

NISKAYUNA REFORMED CHURCH

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 11, 2021

REV. DR. BILL LEVERING

THE APPROACH TO GOD

Welcome and Announcements

The Lord be with you. **And also, with you.**

Prelude The King of Love My Shepherd Is Englert

Votum

Our help is in the name of the Lord, the Maker of Heaven and earth!

Call to Worship

This is the day that the Lord has made. Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hymn Crown Him with Many Crowns 213

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontent, grumbling and anxious. Forgive us for not believing the Good News in our hearts. Call us back to your ways, O God, to find hope and joy. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Friends, believe the Good News of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Call to New Life

Because of this grace, let us live into hope, seeking justice, peace, and joy.

Anthem Lift High the Cross. Nicholson/Lau.

THE WORD OF GOD

Junior Sermon

Prayer for Illumination (in unison)

Holy Spirit, pour out upon us wisdom and understanding, that, being taught by you in Holy Scripture, our hearts and minds may be opened to receive all that leads to life and holiness. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

First Reading: Acts 4:32-35

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

Sermon "Emotional Doubt"

THE RESPONSE OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Hymn Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain 205

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Lord's Prayer (in unison)

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.

Benediction

Go out into the world in peace. Give no person evil for evil.
Strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; honor all people.
May the blessings of God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be with you now and always.

Postlude Thine is the Glory Root

Announcements

All Sunday School Parents--Please pick up your students at the playground! There will be no in-person Sunday School next Sunday, April 18th but there will **STILL** be zoom.

Plans are underway for this year's Women's Retreat about ***Living in God's Garden*** on **Saturday, April 24 at 10:00 am**. Due to the lingering pandemic, this year's program will again be held on Zoom rather than in person. It will include some wonderful topics (Container Gardening, Butterfly Gardening, Flower Arranging, Virtual Tour of Gardens Around the World, Capital Roots ...) given by speakers with expert knowledge of their subjects. Registration is now open. There is no cost, but we ask that you pre-register no later than April 21 by contacting Sharon Jackson at sej832@aol.com or by phone at 518-783-9137. Watch for more details as they become available!

Our first Brooks BBQ of the 2021 season will be April 21st, 3 PM – 6 PM. We need volunteers to help us the day of the BBQ. There will be a need for inside help: assembling the chicken dinners, bagging dinners, and transporting dinners to the pickup tables. Outside help: ticket sales, traffic direction, and runners to take assembled dinners to the cars. We will also need someone to keep track of the number of dinners sold. We still plan to properly distance our workers, which still means that there will still be quite a bit of moving around to assemble the dinners. All volunteers will still need to wear masks and gloves. For at least this first BBQ we will use the prepackaged cookies that Brooks will supply. If you can volunteer April 21st, please contact Kim Cerone @ 518-339-7504 or purdyka@aol.com. If you are unable to volunteer, the best way you can help us is to swing in and purchase a great meal.

Dinners (half chicken, baked potato, coleslaw, roll/butter, and cookie): \$12.00

Half Chicken only: \$8.00