

ROSLYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
140 EAST BROADWAY
ROSLYN, NEW YORK

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 8, 2024

10:00 AM

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GATHERING IN COMMUNITY BEFORE GOD

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

* HYMN: 30 (Blue Hymnal) *Born in the Night, Mary's Child*

WE PRAISE OUR GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Responsive)

One: A voice in the wilderness cries out:

Many: Prepare the way of the Lord!

One: Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill be made low.

Many: The crooked shall be made straight, and rough places, smooth.

One: A voice in the wilderness cries out:

Many: All people shall see the salvation of God!

One: Lift up your hearts in expectation!

All: We will lift up our praise to the One who is coming into the world once more.

ANTHEM: *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus*

Lewis

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE - PEACE

Leader: Peace is the light that sheds understanding.

People: Peace is the promise of God.

Leader: Peace is found when God's order and justice are brought to the world.

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

People: We await the birth of the Prince of Peace.

(The candle is lit.) Leader: Let us pray:

People: Source of light, shine in our lives and in your world with your everlasting peace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of peace and promise, you are the giver of life, living in us through the power of your Holy Spirit. You are the voice that calls us from our wandering, setting us on a new path. You are the living water that purifies us, baptizing us for service in the world that so badly needs your love. You are the Way that we are called to walk and you are the one who supplies all things for the journey. Refresh us in this time of worship, and reignite our desire to serve you each and every day. Glory, honor and praise be yours now and always, one God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All: Merciful God, baptism promises the washing away of our sin and the start of our new life in Christ. But we confess that we are still in love with our old ways. We sin against you and one another, in what we do and in what we fail to do. We excuse ourselves, and take comfort in what is familiar and pleases us rather than what serves you. Forgive us when we mistake such comfort for the peace you offer us in Christ Jesus, and prepare our hearts to embrace new ways of following him.

(Please take a moment for silent reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* HYMN: 13 (Blue Hymnal) *Prepare the Way, O Zion*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING **All: Holy God, through your scriptures, you have revealed your Word in scripture to your people across the generations. In the fullness of time, you revealed your Living Word in Jesus Christ. Now, by the power of your Holy Spirit, open our minds and hearts to you, so that we find new ways to follow you faithfully in this generation. Amen.**

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Malachi 3:1-4

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING: Luke 3:1-6

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

MESSAGE

Rev. Dr. Marjory J. Roth

* HYMN: 3 (Blue Hymnal) *Comfort, Comfort You My People*

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS FOR PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

(Response to *Christ Jesus, coming among us: **Bring us peace.***)

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

* HYMN: 41 (Blue Hymnal) *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

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

Mighty and merciful God, we bring our gifts to you, trusting that your blessing will multiply their transformative power and use in the world. Use them and us to prepare the way for Christ to enter lives with his compassion and courage, so that the world will know his peace and trust his name. 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.

Refreshments Host today is Natalie Naylor.

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. 15

5 PM Christmas Dinner, Carol Singing

Tues, Dec. 24

5 PM Christmas Eve Service

Sat, Jan. 4

2 PM Emily Dyer Memorial

Sun, Jan. 26

11 AM Annual Meeting

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Family of Emily Dyer

Emma Steck

Helen Lockman

Cynthia Randall

Dawn and John de Sesa

Joyce Zanchelli

Sam Rizzo

Graziella Girardi

Emmie Shoch

Jeff Lovering

Dr. Ralph & Judy Mastrangelo & Family

John Nistico

Regina Maria

Elizabeth Bienz

Ray Peres

Jay Sikserz

Blake and Megan Stevason

Marco Martufi

Nico Barley

Mike Honovich

Chris Foti

Gerry Catalanello

Jenn Gallagher

Sylvia McAdams

Richie Miranda
Nora Shimmel
Aldin Monroe

Dennis Prager
Wang Jin Pen

ANTHEM

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

- Lewis

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

First Reading

Malachi 3:1-4

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

“I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me. Then suddenly the Lord you are seeking will come to his temple; the messenger of the covenant, whom you desire, will come,” says the Lord Almighty. ² But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? For he will be like a refiner’s fire or a launderer’s soap. ³ He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver; he will purify the Levites and refine them like gold and silver. Then the Lord will have men who will bring offerings in righteousness, ⁴ and the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be acceptable to the Lord, as in days gone by, as in former years.

Second Reading

Luke 3:1-6

New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar—when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, Herod tetrarch of Galilee, his brother Philip tetrarch of Iturea and Traconitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene— ² during the high-priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁴ As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet: “A voice of one calling in the wilderness, ‘Prepare the way for the Lord, make straight paths for him. ⁵ Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill made low. The crooked roads shall become straight, the rough ways smooth. ⁶ And all people will see God’s salvation.’”

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; Let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel’s strength and consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

By Thine own eternal Spirit, Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit, Raise us to Thy glorious throne.
Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free.

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.