

ROSLYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
140 EAST BROADWAY
ROSLYN, NEW YORK

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT
HYMN SING SERVICE

DECEMBER 10, 2023

10:00 AM

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GATHERING IN COMMUNITY BEFORE GOD

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* HYMN: 12 (Blue Hymnal) *People, Look East*

WE PRAISE OUR GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Responsive)

One: Now is the time to get ready:

Many: Let us prepare the way of the Lord!

One: Now is the time to be changed:

Many: Let us repent and seek God's forgiveness.

One: Now is the time to welcome God into our midst:

All: We will worship God in humble expectation.

* HYMN: *Congregation's Choice*

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - PEACE

Response: God of hope, Prince of Peace, you speak peace into the world in the way of the Christ child. Help us embody your peace and live as peacemakers that we may be called children of God. God of hope, God of peace, into our darkness come.

("*" invites all who are able to stand. **Bold** indicates read in unison.)

PRAYER OF ADORATION

God of purpose and promise, you love the breadth and depth of your creation and care for us like shepherds tend their sheep. You set pathways for us to follow, clearing the way in the wilderness of the world. And yet we break your heart by wandering off, pursuing our own purposes. Still, you keep calling us back. You call us by name in our baptisms. You set us in the world to serve you, each one with a purpose you imagine for us. And so we come to worship you, O God, knowing that in you, we will find our true purpose, and the path you set will lead to peace and well-being in your deep love, revealed for us in Christ Jesus. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

(Please remain in your seat and wave to your neighbors.)

* HYMN: 250 (Red Hymnal) *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of mercy, we confess that we resist change, even when your Word compels us to reconsider our actions or opinions. We are set in our ways, and prefer to consider the changes others should make. Forgive us. By the power of your Holy Spirit, give us new eyes for seeing, new ears for hearing so that we follow Jesus more faithfully day by day.

(Please take a moment for silent reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

* HYMN: 258 (Red Hymnal) *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

All: God of grace, still our busy minds as we listen for your Word speaking through the Scripture. By your Spirit, create a space within us to receive your wisdom, your mercy, and your invitation to live for you. Amen.

* HYMN: 277 (Red Hymnal) *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 40:1-11

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

* HYMN: 245 (Red Hymnal) *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 1:1-8

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

* HYMN: *Congregation's Choice*

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS FOR PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

CALL TO OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of promise, we offer our gifts in Jesus' name, for we know peace through his forgiveness and faithfulness. Bless our gifts and our lives. Help us share the peace you offer with lives that touch ours throughout the world you love. Amen.

* HYMN: 253 (Red Hymnal) *Silent Night! Holy Night!*

CHARGE AND BLESSING

DISMISSAL *Go Now in Peace*

POSTLUDE

THE WORSHIP IS OVER, LET THE SERVICE BEGIN

Rev. Dr. Marjory J. Roth

Dr. Gary de Sesa

Dr. Natalie Naylor

Robert Gilmore

Pastor

Director, Ministry of Music

Clerk of Session

Treasurer

Refreshments Host for today is Maya Leibfreid.

The Flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of loved ones by the Barbara Wackenhut Foundation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important Dates

Sun, Dec. 10

5:30 PM Christmas Dinner

Wed, Dec. 13

7 PM Bible Study Via Zoom

Sun, Dec. 24

5:30 PM Christmas Eve Service (evening only; no morning service)

Tues, Jan. 23

3:30 PM Session Meeting

Sun, Jan. 28

11:15 PM RPC Annual Meeting

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Katie Zarghami

Emily Dyer

Jojo Gencorelli

Richard and Lynn Cardozo

Emma Steck

Nora Shimmel

Dawn and John de Sesa

Rev. Stark Jones

Joyce Zanchelli

Eddie Balsamo

Sam Rizzo

Charlie Barba

The Catalanello Family

Graziella Girardi

Sheemeza Ali

Paul Whelan and Family

Nico Barley

Emmie Shoch

Dr. Ralph & Judy Mastrangelo

John Nistico

Jeff Lovering

Regina Maria

Rhonda Liss

Paula Liscio

Jennifer Galluzzo

The Stallone Family

Elizabeth Bienz

Ray Peres

Jennifer Monda

Jeanette Schramm

All victims, hostages and their families in the Israeli conflict.
We pray for peace in the Middle East.

First Reading

Isaiah 40:1-11

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. ³ A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." ⁶ A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All flesh is grass; their constancy is like the flower of the field. ⁷ The grass withers; the flower fades, [[when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass. ⁸ The grass withers; the flower fades,]] but the word of our God will stand forever. ⁹ Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" ¹⁰ See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him and his recompense before him. ¹¹ He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms and carry them in his bosom and gently lead the mother sheep.

Second Reading

Mark 1:1-8

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ. ² As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way, ³ the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight,' " ⁴ so John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Go Now in Peace

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen, Amen, Amen.