

October 8th, 2023

1<sup>st</sup> Presbyterian Church of Rockaway

Join Zoom Worship (login beginning at 10:30 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**

**“A Mighty Fortress is Our God”**

**Arr. Jay Rouse**

*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 (Psalm 19)**

The heavens are telling the glory of God!

**May our worship reflect God’s glory.**

The firmament proclaims God’s handiwork.

**May we see each other as the handiwork of God.**

Let our prayer and praise, our singing and proclamation project the love of God.

**We commune with Christians around the world,  
with Christians throughout time.**

With Christians across geography and across time,

**Let us worship!**

### **\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Eternal God,

**Whose signature we see if we dare to look, in the creation of the universe,  
help us this hour to look and to listen for Your handwriting and Your voice in this  
place, among these people. Connect our temporary praise to Your timeless rhythms,  
Your ageless melodies, Your everlasting joyful noise. Guide us now to focus upon  
You, knowing that in You, our distractions become new possibilities for action.**

**Breathe life into our singing, our praying, our speaking, our listening, our touching,  
that all these activities might become more than they are. In our worship we reach  
out to You, O God, knowing that You have already enfolded us in Your arms.**

**In Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

### **\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

### **\*HYMN 681 THIS IS THE DAY THE LORD HAS MADE**

1 This is the day the Lord hath made; the hours are all God's own.

Let heaven rejoice; let earth be glad, and praise surround the throne.

2 Hosanna to the anointed King, to David's holy Son!

Help us, O Lord; descend and bring salvation from the throne.

3 Blest be the Lord, who comes in power with messages of grace,  
who comes in this accepted hour to save our sinful race.

4 Hosanna in the highest strains the church on earth can raise!

The highest heavens in which God reigns shall now resound with praise.

### **INVITATION TO CONFESSION**

Let us boldly confess our sin before the One who already knows our errors and is gracious to forgive our hidden faults.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**Rescuing God,**

**You brought us out of the land of captivity, out of the house of slavery. Forgive us when we willingly return to slavery, making divine the machine of production, crafting idols from the excess of consumption. Forgive us when we consider ourselves so grand that we do not rest and enjoy your presence, defining ourselves by our ability rather than your love. Forgive us when we esteem ourselves so little that we dare not rest and sit with ourselves, exposed, without the cloak of productivity. Forgive us when we deem our species so central that we do not rest and halt consumption, decimating Earth, denying her Sabbath and integrity. Forgive us through Christ, who redeems us from the brokenness of slavery that we might enjoy your presence, creation, and community. *Silent Prayer. Amen.***

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Righteousness does not come from our own doing or not doing. Righteousness comes from God, by faith. Through the faithfulness of Christ, our Lord, we are forgiven.

## **\*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**

**Exodus 20:1-4,7-9, 12-20**

20 Then God spoke all these words, <sup>2</sup>“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup>“You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above or that is on the earth beneath or that is in the water under the earth.

<sup>7</sup>“You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. <sup>8</sup>“Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup> Six days you shall labor and do all your work.

<sup>12</sup>“Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you. <sup>13</sup>“You shall not murder. <sup>14</sup>“You shall not commit adultery. <sup>15</sup>“You shall not steal. <sup>16</sup>“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. <sup>17</sup>“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, male or female slave, ox, donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.” <sup>18</sup> When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance <sup>19</sup> and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen, but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.” <sup>20</sup> Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid, for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin.”

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

**“Grace”**

**Stuart Townend and Fred J. Heumann  
FPCR Choir, Krista Sweer Directing**

## **Matthew 21:33-46**

<sup>33</sup>“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. <sup>34</sup> When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup> But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup> Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup> Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ <sup>38</sup> But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ <sup>39</sup> So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed

him. <sup>40</sup> Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?"

<sup>41</sup> They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time."

<sup>42</sup> Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?"

<sup>43</sup> "Therefore I tell you; the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. <sup>44</sup> The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." <sup>45</sup> When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup> They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

## **SERMON**

**Rev. Ryon Herin**

**"No Other Gods: Managing What God Gives Us (and doesn't) Well"**

### **\*HYMN 291**

### **SPIRIT, SPIRIT OF GENTLENESS**

**Refrain** Spirit, Spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness calling and free,  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

1 You moved on the waters, you called to the deep, then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep; and over the eons you called to each thing: "Awake from your slumbers and rise on your wings." (Refrain)

2 You swept through the desert, you stung with the sand, and you goaded your people with a law and a land; and when they were blinded with idols and lies, then you spoke through your prophets to open their eyes. (Refrain)

3 You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill, then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still; and down in the city you called once again, when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. (Refrain)

4 You call from tomorrow; you break ancient schemes. From the bondage of sorrow all the captives dream dreams; our women see visions, our men clear their eyes. With bold new decisions your people arise. (Refrain)

### **\*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.**

### **OFFERTORY**

**"Offertory in D Major"**

**Alexandre Guilmant**

### **\*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**

**We give you thanks and praise,**

**O God, for all your good gifts, and above all, for the gift of knowing Christ our Savior. Strengthen us as we continue to strive for the heavenly prize that you offer: eternal and abundant life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

### **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**\*HYMN 394 CHRIST IS MADE THE SURE FOUNDATION**

1 Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the head and cornerstone, chosen of the Lord and precious, binding all the church in one.

Holy Zion's help forever, and our confidence alone.

2 To this temple, where we call you, come, O Lord of hosts, and stay; come, with all your loving-kindness; hear your people as we pray, and your fullest benediction shed within these walls today.

3 Here bestow on all your servants what they seek from you to gain; what they gain from you, forever with the blessed to retain; and hereafter in your glory evermore with you to reign.

4 Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son, laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one: one in might and one in glory while unending ages run!

**CHARGE AND BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE "Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom" Donna Kasbohm**

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

\*\*\*\*\*

**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

.....

**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! If you did not pick up your Pledge Cards and Stewardship Letter, they have been mailed to you! Extra pledge cards are available in the narthex.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Volunteers and Donations for Park Lakes Spooktacular with our Confirmation Youth**

We will once again be participating in the Park Lakes Spooktacular on October 28<sup>th</sup> from 5- 8 with our confirmation youth! We are looking for volunteers to help the confirmation youth pass out candy, decorate and come up with a theme, as well as tear down/setup. We also are requesting donations for **candy (and non-candy prizes)** once again to pass out. We can always use more as there are always a lot of cute ghosts and goblins!

Contact Pastor Ryon or the Confirmation Teachers, Barbie Restaino, and Ken Blair to help!!

\*\*\*\*\*

**Krispy Cream Fundraiser: Venturing Crew 17**

Hello First Presbyterian Church members! Our Venturing Crew 17 will be doing a Krispy Kreme fundraiser. The funds collected will be used for camping equipment like tents and cooking supplies to accommodate their recent growth over the past year. If you would like to support their cause, you can contact the fundraising coordinator Enrique Adams at [Adamshouse2019@gmail.com](mailto:Adamshouse2019@gmail.com) for more information. A dozen glazed doughnuts is \$12 and will be available for delivery on November 12th. Orders will be closing November 1st.

\*\*\*\*\*

**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.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Historic Cemetery Tour and Outreach Cookout**

Join us on October 21<sup>st</sup> from 11 am-4 pm (rain date: the 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1-5) for a tour through Rockaway’s historic cemetery (35 Church Street) with live reenactors telling the stories of those who lived in and helped shape Rockaway. Portrayals include William Winds, Mary Estill, Joseph Tuttle, and Stephen Jackson. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be available for all from 11 am-2 pm the same day!! **Tickets: \$15 each, \$5 for children 10 & under, \$40 family deal**

Sponsored by First Presbyterian Church of Rockaway and Rockaway Borough Historical Committee  
Contact the church office and leave a message or Ryon Herin for advanced tickets.

Please see the Outreach Committee if you are interested in helping with the cookout!!

Contact Donna Schrader if you have questions 973-876-9315

\*\*\*\*\*

**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.

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.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Participate in our annual "Sox in a Box" collection or our annual coat collection.** Warm socks are now being collected to comfort our local homeless and working poor. Simply purchase warm socks (adult and children's sizes) or lovingly used winter coats and place them in donation bins located at:

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church (24-Hour drop off option, front vestibule)  
508 Green Pond Road Rockaway Township

First Presbyterian Church of Rockaway  
Food Closet or Office Hours (See Website) or Sundays

White Meadow Temple (Morning hours)  
153 White Meadow Rd. Rockaway

**Deadline for donating socks: October 8<sup>th</sup> (Socks accepted after deadline)**

**Deadline for donating coats: October 31<sup>st</sup>**

**For more information contact Ellen at: [epc330@verizon.net](mailto:epc330@verizon.net)**

\*\*\*\*\*



**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 8 – Church service 10:30am - Open Close – Carol Lutcza

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

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

11:30 am – Outreach Committee Meeting – BK Room

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm – MORE – FH

Monday – October 9 – Office Closed

6:30 pm – 7:30 pm – Girls Scout Troop 98657 – Scout Room

7:00 pm – Bible Study - Manse

Tuesday – October 10

9:00 am – 12:30 pm – Office Open

9:30 am – Bible Study via Zoom

12:30 am – AA Meeting – BK Room

7:30 pm – 9:30 pm – FA Meeting – Scout Room

Wednesday – October 11 –

9:00 am – 12:30 pm – Office Open

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm – Scout Den Meeting – FH

7:30 pm – Troop 113 Meeting – FH

Thursday, October 12 –

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

7:00 pm – Congregational Care Meeting – BK Room

Friday, October 13 – Office Closed

Saturday, October 14–

Sunday, July 9 –Open & Close - Lillian Blair

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

Linda Urwin – Congregational Committee Chair

### Deacons

Lisa DiBonaventura

Debbie Garris

Alison Molinaro

Vicki Philhower

Linda Sunderman

Linda Urwin

Barbara Weinberg

**First Presbyterian Church of Rockaway**

35 Church Street

Rockaway, NJ 067866-3027

(973) 627-1059

Reverend Ryon Herin

[ryon@fpcrockaway.org](mailto:ryon@fpcrockaway.org)

E-mail – [office@fpcrockaway.org](mailto:office@fpcrockaway.org)

Website – [www.fpcrockaway.org](http://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](mailto:directorpccns@gmail.com)