

Welcome to Niskayuna Reformed Church
January 23, 2022
Third Sunday after Epiphany
Rev. Dr. Bill Levering

The Approach to God

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

Welcome and announcements.

The Prelude: Divinum Mysterium (Of The Father's Love Begotten) Held

Introit

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: Open My Eyes, that I May See 390

*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: **Gracious God, our guilt is too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name and what our hearts can no longer bear. Set us free from a past that we cannot change and open to us a future in which we can be changed. Through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Call to New Life

Anthem: In the Bleak Midwinter Holst

The Word of God

The Junior Sermon

The Prayer for Illumination: **May the words of holy scripture, shaped by the Holy Spirit, bring our hearts into your presence and our lives into your kindom.**

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

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

*Hymn: Come Holy Spirit, Heavenly Dove 239

Gospel Lesson: Luke 4:14-21

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

Sermon: "On Not Doing Everything"

A Prayer for Blessing upon the Word

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: O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing 141

*The Benediction

Benediction Response

*Please stand if you are able.

The Postlude: Fantasia on Forest Green - English Melody/Broughton

Announcements

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

Tom Schofield, Manager of Food Justice Initiatives and Pantry Operations at SICM is here today to speak briefly about his organization and then will attend coffee hour where he will have a Q & A. **Thank you to the Mission & Service Committee for hosting coffee hour.**

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. 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. 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

1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. ¹³ For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

¹⁴ Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. ¹⁵ If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁶ And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. ¹⁷ If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? ¹⁸ But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. ¹⁹ If all were a single member, where would the body be? ²⁰ As it is, there are many members, yet one body. ²¹ The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." ²² On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, ²³ and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; ²⁴ whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, ²⁵ that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members

may have the same care for one another. ²⁶ If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

²⁷ Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. ²⁸ And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. ²⁹ Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? ³⁰ Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? ³¹ But strive for the greater gifts. And I will show you a still more excellent way.

Luke 4:14-21

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. ¹⁵ He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone. ¹⁶ When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, ¹⁷ and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

¹⁸ “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,
because he has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to let the oppressed go free,
¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ Then he began to say to them, “Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”