ROSLYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
140 EAST BROADWAY
ROSLYN, NEW YORK

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 26, 2026 10:00 AM

"I am your God, who takes hold of your right hand." Isaiah 41:13

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GATHERING IN COMMUNITY BEFORE GOD

PRELUDE/WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE PRAISE OUR GOD

* CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)
One: Give thanks to God and call on God's holy name.
Many: We will tell of God's wonderful works!
One: Let the hearts of those who seek God rejoice.
Many: We will sing God's praises!
One: Give glory to God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.
All: We will remember God's mercy in all our words and actions.

* HYMN: 276 (Blue Hymnal) *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

PRAYER OF THE DAY
God of the past, present and future, we marvel at the wonder of your creation. We praise you for gardens growing, birds singing, stars twinkling, for shouts of playful joy and restful evening sunsets. Such delights around us remind us of your goodness. God with us, day by day, you also surprise us with moments we will treasure for ever, and with confidence that turns small beginnings into projects that make a huge difference. You promise us a life beyond anything we can imagine, a kingdom marked by grace, love and justice for all. Amen.

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

CALL TO CONFESSION/PRAYER OF CONFESSION
All: Merciful God, we confess we are not always merciful people. We turn away in anger rather than seek solutions. We criticize those who differ from us in culture or conviction, rather than seek understanding. We can hold grudges for a lifetime. Forgive us our failures to live out the mercy we claim from you week by week. Open our hearts with your great love.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE IN SONG
God of Compassion, in Mercy Befriend Us, 261 (Blue Hymnal) v.3

(Cantor Gary Lorentzson will lead congregation)

3 How shall we stray, with Thy hand to direct us,
Thou who the stars in their courses art guiding?
What shall we fear, with Thy power to protect us,
We who walk forth in Thy greatness confiding?
(Please take a moment for silent reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

* GLORIA PATRI 579 (Blue Hymnal) *Glory Be to the Father*
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.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING
All: God of the seeking heart, we search for truth in a world filled with hidden agendas. Send us your Holy Spirit to guide us to the treasures hidden in your Word, for the sake of Christ who is the Way, the Truth and the Life for us. Amen.

* HYMN: 184 (Red Hymnal) *Thy Word* (Congregation sing refrain, Cantor Gary Lorentzson will sing the verses)

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 119:105-112, 129-136 (NRSV)
(RESPONSIVE READING Odd verse leader/even congregation)
105 Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

106 **I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to observe your righteous ordinances.**
107 I am severely afflicted; give me life, O Lord, according to your word.
108 **Accept my offerings of praise, O Lord, and teach me your ordinances.**
109 I hold my life in my hand continually, but I do not forget your law.
110 **The wicked have laid a snare for me, but I do not stray from your precepts.**
111 Your decrees are my heritage forever; they are the joy of my heart.
112 **I incline my heart to perform your statutes forever, to the end.**
129 Your decrees are wonderful; therefore my soul keeps them.
130 **The unfolding of your words gives light; it imparts understanding to the simple.**
131 With open mouth I pant, because I long for your commandments.
132 **Turn to me and be gracious to me, as is your custom toward those who love your name.**
133 Keep my steps steady according to your promise, and never let iniquity have dominion over me.
134 **Redeem me from human oppression, that I may keep your precepts.**
135 Make your face shine upon your servant, and teach me your statutes.
136 **My eyes shed streams of tears because your law is not kept.**

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (NRSV)
(Congregation reads bold)

31 Jesus put before them another parable: **"The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field;** 32 it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." 33 He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened." 44 **"The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field,** which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. 45 **"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls**; 46 on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. 47 **"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind;** 48 when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. 49 So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous 50 and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. 51 **"Have you understood all this?"** They answered, "Yes." 52 And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has become a disciple in the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord
People: Glory to You, O God

MESSAGE *Jesus put before them more parables; Have you understood all this? They answered, YES.* Rev. Dr. James Barnum

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS FOR PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND OUR 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.

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 all true treasure, we offer our gifts with thankful hearts, knowing you keep providing what makes life truly rich. Bless these gifts so that your goodness is multiplied to touch the lives of those in need, for Christ's sake. Amen.

* HYMN: 404 (Blue Hymnal) *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*

BENEDICTION
May God the Father, prepare your journey,
Jesus the Son, guide your footsteps,
The Spirit of Life, strengthen your body,
The Three in One watch over you,
on every road that you may follow. **AMEN**

POSTLUDE *The Trees of the Field* (lyrics based on Isaiah 55:12)
Music by Stuart Dauermann, Words by Steffi Geiser Rubin

(Sing twice. First time led by: Gary Lorentzson, second time: congregation joins.)

You Shall go out with joy
And be led forth with peace
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you
There'll be shouts of joy
And all the trees of the field will clap, will clap their hands

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap)
The trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap)
The trees of the field will clap their hands (clap, clap)
While you go out with joy

THE WORSHIP IS OVER, LET THE SERVICE BEGIN

Rev. Dr. James Barnum	Pastor
Dr. Gary de Sesa	Director, Ministry of Music
Dr. Natalie Naylor	Clerk of Session
Dr. Robert Gilmore	Treasurer

We welcome Theresa Tsai-Petkoff as pianist, filling in for Dr. Gary de Sesa.

Assisting in today's service is Gary Lorentzson.

Refreshments Host for today is Maya Leibfreid.

Next Sunday's scriptures:
Psalm 17:1-7; Matthew 14:13-21

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Important Dates

Wed, Jul 29	12:00 PM	Bible Study via Zoom

August Birthdays
8/20 Natalie Naylor

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Helen Lockman	Cynthia Randall
Steve Kirschman	Dawn and John de Sesa
Gary B. de Sesa	Sam Rizzo
Emmie Shoch	Regina Maria
Ray Peres	Gerry Catalanello
Sylvia McAdams	Stefania Cecchini
Family of Steven Panzella	Family of Janine Francolini
Chet Scire	William Cornell
Lawrence Topel	Willy Geddish
Jasmina & Jaiden Allen	Paula Liscio
Dr. Klaus Dittmar	

We pray for PEACE in the world and especially the Middle East and a just resolution between Iran and our country; Ukraine and Russia; along with all victims and their families from the Gaza/Lebanon-Israeli conflict and all nations that are at war. We pray for all families who are in need, and those who are grieving their loved ones.