

September 24th, 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

“A Joyful Ring”

By Barbra Kinyon

Church Street Ringers, Kathy Siegrist Directing

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 103:1-5)**

Come!

Come praise the eternal God!

Let all that is within us: body, emotions, mind, and will...

Praise God’s holy name!

Despite our failures, God forgives and releases us.

More than any doctor, God heals our diseases.

When we are famished and weak,

God fills us with good and beautiful things,

satisfying our needs and restoring our strength.

So, come!

Come, praise the eternal God!

Sing songs from a grateful heart and remember all that God has done for us.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

My soul praises you, Lord.

You are to us whom you were to Moses: compassionate, gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in love. Your love is so generous, it seems to stretch from my back porch to the full moon. If we stand on one side of the globe, you exile our failures to the opposite side. They can no more catch us than the sunrise can catch the sunset.

My soul praises you, Lord. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

***HYMN**

I KNOW NOT WHY GOD’S WONDROUS LOVE

(See Back of The Bulletin)

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

As loving parents have compassion for their children, God has compassion for us.

Confident in God’s love, let us confess our sins.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Loving God,

We confess that we have failed to live in harmony with our sisters and brothers.

We have been self-righteous in our attitudes, closed-minded in our beliefs,

and judgmental in our opinions. We have shunned those whose ways we

do not understand, and we have despised those who do not endorse our

convictions. Forgive our sins of discord and conceit and heal our divisiveness and

quarreling. Help us to be charitable in our regard for others that we may dwell in

peace with Christ, who is Lord of all. *Silent Prayer.* Amen.

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, the Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. In the name of Jesus Christ, 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 14:19-31

¹⁹ The angel of God who was going before the Israelite army moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from in front of them and took its place behind them. ²⁰ It came between the army of Egypt and the army of Israel. And so the cloud was there with the darkness, and it lit up the night; one did not come near the other all night.

²¹ Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The LORD drove the sea back by a strong east wind all night and turned the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.

²² The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left. ²³ The Egyptians pursued and went into the sea after them, all of Pharaoh's horses, chariots, and chariot drivers. ²⁴ At the morning watch the LORD, in the pillar of fire and cloud, looked down on the Egyptian army and threw the Egyptian army into a panic. ²⁵ He clogged their chariot wheels so that they turned with difficulty. The Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the Israelites, for the LORD is fighting for them against Egypt."

²⁶ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots and chariot drivers." ²⁷ So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and at dawn the sea returned to its normal depth. As the Egyptians fled before it, the LORD tossed the Egyptians into the sea. ²⁸ The waters returned and covered the chariots and the chariot drivers, the entire army of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea; not one of them remained. ²⁹ But the Israelites walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

³⁰ Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. ³¹ Israel saw the great work that the LORD did against the Egyptians. So the people feared the LORD and believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Simple Gifts"

**Arr. John Coates
FPCR Choir, Krista Sweer Directing**

Romans 14:1-12

¹ Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. ² Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. ³ Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. ⁴ Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

⁵ Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. ⁶ Those who observe the day, observe it for the Lord. Also those who eat, eat for the Lord, since they give thanks to God, while those who abstain, abstain for the Lord and give thanks to God.

⁷ For we do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. ⁸ If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. ⁹ For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

¹⁰ Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. ¹¹ For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." ¹² So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

SERMON

Rev. Ryon Herin

"A Pillar of Fire: God's Accommodations and Helping All"

***HYMN 52**

WHEN ISRAEL WAS IN EGYPT'S LAND

1 When Israel was in Egypt's land, let my people go;

oppressed so hard they could not stand, let my people go!

Refrain: Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt's land; tell old Pharaoh: let my people go!

2 "Thus saith the Lord," bold Moses said, "Let my people go!

If not, I'll smite your firstborn dead. Let my people go!" [Refrain]

3 "No more shall they in bondage toil: let my people go!

Let them come out with Egypt's spoil: let my people go!" [Refrain]

4 O let us all from bondage flee; let my people go!

And let us all in Christ be free: let my people go! [Refrain]

***PROFESSION OF FAITH**

Question 1 from the *Heidelberg Catechism*, adapted

What is our only comfort in life and death?

That we are not our own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to our faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all our sins with his precious blood and has set us free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves us in such a way that without the will of our heavenly Father not a hair can fall from our head; indeed, all things must work together for our salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit, he also assures us of eternal life and makes us heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him.

OFFERTORY

"God Leads Us Along"

Arr. Larry Shackley

***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

O God, we thank you for these gifts. Multiply them and enable the work of love and the righteousness of your kingdom in the world. We thank and praise you. 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 822**

WHEN WE ARE LIVING

1 When we are living, it is in Christ Jesus, and when we are dying, it is in the Lord. Both in our living and in our dying, we belong to God; we belong to God.

2 Through all our living, we our fruits must give. Good works of service are for offering.

When we are giving, or when receiving, we belong to God; we belong to God.

3 'Mid times of sorrow and in times of pain, when sensing beauty or in love's embrace, whether we suffer, or sing rejoicing, we belong to God; we belong to God.

4 Across the wide world, we shall always find those who are crying with no peace of mind, but when we help them, or when we feed them, we belong to God; we belong to God.

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 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 pm – 4:00 pm – MORE – FH

Monday – September 25 – Office Closed

7:00 pm – Bible Study - Manse

Tuesday – September 26

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

Wednesday – September 27 –

9:00 am – 12:30 pm – Office Open

7:30 pm – 9:00 pm - Scouts

Thursday, September 28 –

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 29 – Office Closed

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm – Community Cup - FH

Saturday, September 30 –

8:00 am – 11:00 am – Rise Up Breakfast - FH

Sunday, October 1 – Open & Close - Barbie Restaino

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

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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

I Know Not Why God's Wondrous Grace

Verse

I know not why God's wondrous grace To me He hath made known;
I know not how this saving faith to me he did impart,
I know not how the Spirit moves, convincing us of sin,
I know not when my Lord may come, at night or noon-day fair,

Nor why, unworthy, Christ in love Redeemed me for His own.
nor how believing in his word wrought peace within my heart.
revealing Jesus through the Word, creating faith in him.
nor if I'll walk the vale with him, or meet him in the air.

Refrain

But "I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able

to keep that which I've committed unto him against that day."

My.Hymnary - I Know Not Why God's Wondrous Grace

WORDS: Daniel W. Whittle

MUSIC (EL NATHAN 8.6.8.6.(C.M.) with Chorus): James McGranahan