# Welcome to Niskayuna Reformed Church January 16, 2022 Second Sunday after Epiphany Rev. Norman J. Tellier, D.Min.

## The Approach to God

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Welcome and announcements.

The Prelude: O Christ-Child Sweet Bach

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

The Call to Worship: The mercy of the Lord is from everlasting to everlasting upon those who serve him.

And his loving kindness goes out to all people.

From the rising of the sun until its setting his name shall be praised.

For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever and his faithfulness is for all generations.

Let us worship God.

We worship in spirit and in truth.

\*A Hymn: For the Beauty of the Earth

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\*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: O God, like Mary the mother of our Savior, in spite of our past experiences with you we have little appreciation for your sense of timing and even less patience with your wish to help us as we live. We admit that we ignore your word to us and ironically expect you to answer our requests whenever we make them. We also admit that when our resources give out we demand that you bail us out. Like the compassion Jesus showed on his mother, show forgiveness and compassion to us, we pray, giving us what is needed to keep a right relationship with you and all whom we meet. In Jesus' name. Amen (silent reflection)

Words of Assurance

Call to New Life

Anthem: Holy Lord of All Williams

#### The Word of God

The Junior Sermon

The Prayer for Illumination: God our creator, you celebrate with us as a guest at a wedding feast. Let your grace surround us and your joy fill us until, intoxicated with your love, we yield ourselves to you through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 62:1-5

Epistle Lesson: I Corinthians 12:1-11

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

Gospel Lesson: John 2:1-11

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

Sermon: "Celebrate!"

A Prayer for Blessing upon the Word

## The Response of God's People

\*Hymn: O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing 141

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: Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart 407

\*The Benediction

\*Please stand if you are able.

The Postlude: In Dulci Jubilo (In Sweet Rejoicing) Liszt

#### **Announcements**

Since many of you use PayPal and don't have any envelopes, the denominational assessment fee for 2022 is **\$110 per member**.

The consistory and the Covid safety committee have been discussing what coffee hour should look like in January. Taking into consideration the historically lower attendance in January (unpredictable weather), the rapid rise in covid infections and re-infections (omicron variant), and perhaps most importantly that Scott Haefner and Linda Gardner (who have done 99.9% of the coffee hours recently) could use a break for a few weeks. **Please note, there will be no coffee hour today.** That being said, we also understand how important it is for many of you that connecting in casual conversation goes a long way in relieving much of the stress we are all feeling. Therefore, if you, would like to sponsor a coffee hour (which includes set-up, providing treats and cleaning up afterward) on January 30<sup>th</sup>, please contact Suzi at <a href="mailto:suzinuke@gmail.com">suzinuke@gmail.com</a>. The M & SC will be hosting the **January 23rd** coffee hour. Tom Schofield, Manager of Food Justice Initiatives and Pantry Operations at SICM will be here to answer questions.

We do have TWO coffee hour ZOOMS every week. The zoom information is posted on the website under the coffee hour under **NEWS**.

Many clients of the Schenectady Food Pantry are excellent cooks but lack the necessary spices to create traditional meals. With the cold weather upon us, hot comfort food is in high demand. Therefore, NRC's mission and service committee will be collecting spices this month to supplement the pantry's supply. Please put any donations in the blue buckets by door in Fellowship Hall. Thank you for your continued support of the pantry.

The January Mission is for the Joan Nicole Prince House. The Joan Nicole Prince Home (JNP) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit that provides bedside care to two terminally ill individuals at the end of life, free of charge. Our Home is run

independently under Schenectady Community Home Inc., we are not a medical facility, but aim to provide an alternative treatment setting for individuals in their final days.

SiCM's Annual "SouperBowl" Fundraiser will be in full swing for 2022. Our past participation has been stellar-many more meals have been available to local families due to our generosity. Let's continue this winning streak and win the game against hunger. Contributions can be made via NRC PayPal or checks made out to SiCM can be mailed to Michele Kopp 2149 Orchard Park Dr, Niskayuna, NY 12309 by **Sunday February 13.** 

SiCM Urban Farms Hosts 1st Annual Seed Share with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schenectady County! It's a fresh new year and the beginning of a new food cycle in our food system! Plan your garden and share seeds at the Schenectady Seed Share! Join SiCM, Schenectady Urban Farms, and Cornell Cooperative Extension of Schenectady County for an afternoon of garden planning and skill sharing, tastings of locally grown food, and conclude with a seed exchange in the SiCM Community Hub from 12PM-3PM on Saturday, February 5th. There will be classes on vegetable garden planning, seed starting, and seed saving. There will be tastings of local and regionally grown food (grown from seed!), as well as education and information about upcoming opportunities to learn to grow in Schenectady. We'll finish the afternoon with our first ever Seed Share! Experienced seed savers can bring seeds to swap and share and there will be seeds to share as part of a collaborative Schenectady Seed Bank Project. We are offering this as an all ages event; there will be a children's area with a Native Plants seedball making activity. To register, look for the information online on our website under **NEWS**. You can find the registration link.

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**

Isaiah 62:1-5

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn,

and her salvation like a burning torch. <sup>2</sup> The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory;

and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the LORD will give.

- <sup>3</sup> You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.
- <sup>4</sup> You shall no more be termed Forsaken. [a] and your land shall no more be termed Desolate: [b] but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her. [2] and your land Married:[d] for the LORD delights in you, and your land shall be married.
- <sup>5</sup> For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

### I Corinthians 12:1-11

Now concerning spiritual gifts, [a] brothers and sisters, [b] I do not want you to be uninformed. <sup>2</sup> You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. <sup>3</sup> Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

### John 2:1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. <sup>2</sup> Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. 3 When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." <sup>4</sup> And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." <sup>5</sup> His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." <sup>6</sup> Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. <sup>7</sup> Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. <sup>8</sup> He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. <sup>9</sup> When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom <sup>10</sup> and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." <sup>11</sup> Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.