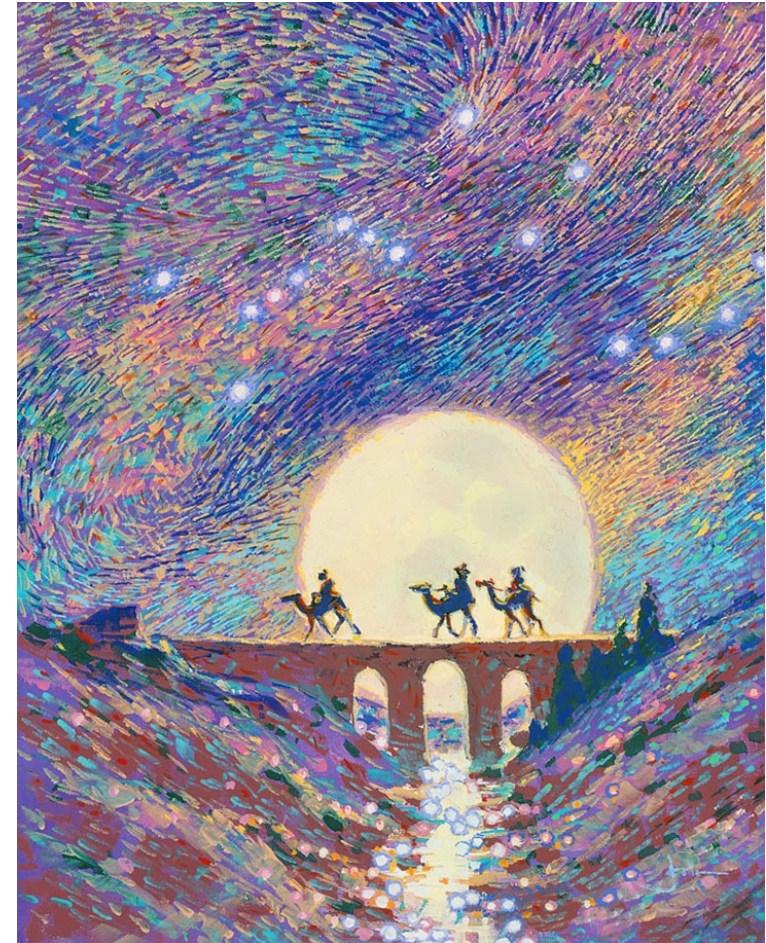


***Welcome to Niskayuna Reformed Church
January 7, 2024
First Sunday after Epiphany
Rev. Dr. Sherri & Rev. Michael Meyer-Veen***



3041 Troy Schenectady Road
Niskayuna, NY 12309
www.niskayunareformed.org 518-785-5575

THE APPROACH TO GOD

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

Welcome and Announcements

*Prelude

Introit

Votum

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Amen.

Call to Worship: (Responsive):

The Magi had a dream.

They dreamed of a Messiah.

They dreamed of just rulers.

They dreamed of a new day for all people.

The Magi had a dream, and this dream led them to action.

They journeyed to unknown places.

They followed a star.

They walked for days to get to Jesus.

So may we be like the Magi.

May our dreams inspire action.

May we worship the one true God. Amen.

*Hymn of Worship *"We Three Kings"* The Hymnbook, 176

*The Salutation and People's Amen

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

Announcements

January is going to be for the RCA Global Missionary Refugee Services directed to JJ TenClay who is the Missionary for Global Refugee Services. JJ connects churches and individuals in North America to the growing number of refugees worldwide and invites them into the sacred space of caring for people seeking refuge—locally, nationally and globally—through refugee sponsorship, advocacy, prayer, partnering with local refugee care agencies, and fundraising for carefully vetted refugee care projects worldwide. JJ also continues to build a network of international mission partners responding to humanitarian crises who care for the people displaced by these crises, and consults on individual cases of displaced people seeking humanitarian protection. Visit JJ's missionary page at: www.rca.org/tenclay to learn more about her ministry.

The office will be closed on January 15th in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Benediction Response

The Postlude Impressions on We Three Kings Fedak

*Please stand if you are able.

Liturgy adapted from: www.sanctifiedart.com

Cover Art by: Joni Earekson Tada

Call to Confession:

As we celebrate the journey of the Magi,
following the star to worship the Savior.
Let us confess our own wrong turns,
our refusals to yield,
the ways we get lost,
and the impact of not asking for help when we need it.

Prayer of Confession (Unison):

**God, I love to worship you when the stars are bright above me.
I love to worship you when the sky is clear, and the breeze just right.
I love to worship you when the journey to Bethlehem is an easy one.
Unfortunately, as you know, this journey of life, love, and faith is rarely
easy.
Now and again, the stars disappear.
My feet get blisters, and the journey is far too long and lonely.
On these days, forgive me for giving up quickly.
Forgive me for allowing the dream to die and for taking the shortcut
home.
I want to be as brave as the Magi.
I want to persevere.
Guide my feet. Lead me to you. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison:

**Lord, have mercy upon us; Christ, have mercy upon us; Lord, have
mercy upon us.**

Words of Assurance: 1 John 1:6-7

“If we claim to have fellowship with God and yet walk in the darkness,
we lie and do not live out the truth. But if we walk in the light, as God is
in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of
Jesus, God’s Son, purifies us from all sin.”

