ROSLYN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
140 EAST BROADWAY
ROSLYN, NEW YORK

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

OCTOBER 11, 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 106:1–6*) Responsive

One: Praise the Lord! Give thanks to God, for God is good.
Many: God's steadfast love endures forever.
One: Happy are those who seek justice and practice righteousness.
Many: Remember us, O God, with the love you have for your people.
One: Visit us with your saving grace, that we may rejoice in your goodness.
Many: We come remembering God's faithfulness, even when we have forgotten.
One: In every season, God's mercy meets us and calls us home.
All: With grateful hearts, let us worship God.

ANTHEM: *A Prayer of Grateful Praise* McDonald

Lord, we are blessed to call You Father.
And Lord, we are blessed to be Your child.
Through the giving of Your Son, sacrifice, the Holy One,
The gift of life through all eternity

Lord we lift our prayer to You with a heart of gratitude
To the Father, Spirit, Holy One,
We raise, this our thanks for all You've done
Giving glory to Your Son!
Lord, we bring to you a prayer of grateful praise. Amen.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of every season, **You meet us in times of abundance and in times of letting go. As autumn changes the world around us, teach us to trust the wisdom of changing seasons. Help us release what no longer gives life, receive the gifts of this moment, and open ourselves to what you are creating among us. Turn our hearts toward what is true, just, beautiful, and loving, and make us willing to receive your invitation. Amen.**

* HYMN: 367 (Blue Hymnal) *Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love*

CALL TO CONFESSION/PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: God of all life and each life,
All: Just as the psalmist remembers both your faithfulness and the forgetfulness of your people, we confess how easily we forget your presence and grace. We often forget who we are and whose we are, holding tightly to what's familiar and struggling to trust what comes next. Yet still, You meet us with steadfast love and abundant grace. Trusting in that love, let us confess together…
(Please take a moment for silent reflection.)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Friends, hear the good news: God's steadfast love endures forever. Our failures and fears do not have the final word, and nothing can separate us from God's love. In grace, we are forgiven; in love, we are welcomed; in Christ, we begin again.
All: Thanks be to God. Amen.

* 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

Leader: Let us pray.
All: Living God, quiet within us the voices that distract, the worries that consume, and the certainties that keep us from

listening. Open our minds to your wisdom, our hearts to your grace, and our lives to your invitation. Through these ancient words, speak a living word among us today, that we may hear, understand, and become more fully the people you are calling us to be. Amen.

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING: Philippians 4:1-9 (NRSV)
Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved. [2] I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. [3] Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my coworkers, whose names are in the book of life. [4] Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. [5] Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. [6] Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. [7] And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. [8] Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. [9] As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord
People: Thanks be to God

THE GOSPEL READING: Matthew 22:1-14 (NRSV)
Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: [2] "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. [3] He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. [4] Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' [5] But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, [6] while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. [7] The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. [8] Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. [9] Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' [10] Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad, so the wedding hall was filled with guests. [11] "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, [12] and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. [13] Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' [14] For many are called, but few are chosen."
Pastor: The Gospel of the Lord
People: Glory to You, O God

MESSAGE *The Grace of Letting Go*
The Most Rev. Br. Mark D'Alessio

* HYMN: 342 (Red Hymnal) *Rock of Ages*

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

CALL TO OFFERTORY
Pastor: St. Paul invites us to turn our attention towards whatever is true, honorable, just, and worthy of praise. Our offering is one way we practice that attention —turning gratitude into generosity and what we have received into blessing for others. With grateful hearts and open hands, let us bring our gifts to God.

* 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…
All: All that we have and all that we are is held within your grace. Receive these gifts and use them to nurture hope, seek justice, and make your love visible in the world. Receive our lives as well, and show us how to use them well. Amen.

* HYMN: 642 (Red Hymnal) *Abide With Me*

BENEDICTION

Pastor: Thank you, dear friends — all of you gathered here in person, and all who are joining us online from home. As you go into this autumn week, may you have courage to release what no longer gives life, grace to receive what this season offers, and trust for what lies ahead. May the peace of God guard your hearts and minds, and may the blessing of the Holy One — Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit — be with you and guide you in every season.

All: 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.

Pastor: Go now in peace, holding fast to what is good and letting go of what no longer gives life.

All: We go in gratitude, trusting God's steadfast love. Thanks be to God!

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

Kita de Sesa is our Soprano soloist.

We welcome to the pulpit today The Most Rev. Br. Mark D'Alessio.

Assisting in today's service is Mary Matos.

Refreshments Host for today is Soraya Gage.

Next Sunday's scriptures:
1 Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:15-22

PLEASE PRAY FOR

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

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.