

September 17th, 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

“O Love That Will Not Let Me Go”

Arr. Marilyn Ham

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**

God has gathered us to this place,
**where we hear those stories which show us
what the kingdom of God is like.**

God summons us to this place,
**where we can learn how to serve our God
without reservation, or hesitation.**

God will send us from this place,
**to tell others of God's hopes and dreams,
so they, too, can choose to follow God.**

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Dear Lord,

**You do not want us to be ignorant of your dreams and hopes for us, God of holiness,
so you speak to us in parables, so we might pay careful attention to your words.**

**You tell us stories about our grandparents in the faith, so we might become mentors
to our grandchildren, and theirs. Filling us with the holy oil of generosity and grace,
you make us ready to welcome Jesus Christ into our lives, and to open our hearts to
those who are in need. Amen**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***HYMN**

ALAS AND DID MY SAVIOR BLEED/AT THE CROSS

(See Back Of The Bulletin)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins to God who forgives and saves.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious and loving God, you lived for us—we have not lived for you.

You have forgiven us—we have not forgiven others.

You have loved us—we have not loved ourselves nor have we loved one another.

Take pity on us and forgive us, God. Help us to forgive. Help us to live for you.

Help us to love through Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

People of God, our sins are forgiven. God is merciful and gracious and is Lord of us all.

Reconciled to the God who loves us, let us live and love through Christ our Lord.

***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 78:1-4;32-38

¹ Give ear, O my people, to my teaching;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

² I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will utter dark sayings from of old,
things that we have heard and known,
that our ancestors have told us.

⁴ We will not hide them from their children;
we will tell to the coming generation
the glorious deeds of the LORD and his might
and the wonders that he has done.

³² In spite of all this they still sinned;
they did not believe in his wonders.

³³ So he made their days vanish like a breath
and their years in terror.

³⁴ When he killed them, they searched for him;
they repented and sought God earnestly.

³⁵ They remembered that God was their rock,
the Most High God their redeemer.

³⁶ But they flattered him with their mouths;
they lied to him with their tongues.

³⁷ Their heart was not steadfast toward him;
they were not true to his covenant.

³⁸ Yet he, being compassionate,
forgave their iniquity
and did not destroy them;
often he restrained his anger
and did not stir up all his wrath.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Jesus, What a Beautiful Name”

Arr. Joel Raney
FPCR Choir, Krista Sweer Directing

1 Corinthians 1:18-24

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scholar? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of the proclamation, to save those who believe. ²² For Jews ask for signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

SERMON

“The Cross is Foolishness: God for Us”

Rev. Ryon Herin

*HYMN 520

TASTE AND SEE

Refrain: Taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

Oh, taste and see, taste and see the goodness of the Lord, of the Lord.

1 I will bless the Lord at all times. Praise shall always be on my lips;
my soul shall glory in the Lord; for God has been so good to me. (Refrain)

2 Glorify the Lord with me. Together let us all praise God's name.

I called the Lord, who answered me; from all my troubles I was set free. (Refrain)

3 Worship the Lord, all you people. You'll want for nothing if you ask.

Taste and see that the Lord is good; in God we need put all our trust. (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

Almighty God,

Receive these gifts that we offer with grateful hearts and use our lives for the ministry of your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose 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 213**

IN THE CROSS OF CHRIST I GLORY

- 1 In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o’er the wrecks of time; all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.
- 2 When the woes of life o’ertake me, hopes deceive, and fears annoy, never shall the cross forsake me; lo, it glows with peace and joy.
- 3 When the sun of bliss is beaming light and love upon my way, from the cross the radiance streaming adds more luster to the day.
- 4 Bane and blessing, pain and pleasure, by the cross are sanctified; peace is there that knows no measure, joys that through all time abide.
- 5 In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o’er the wrecks of time; all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.

CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Lift High the Cross”

Sydney Hugo Nicholson

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

Bible Study Return

Our Bible Studies have returned! **Monday Study** will start a new endeavor, studying Revelation with the help of Eugene Peterson's Book, *Reversed Thunder: The Revelation of John and the Praying Imagination*. The book will be helpful but not required. Contact Pastor Ryon if you need help ordering the book. Monday Study meets at the church manse (101 Church Street) at 7 on Mondays.

Tuesday Study is resuming its chapter-by-chapter journey through the Book of Acts. We meet at 9:30 AM on Zoom starting this Tuesday. Contact Pastor Ryon for the link.

New Membership Classes

If you are interested in becoming a new member, we will be hosting new membership classes in a few months. The class usually runs around a month and meets before church or at a time during the week agreeable for all interested. In this class, you will learn about our church history, what it means to be Presbyterian, and how our church is involved in our community. Contact Pastor Ryon if you are interested (ryon@fpcrockaway.org)

Our Cemetery Sexton, Rob Nichols, is retiring on September 15, 2023

Rob has been our Cemetery Sexton for 20 years!

If you would like to make a donation for a gift for Rob, please see Pat Budis or a member of the Office Staff. Thank you for your generosity.

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

St. Cecilia's RC Church (Morning hours)
90 Church St. Rockaway Boro

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

Deadline for donating socks: October 8th

Deadline for donating coats: October 31st

For more information contact Ellen at: epc330@verizon.net

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



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, September 17 - 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 – Coffee Hour

11:30 am – Adult Youth Coordinators Meeting – BK Room

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm – MORE – FH

Monday – September 18 – Office Closed

7:00 pm – Bible Study - Manse

Tuesday – September 19

9:00 am – 12:30 pm – Office Open

9:30 am – Bible Study - Zoom

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

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

Wednesday – September 20 –

9:00 am – 12:30 pm – Office Open

6:00 pm – 7:30 pm – Den Meeting – FH

7:00 pm – Session – BK Room

7:30 pm – Troop 113 Meeting – FH & SR

7:30 pm – Venturing Scouts - Canteen

Thursday, September 21 –

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, September 22 – Office Closed

6:00 pm – Pack 147 Meeting - FH

Saturday, September 23 –

Sunday, September 24 – Open & Close - Debbie Harrington

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

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

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

Robert Nichols, 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

At the Cross

ISAAC WATTS

RALPH E. HUDSON

1. A - las, and did my Sav - iour bleed And did my Sov - ereign die?
2. Was it for crimes that I have done He groaned up - on the tree?
3. Well might the sun in dark - ness hide, And shut his glo - ries in,
4. But drops of grief can ne'er re - pay The debt of love I owe;

Would He de - vote that sa - cred head For sin - ners such as I?
A - maz - ing pit - y, grace un - known, And love be - yond de - gree!
When Christ the might - y Mak - er died For man the crea - ture's sin.
Here, Lord, I give my - self a - way, 'Tis all that I can do.

At the cross, at the cross where I first saw the light, And the

bur - den of my heart rolled a - way (rolled a - way), It was there by faith

I re - ceived my sight, And now I am hap - py all the day!