

Welcome to Niskayuna Reformed Church  
November 7, 2021  
Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost  
Rev. Norman J. Tellier, D.Min.

## The Approach to God

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

## Welcome and announcements.

## The Prelude: Soli Deo Gloria Wilson

Votum: Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.  
**Amen.**

## The Call to Worship:

Leader: Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God is one;

**People:** You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.

Leader: So shall you also love your neighbor as yourself,

**People: Then let us worship God!**

\*A Hymn: "Father, We Praise Thee" 43

\*The Salutation and People's Amen: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Amen**

## Call to Confession

## Prayer of Confession:

Forgive us, O God, when our half-hearted attempts at living your love keep us just outside your kingdom. Forgive us when we turn away from a neighbor in need. Forgive us when a person's pain causes us to wince but then look the other way, doing nothing. Restore in us tenderness where we have grown hard. Bless us, each one, with an unhindered perception of your mercy at work within us that we may live no longer for ourselves, but for Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen      (silent prayer)

## Words of Assurance

## Call to New Life

Anthem: Kyrie Dvorak/Schram

### The Word of God

The Junior Sermon

The Prayer for Illumination: **Let your Spirit guide our thoughts, our words, and our lives O God, that we may live for you in our world through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

Old Testament Lesson: 1 Kings 17:8-16

Epistle Lesson: Hebrews 9:24-28

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

Gospel Lesson: Mark 12:38-44

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

Sermon: "Giving Can Be Amazing"

A Prayer for Blessing upon the Word

### The Response of God's People

\*Hymn: "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee" 344

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Meaning of the Sacrament

The Invitation

The Communion Prayer

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts!

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**For it is holy and right to do so!**

Holy and right it is, and our joyful duty .... adore your glorious name.

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts! Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he that come in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

Most righteous God .... Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

**Christ has died!  
Christ is risen!  
Christ will come again!**

The Words of Institution  
Sharing of the bread and the cup

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: "Take My Life, and Let It Be" 310

\*The Benediction

The Postlude: Heroic Crowder

\*Please stand if you are able.

## Announcements

Our Mission of the Month Collection will benefit Saratoga War Horse. This is a Veteran-run nonprofit organization serving Military Veterans and Service Members living with Post-Traumatic Stress (PTS) throughout the United States. Their participants' trauma is most often a result of combat experiences, Military Sexual Trauma (MST), and/or transitioning from military to civilian life. They help these Veterans to move past their trauma by partnering them with rescued and retired off-the-track Thoroughbred racehorses by providing a healing, equine-assisted experience. To learn more please visit [www.saratogawarhorse.org](http://www.saratogawarhorse.org) Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

The Library Committee will host an Information Table during coffee hour after Worship today. Please visit us by the Library on the lower level of the Education Building to ask questions, to drop off your donations of books, CDs, DVDs, or funds to help expand our holdings. We look forward to seeing you!

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

### 1 Kings 17:8-16

Then the word of the LORD came to him: <sup>9</sup> “Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have directed a widow there to supply you with food.” <sup>10</sup> So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, “Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?” <sup>11</sup> As she was going to get it, he called, “And bring me, please, a piece of bread.”

<sup>12</sup> “As surely as the LORD your God lives,” she replied, “I don’t have any bread—only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it—and die.”

<sup>13</sup> Elijah said to her, “Don’t be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son. <sup>14</sup> For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of oil will not run dry until the day the LORD sends rain on the land.’”

<sup>15</sup> She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. <sup>16</sup> For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.

### Hebrews 9:11-14

<sup>11</sup> But when Christ came as high priest of the good things that are now already here,<sup>[a]</sup> he went through the greater and more perfect tabernacle that is not

made with human hands, that is to say, is not a part of this creation. <sup>12</sup> He did not enter by means of the blood of goats and calves; but he entered the Most Holy Place once for all by his own blood, thus obtaining<sup>[b]</sup> eternal redemption. <sup>13</sup> The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer sprinkled on those who are ceremonially unclean sanctify them so that they are outwardly clean. <sup>14</sup> How much more, then, will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God, cleanse our consciences from acts that lead to death,<sup>[c]</sup> so that we may serve the living God!

## Mark 12:38-44

<sup>38</sup> As he taught, Jesus said, “Watch out for the teachers of the law. They like to walk around in flowing robes and be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, <sup>39</sup> and have the most important seats in the synagogues and the places of honor at banquets. <sup>40</sup> They devour widows’ houses and for a show make lengthy prayers. These men will be punished most severely.”

<sup>41</sup> Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. <sup>42</sup> But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a few cents.

<sup>43</sup> Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. <sup>44</sup> They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything—all she had to live on.”