

ROSLYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
140 EAST BROADWAY
ROSLYN, NEW YORK

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 15, 2026

10:00 AM

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GATHERING IN COMMUNITY BEFORE GOD

PRELUDE/WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE PRAISE OUR GOD

* CALL TO WORSHIP (adapted from Psalm 23)

Pastor: The Lord is our Shepherd.

People: God leads us beside still waters and restores our souls.

Pastor: God guides us along right pathways for the sake of love.

People: Even though we walk through the darkest valley, we will not fear.

Pastor: Surely goodness and mercy will follow us all the days of our lives.

People: And we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Pastor: So come, let us worship the One who is always with us—
comforting, guiding, and sustaining us.

People: Let us praise our God, whose goodness and mercy
overflows in our lives!

* HYMN: 379 (Blue Hymnal) *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Leader: Gracious and ever-present God –

People: Shepherd of our lives and Light of the world – In this Lenten season you invite us to see more clearly — to notice where fear clouds our vision and compassion grows dim. Help us to open our eyes this day. Help us recognize your presence beside us in green pastures and shadowed valleys alike. Through Christ, the

(“*” invites all who are able to stand. **Bold** indicates read or *sing* in unison.)

Light of the world, teach us to walk as children of light— with courage, mercy, and humble hearts. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION/PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Friends, Scripture reminds us that once we lived in darkness, yet in Christ we are called to live in the light. Still, we know how easily we lose our way and fail to see the needs around us. Trusting in God’s mercy, let us bring our hearts honestly before God.

People: Merciful God, You call us into the light, yet we confess how often we remain in the shadows. We overlook those who are struggling and cling to assumptions that keep us from seeing one another clearly. Forgive us, O God. Restore our sight and open our hearts to your presence in our neighbors and in ourselves. Guide us from blindness into compassion, from fear into courage, and from darkness into the light of your love. In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.

(Please take a moment for silent reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, hear the good news: Our God who leads us through every valley does not abandon us; in Christ, the Light of the world shines into every darkness; and through the Spirit our hearts are renewed and made whole. By God’s mercy our sight is restored and we are invited to begin each day anew. Believe the Good News:

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of Lord be always with you.

People: And, also with you.

* 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

Leader: Living God,

All: As we hear your Word today, open the eyes of our hearts — where we are blind, grant us vision; where we are uncertain, grant

us wisdom; where we are afraid, grant us courage. By your Spirit, may your Word guide us to walk as children of light. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Ephesians 5:8-14 (NRSV)

⁸ for once you were darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Walk as children of light, ⁹ for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. ¹⁰ Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord.

¹¹ Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness; rather, expose them. ¹² For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly, ¹³ but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴ for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, “Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.”

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

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

THE GOSPEL: John 9:1–3, 6–9, 13–17, 24–25, 35–39 (NRSV)

As Jesus walked by, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked if the man’s blindness was caused by his own sin or his parents’ sin. Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him.” Jesus spat on the ground, made mud with the saliva, spread it on the man’s eyes, and told him to wash in the pool of Siloam (which means Sent). The man went, washed, and returned able to see. Neighbors and those who had seen him begging wondered if he was the same man. Some said yes, others said he only looked like him. The man confirmed, “I am the man.” They brought the formerly blind man to the Pharisees. Because Jesus had made mud and opened his eyes on a Sabbath, the Pharisees were divided. Some argued, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the sabbath,” while others asked, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” The Pharisees asked the man what he thought of Jesus, to which he replied, “He is a prophet.” They summoned the man again, demanding he “Give glory to God” and stating they knew Jesus was a sinner. The man responded, “I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” After the Pharisees threw the man out, Jesus found him and asked if he believed in the Son of Man. The man asked who he was, to which Jesus replied, “You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he.” The man said, “Lord, I believe,” and

worshiped him. Jesus concluded, “I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind.”

Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord

People: **Glory to You, O God**

MESSAGE *Learning to See* Rt. Rev. Br. Mark D’Alessio

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.

* HYMN: (Insert) *There’s A Kingdom Fair*

CALL TO OFFERTORY

The Shepherd who walks beside us in every valley also calls us to share in the work of healing the world. Our offerings today are signs of gratitude— gifts that help extend compassion, justice, and hope. As people who have received the light of Christ, let us give generously so that others may see that light as well.

* 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

Pastor: Generous God,

People: You prepare a table before us and fill our cups until they overflow. Receive these gifts we offer today. Bless them for the work of healing, justice, and compassion in your world. Use our gifts and our lives to bring light where there is darkness and hope where there is despair. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Friends, thank you for joining us today, online or in-person. As we leave this time of worship, we go now in the peace of Christ. Let us walk as children of the light; and, let compassion guide our steps; and, let courage open our eyes to the realities of the world around us. And, as we go, receive this blessing: May the Shepherd who walks beside us lead you through every valley. May the Light of Christ illuminate your path. And may the Spirit awaken your vision for the work of love.

People: Amen.

Pastor: Go in peace, carrying Christ's light into the world, to love and serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God. Amen.

DISMISSAL *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.

POSTLUDE

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 to the pulpit today the Rt. Rev. Br. Mark D'Alessio.

Refreshments Host for today is Maya Leibfreid.

Next Sunday's scriptures:

Ezekiel 37:1-14; Romans 8:6-11

PLEASE PRAY FOR

Robert Gilmore
Katie Zarghami
Dawn and John de Sesa
Sam Rizzo
Emmie Shoch
Regina Maria
Gerry Catalanello
Richie Miranda
Alex Palumbo
Family of Steven Panzella
Marianne Wagner Rizzo
William Cornell
Willy Geddish

Helen Lockman
Cynthia Randall
Gary B. de Sesa
Graziella Girardi
Judy Mastrangelo & Family
Ray Peres
Sylvia McAdams
Stefania Cecchini
Rick Collins and Family
Family of Janine Francolini
Chet Scire
Lawrence Topel

We pray for PEACE in the world and especially the Middle East and a just resolution between Ukraine and Russia along with all victims and their families from the Gaza-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.

205 There's A Kingdom Fair

IN HIS KINGDOM 10 10, 8 10 4

Oscar R. Overby, 1931

Norwegian Folk-Tune
Arr. Oscar R. Overby, 1931

1. There's a King-dom fair and gen-tly loom-ing, Where the spring-time
2. Peace-ful-ly all mor-tal life a - dorn-ing, Spread-ing ra - diance
3. Faith and hope and char-i - ty are dwell-ing, E - ven here ce -
4. If you seek a - bid-ing joy and pleas-ure, Seek the King-dom

of the soul is bloom-ing. In this King-dom the king is love,
like the rays of morn - ing, From the high-est where life be-gan,
les-tial bliss fore - tell - ing, Where the tal - ents of fair - est youth
and pre-serve your treas-ure: A - lien-a - ted you strive in vain;

And his sov-'reign-ty is of God a - bove, In His King - dom.
Comes this gift di - vine to the heart of man, In His King - dom.
Shall find grace to grow and to ren - der fruit, In His King - dom.
But pos - sess-ing Christ is e - ter - nal gain, In His King - dom.

Copyright 1932 by Oscar R. Overby

5. Penitently and so gently looming,
Let the springtime of the soul be blooming,
Where the ruler of life is love,
And the king at last shall be Christ above,
In His Kingdom.

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