

Welcome to Niskayuna Reformed Church
October 10, 2021
Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
John Moak – Preaching Elder

The Approach to God

The Lord be with you
And also, with you.

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude “Meditation” on the baptismal hymn “Jesus, Friend, So Kind and gentle” (Sicilian Mariners) Charles Callahan

Votum -

As we opened our eyes this morning, we wanted to feel God’s presence, living, and actively guiding us on a fresh, new journey. We hope to live knowing that the impossible for us is possible for God. We pray for courage to face each new day and to find our rest in him. And thus, we say, our help is the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth. **Amen.**

The Call to Worship –

Leader: Seek good and not evil; seek the Lord and live!

People: May the Lord our God be with us.

Leader: Seek good and not evil, that justice may prevail.

People: May the Lord our God shower us with his grace.

*Hymn Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies #47

*The Salutation and the People's Amen -

To all God’s people here who are called to be saints, grace, mercy, and peace to you and from the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

Call to Confession –

God is not far from us. When trouble is near, God is our help and our refuge. Let us confess our sins to God, that we may receive mercy.

Prayer of Confession -

God of justice and mercy, we confess that we put ourselves first and trust in things that will not last. We desire the evil and scorn the good; we gather up power and wealth and push aside the needy in our way. O Lord, be gracious to us in spite of our shortcomings. Teach us to love your justice and share in your mercy. Help us to seek the treasure of heavenly life with you, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen. (Pause in silent reflection)

Words of Assurance -

We have a Blessed Savior who has passed through the heavens: Jesus, God's Son. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. **Thanks be to God.**

Call to New Life -

You call us to change our ways, O God. Help us to let go of worldly goods and leave lesser things behind so that we may be ready to enter your kingdom on that day when the first are last and the last are first; through Jesus Christ we pray. **Amen.**

Anthem

O Morn of Beauty

Sibelius

The Word of God

Sacrament of Baptism –

Rev. Abby Norton- Levering

Baptism of Phoebe Stafford

Baptism of Penelope Stafford

Hymn

Jesus, Friend, So Kind and Gentle (Verses 1 & 3) #451

The Prayer for Illumination (in unison)

Reveal to us your Word, O God, living and active in our world by the power of your Holy Spirit. Let your Word pierce our hearts and open our minds, dividing good from evil, truth from falsehood, life from death, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OT Lesson Psalm 22: 1-15

This is the Word of the Lord. ***Thanks be to God.***

Gospel Lesson Mark 10:17-31

This is the Gospel of the Lord. ***Praise to you, O Christ.***

Sermon “ Faithful Suffering“

The Response of God's People

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The 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 My Hope is Built on Nothing Less #368

*The Benediction –

Jesus says: Come and follow me. Let us seek the Lord and live! May God, the first and the last, the beginning and the end, the Alpha and Omega, be with you now and forever. Go in peace.

Benediction Response

*The Postlude My Hope is Built on Nothing Less (Solid Rock)
arr. J. William Greene

Announcements

Our guest organist today is David Vredenburg. Welcome back David!!

With much joy, we welcome the arrival of Luke Thomas born on August 26 to parents Steve and Lauren Groudine and grandparents Bill and Kathy Dzamba.

Parents with infants and small children are reminded of the room behind the balcony with an audio system to hear the worship service if needed.

Scripture

Psalm 22: 1-15

- ¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from saving me,
so far from my cries of anguish?
- ² My God, I cry out by day, but you do not answer,
by night, but I find no rest.^[b]
- ³ Yet you are enthroned as the Holy One;
you are the one Israel praises.^[c]
- ⁴ In you our ancestors put their trust;
they trusted and you delivered them.
- ⁵ To you they cried out and were saved;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.
- ⁶ But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by everyone, despised by the people.

⁷ All who see me mock me;
they hurl insults, shaking their heads.
⁸ “He trusts in the LORD,” they say,
“let the LORD rescue him.
Let him deliver him,
since he delights in him.”
⁹ Yet you brought me out of the womb;
you made me trust in you, even at my mother’s breast.
¹⁰ From birth I was cast on you;
from my mother’s womb you have been my God.
¹¹ Do not be far from me,
for trouble is near
and there is no one to help.
¹² Many bulls surround me;
strong bulls of Bashan encircle me.
¹³ Roaring lions that tear their prey
open their mouths wide against me.
¹⁴ I am poured out like water,
and all my bones are out of joint.
My heart has turned to wax;
it has melted within me.
¹⁵ My mouth^[d] is dried up like a potsherd,
and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth;
you lay me in the dust of death.

Mark 10:17-31

¹⁷ As Jesus started on his way, a man ran up to him and fell on his knees before him. “Good teacher,” he asked, “what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

¹⁸ “Why do you call me good?” Jesus answered. “No one is good—except God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: ‘You shall not murder, you shall not commit adultery, you shall not steal, you shall not give false testimony, you shall not defraud, honor your father and mother.’^[a]”

²⁰ “Teacher,” he declared, “all these I have kept since I was a boy.”

²¹ Jesus looked at him and loved him. “One thing you lack,” he said. “Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me.”

²² At this the man’s face fell. He went away sad, because he had great wealth.

²³ Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, “How hard it is for the rich to enter the kingdom of God!”

²⁴ The disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said again, “Children, how hard it is^[b] to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.”

²⁶ The disciples were even more amazed, and said to each other, “Who then can be saved?”

²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, “With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God.”

²⁸ Then Peter spoke up, “We have left everything to follow you!”

²⁹ “Truly I tell you,” Jesus replied, “no one who has left home or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields for me and the gospel ³⁰ will fail to receive a hundred times as much in this present age: homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and fields—along with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last first.”