

ROSLYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
140 EAST BROADWAY  
ROSLYN, NEW YORK

SERVICE OF WORSHIP  
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

SEPTEMBER 17, 2023

10:00 AM

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**GATHERING IN COMMUNITY BEFORE GOD**

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\* HYMN: 461 (Blue Hymnal) *God Is Here!*

**WE PRAISE OUR GOD**

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Responsive)

One: Praise the Lord.

**Many: Let us praise God together.**

One: For as the heavens are high above the earth, so great is God's steadfast love;

**Many: As far as the east is from the west, so far God removes our sins.**

One: So let us rejoice in God's gracious presence.

**All: Let us praise the God of mercy together.**

\* HYMN: 655 (Red Hymnal) *Sanctuary*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**God of might and mercy, the heavens and the earth are full of your glory. Your love transforms our lives. You enter our confusion and give insight. You bear our grief and bring healing. You see our fatigue and renew strength. You sense our fear and spark courage. You know death and raise up new life. So we come before you in worship, handing over to you all that weighs us down. Renew us in this time of worship. Amen.**

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: O God, our lives do not always reflect your transforming power. You are gracious, but we cling to judgment. You are kind, but we can be cruel. You are forgiving, but we nurse grudges and old wounds. Forgive us, O God. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, and make us new through Christ, your Son and our Savior.**

(Please take a moment for silent reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD**

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

**All: God of wisdom, prepare our hearts and minds to receive your Word. Where it challenges us, lead us by your Spirit to respond in faithfulness for the sake of Christ who gives us both courage and compassion. Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 18:21-35

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 14:1-12

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God**

MESSAGE *As I Surely Live*

Rev. Dr. Marjory J. Roth

\* HYMN: 408 (Red Hymnal) *How Firm a Foundation*

**WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED**

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS FOR PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

(Response to *God of changed hearts: Renew the future for us all.*)

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

\* HYMN: 343 (Blue Hymnal) *Called As Partners in Christ's Service*

#### 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

**We give thanks to you, O God, because you have blessed us with so much. Yet we know that others have too little. Bless our gifts so they touch lives in need and become roots of justice in the world, for the sake of Jesus Christ, who sends us out in love. Amen.**

#### CHARGE AND BLESSING

### **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

We welcome Kexin Liu as pianist, filling in for Dr. Gary de Sesa.

Refreshments Host for today is Katie Zarghami.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

##### Upcoming Dates

Wed, Sept. 20	No Bible Study
Wed, Sept. 27	No Bible Study
Thurs, Sept. 28	4 PM Session Meeting
Sun, Oct. 1	10 AM World Communion Sunday

For World Communion Sunday, we will be joining in the round for a special service. Invite someone to join.

#### **PLEASE PRAY FOR**

Emily Dyer	Jojo Gencorelli
George Aridas	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	Agatina D'Aria
Emmie Shoch	Dr. Ralph & Judy Mastrangelo
John Nistico	Jeff Lovering
Regina Maria	Rhonda Liss
Paula Liscio	Jennifer Galluzzo
Tom Stallone	Elizabeth Bienz
Ray Peres	Jennifer Monda
Katie Zarghami	Jeanette Schramm

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

#### **First Reading**

**Matthew 18:21-35**                      **New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?"

<sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times." <sup>23</sup> "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand bags of gold was brought to him.

<sup>25</sup> Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt. <sup>26</sup> "At this the servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' <sup>27</sup> The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go. <sup>28</sup> "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred silver coins. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay

back what you owe me!’ he demanded. <sup>29</sup>“His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, ‘Be patient with me, and I will pay it back.’ <sup>30</sup>“But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When the other servants saw what had happened, they were outraged and went and told their master everything that had happened. <sup>32</sup>“Then the master called the servant in. ‘You wicked servant,’ he said, ‘I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. <sup>33</sup> Shouldn’t you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?’ <sup>34</sup> In anger his master handed him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed. <sup>35</sup>“This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother or sister from your heart.”

## **Second Reading**

### **Romans 14:1-12**

### **New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)**

Accept the one whose faith is weak, without quarreling over disputable matters. <sup>2</sup> One person’s faith allows them to eat anything, but another, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. <sup>3</sup> The one who eats everything must not treat with contempt the one who does not, and the one who does not eat everything must not judge the one who does, for God has accepted them. <sup>4</sup> Who are you to judge someone else’s servant? To their own master, servants stand or fall. And they will stand, for the Lord is able to make them stand. <sup>5</sup> One person considers one day more sacred than another; another considers every day alike. Each of them should be fully convinced in their own mind. <sup>6</sup> Whoever regards one day as special does so to the Lord. Whoever eats meat does so to the Lord, for they give thanks to God; and whoever abstains does so to the Lord and gives thanks to God. <sup>7</sup> For none of us lives for ourselves alone, and none of us dies for ourselves alone. <sup>8</sup> If we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord. So, whether we live or die, we belong to the Lord. <sup>9</sup> For this very reason, Christ died and returned to life so that he might be the Lord of both the dead and the living. <sup>10</sup> You, then, why do you judge your brother or sister? Or why do you treat them with contempt? For we will all stand before God’s judgment seat. <sup>11</sup> It is written: “‘As surely as I live,’ says the Lord, ‘every knee will bow before me; every tongue will acknowledge God.’” <sup>12</sup> So then, each of us will give an account of ourselves to God.