presbyterian Church of Rockaway

35 Church Street

Rockaway, NJ 067866-3027

(973) 627-1059

Reverend Ryon Herin

ryon@fpcrockaway.org

E-mail – office@fpcrockaway.org

Website – www.fpcrockaway.org

Sunday School 9:15 – 10:15 am

Sunday Morning Worship Service 10:30 am

Office Hours 9:00 am – 12:30 pm Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday

Krista Sweer, Music Minister

Scott Lovenberg, Cemetery Sexton

Karen Basile, Clerk of Session

Presbyterian Church Co-op Nursery School (PCCNS)

973-586-3665

Cheryl Piscopo – Director

E-mail – directorpccns@gmail.com