

ROSLYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
140 EAST BROADWAY
ROSLYN, NEW YORK

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 5, 2023

10:00 AM

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GATHERING IN COMMUNITY BEFORE GOD

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE PRAISE OUR GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

One: Into life's challenges and questions comes the Mystery of God,

Many: And God's truth opens our eyes.

One: Into our routines and rituals walks the presence of Christ,

Many: And God's love brings healing and hope.

One: Into our traditions and conclusions blows the wind of the Spirit,

Many: And God's people are born from above.

One: We gather in Jesus' name to encounter God's grace and glory.

All: Let us worship God with open hearts and minds.

* HYMN: 84 (Blue Hymnal) *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of majesty and mercy, Christ, both Lord and Servant, Spirit of new life, your mystery embraces the vast reaches of the universe and yet you are present with us in the course of our daily lives. With even the tiniest spark of your wisdom, you illuminate the greatest complexities. With the smallest gesture of your love,

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

you renew our hope. Deepen our sense of your holy presence this day. Assure us that your love will never let us go. And so we offer our praise and our prayers this day to you, Holy God, Holy One and Holy Three, with humble hearts and faith that seeks understanding. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: God of mystery and mercy, we confess that we prefer simple certainty to seeking deeper understanding. We settle for what we know, ignoring our doubts and questions. Forgive us when our faith falters because what we think no longer satisfies. Open our eyes to the truth you hold out to us in Christ, and give us courage to rethink what we have assumed about you and your love for the world.

(Please take a moment for silent reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* HYMN: 319 (Blue Hymnal) *Spirit*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

All: God of Wisdom, we turn to Scripture to listen and learn. Send your Holy Spirit to help us listen carefully so that we hear what we have not heard before and learn to follow Christ with deeper understanding and renewed commitment. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 12:1-4a

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: John 3:1-17

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

MESSAGE *Rely on God*

Rev. Dr. Marjory J. Roth

ANTHEM: *Meditation for Communion* Althouse

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (see insert)

* HYMN: 508 (Blue Hymnal) *For the Bread Which You Have Broken*

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS FOR PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION
(Response to *God, our Companion: Walk with us on the way.*)

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

* HYMN: 431 (Red Hymnal) *Shine, Jesus, Shine*

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

Generous God, we offer our gifts to you in gratitude for all that we have received in Christ and in creation. Bless our gifts and our lives, so that we can share in the building up of your kingdom in the world you love. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

CHARGE AND BLESSING

DISMISSAL *Go Now in Peace*

POSTLUDE

THE WORSHIP IS OVER, LET THE SERVICE BEGIN

Rev. Dr. Marjory J. Roth	Pastor
Dr. Gary de Sesa	Director, Ministry of Music
Dr. Natalie Naylor	Clerk of Session
Robert Gilmore	Treasurer

Kita de Sesa is our Soprano soloist.

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

Refreshments Host today is Mary Matos.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Dates

Wed, Mar. 8	10 AM Bible Study In Person
Wed, Mar. 8	7 PM 'Jerry & Marge' Zoom

Reminder: **Daylight Savings Time** begins next **Sunday, March 12**. Turn your clocks ahead one hour.

We will be participating in a "**Sacred Cinema Lenten Film Fest**" as part of a Shared Ecumenical Season of Lent with other area Presbyterian churches (Bellmore, Syosset, Merrick, Baldwin, Oceanside and Roslyn), **Wednesday nights at 7 pm via Zoom** (link to be sent on day of event). Each week, a clergy member will introduce a movie clip with some queries for reflection for our Lenten journey.

March 8: 'Jerry & Marge' (Pastor Marjory to lead)
March 15: 'Prince of Egypt'
March 22: 'Up' or 'Big Fish'
March 29: 'Babette's Feast'

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Emma Steck	Dawn and John de Sesa
Eddie Balsamo	Rev. Stark Jones
The Family of Dwight Dyer	The Stallone Family
Sam Rizzo	Merritt Randall
Charlie Barba	The Family of Edith Van Raalte
The Catalanello Family	Richard and Lynn Cardozo
Graziella Girardi	Frank Gencorelli
Sheemeza Ali	Paul Whelan and Family
Joyce Zanchelli	Nico Barley
Agatina D'Aria	Emmie Shoch
Adele Martuffi	Dr. Ralph & Judy Mastrangelo
John Nistico	Nora Shimmel

Families of victims in Ukraine and all the Ukrainian refugees
All who are struggling due to the Coronavirus outbreak

First Reading

Genesis 12:1-4a

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Now the Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. ² I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. ³ I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."⁴ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him, and Lot went with him.

Second Reading

John 3:1-17

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ² He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with that person."³ Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above."⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?"⁵ Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶ What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.'⁸ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."⁹ Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?"¹⁰ Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"¹¹ "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen, yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹² If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?"¹³ No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴ And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. ¹⁶ "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷ "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world but in order that the world might be saved through him.

ANTHEM

"Meditation For Communion"

- Althouse

Bread of the world in mercy broken, wine of the soul in mercy shed,
By whom the words of life are spoken and in whose death our sins are dead.
Look on the heart by sorrow broken, look on the tears by sinners shed;
And be the feast to us the token, that by thy grace our souls are fed.
Bread of the world in mercy broken, wine of the soul in mercy shed.
Amen, amen.

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.