

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE FOR ORGAN

Prelude and Fugue in E Minor [BWV 555]

attr. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

This prelude-and-fugue pair is in one of Bach's manuscripts that includes other works of similar length. These came to be known as the "Eight Little Preludes and Fugues." Recent scholarship points to these pieces likely having been written by Bach's students or children, with Bach finding them useful in his own teaching. The pair heard here embodies the reflective, introspective nature of Lent.

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

GREETING AND PASSING OF THE PEACE

Pastor: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

PEALING OF THE BELL AND SILENT PRAYER OF PREPARATION

*Help me, Lord,
to be more like you,
to love more like you,
to forgive more like you,
to live more like you.
Help me, Lord.*

CHORAL INTROIT

Rend Your Heart

Alec Wyton (1921-2007); adapt.

Rend your heart, and not your garments, and turn unto the Lord your God:
for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness.

-Joel 2:13

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: Search us, O God, and know our hearts;

People: Try us and know our thoughts

Pastor: See if there is any wicked way in us,

People: And lead us in the way everlasting.

All: Let us worship God!

*HYMN 81

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

Austrian Hymn

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

**Please stand as you are able.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we have grown complacent in our response to you. You set before us a feast of blessing, but we are drawn to lesser things that cannot satisfy. You call us to attend to the needs of the world, but we indulge our own desires. Our thoughts do not ascend to your thoughts; our ways are not your ways.

Silent prayers of confession are offered.

Forgive us when we fall short of your claim upon our lives. Disturb our complacency and quicken our desire for a more fruitful life. Be patient, we pray, as we amend who we are, in the hope of becoming who you intend us to be. We ask this in the name of our Savior, your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON (*sung by the choir*)

John L. Bell (b. 1949); adapt.

Kyrie eleison. *Lord, have mercy.*

Christe eleison. *Christ, have mercy.*

Kyrie eleison. *Lord, have mercy.*

-Greek, 5th/6th century

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: God's love is sure and steadfast, always providing a way out, a way through, a way back to God.

People: Through the waters of baptism, we have died with Christ and are raised with him.

All: With gratitude, in faith, we will walk the way of Christ.

***RESPONSE** (*sung by all, two times*)

Jacques Berthier, 1984

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name.

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life.

-Taizé Community; based on Psalm 103:1

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM FOR GRACE SIDSEL WADDILL

(Please refrain from taking photographs.)

STATEMENT ON BAPTISM

PRESENTATION

QUESTIONS TO THE PARENTS

QUESTION TO THE GODPARENTS

QUESTION TO THE CONGREGATION

Deacon: Do you, on behalf of the whole church of Jesus Christ, promise to guide and nurture Grace, by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging her to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of his Church?

We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH *(congregation standing)*

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

Do you believe in God the Father?

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

Do you believe in the Holy Spirit?

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING OVER THE WATER

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: Blessed are you, almighty God, creator of the universe, ruler of heaven and earth. You are the source of light and life for all creation. In your goodness, you give us the sign of water.

People: At the beginning, your Spirit was at work, brooding over the waters of creation's birth, bringing forth life in all its fullness. Through the gift of water, you nourish and sustain all living things.

Pastor: In the time of Noah, you cleansed the earth through the waters of the flood. By the pillar of cloud and fire you led Israel through the waters of the Red Sea out of slavery to freedom in the promised land.

People: In the waters of the river Jordan, Jesus was baptized by John and anointed by the Holy Spirit. He is the never-failing spring who has promised that all who thirst can come to the living water.

Pastor: By the baptism of his own death and resurrection he set us free from bondage to sin and death and opened to us the joy and freedom of everlasting life.

People: We thank you, O God, for the water of baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. From it we are raised to share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor: Send your Spirit to move over this water that it may be a fountain of deliverance and rebirth. Wash away the sin of all who are cleansed by it. Raise them to new life, and graft them to the body of Christ. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon Grace, that she may have the power to do your will and continue forever in the risen life of Christ.

People: To you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, be all praise, honor, and glory, now and forever. Amen.

THE BAPTISM

GIVING OF THE LIGHT

Deacon: Receive the light of Christ; you have passed from darkness into light.

People: You have been enlightened with Christ; walk always as a child of the light.

RESPONSE (*sung by all*)

Baptized in Water

Bunessan

This setting is printed in the hymnal at no. 482, the third stanza.

Children age 4 through Grade 5 may go to Sunday School classes during the singing of this response.

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our King;
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children; joyfully now God's praises we sing.**

-Michael A. Saward, 1981

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

David Walker, *lay reader*

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Corinthians 10:1-14

(Pew Bible: New Testament, page 172)

after each reading:

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 13:1-5

(Pew Bible, New Testament, page 76)

SERMON

"Text Anxiety"

Rev. Love

THE RESPONSE

***HYMN 429**

As a Chalice Cast of Gold

Inward Light

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

CHORAL RESPONSE

Let My Prayer

Benjamin Rauch (b. 1981)

Let my prayer be counted as incense before you,
and the lifting up of my hands as an evening sacrifice.

—Psalm 141:2

CALL FOR THE OFFERING (Please visit ryepc.com/give/ or scan the QR Code in our announcements to give online.)

ANTHEM FOR CHOIR AND ORGAN

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Maurice Bevan (1921-2006)

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in his justice which is more than liberty.
There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of man's mind;
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
But we make his love too narrow by false limits of our own;
and we magnify his strictness with a zeal he will not own.

There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.
There is grace enough for thousands of new worlds as great as this;
there is room for fresh creations in that upper home of bliss.

If our love were but more simple, we should take him at his word;
and our lives would be all gladness in the joy of Christ our Lord.

—Frederick W. Faber (1814-1863)

*LENTEN HYMN OF PRESENTATION

Rockingham

These words, with the music included, are printed in the hymnal at no. 652, stanza 1.

**A grateful heart is what I bring, a song of praise, my offering.
Among the saints I lift my voice: in you, O God, I will rejoice.**

—David Gambrell, 2009

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SENDING FORTH

*HYMN 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Cwm Rhondda

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE FOR ORGAN (*All are invited into the chancel to listen to the postlude.*)

Fugue in D Major

attr. George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

Welcome to Rye Presbyterian Church

If you are a guest today, we welcome you and hope you are enriched and inspired by this time of worship. You may go to ryepc.com/im-new/ and fill out the welcome form online.

If you or a family member need to step out of the sanctuary during worship, please feel free to do so. There is live audio from the service in the narthex at the back of the sanctuary and live video in the church library.

To help children feel welcomed and engaged during worship, Rainbow Bags – filled with crayons, books, and coloring pages – are located in boxes at each sanctuary entrance door.

Please return Rainbow Bags following worship.

The sanctuary is equipped with an induction loop assistive listening system. To access the system, please switch your hearing aid setting to “T” (telephone).

This morning, the Sacrament of Baptism is being administered to:
Grace Sidsel Waddill, daughter of Kaitlyn and Harrison Waddill.

Participating in worship:
Lila O’Rorke, *crucifer*
Edward Avery, Carl Friedrich, Gary Gibson, and Ashley Ginnings, *ushers*

The chancel flowers are given
by Gail Willis, in loving memory of her mother, Saki Uyechi.

In Memoriam
Saki Uyechi, March 8, 2025, mother of Gail Willis

TODAY

Coffee Hour will take place in the Assembly Room.
Chancel Choir Rehearsal, 11:15 a.m., Chapel
Stephen Ministry Information Session, 11:15 a.m., Library
Confirmation Class, 5:00 p.m., Westminster Room
Men’s Bible Study, 8:00 p.m., Library

THIS WEEK

Monday, March 24

9:00 a.m. Monday Morning Bible Study – Zoom

Tuesday, March 25

1:00 p.m. Women’s Discipleship – Library

7:30 p.m. Trustees – Westminster Room/Zoom

Wednesday, March 26

3:45 p.m. Stories and Songs for Children – Westminster Room

7:30 p.m. Session – Westminster Room

Thursday, March 27

10:00 a.m. Thrift Shop

5:30 p.m. Coming Home – Library / Westminster Room

7:00 p.m. West Coast Swing Dance Class – Assembly Room

Saturday, March 29

10:00 a.m. Youth Spring Cleanup Project – Marshlands Conservancy

GENERAL NOTICES

STEPHEN MINISTRY & CARING CONNECTIONS TRAINING

Information Session TODAY (Sunday, March 23),

11:15 a.m. – 12:00 p.m., in the Library



Have you considered being a Stephen Minister or Friendly Visitor,
and you want to learn more?

Please join us for an information session to learn more about RPC's Caring Connections training, based on the well-known Stephen Ministry training. This training equips congregation members to serve as Stephen Ministers or Friendly Visitors. This meeting is open to all parishioners interested in RPC's Stephen Ministry.

Hosted by the RPC Stephen Leadership Team

A light lunch will be provided!

Contact Debbie Zingg at debbie.zingg@gmail.com for more information or visit ryepc.com/ministries/stephen-ministry/ to read more about the training.

EASTER FLOWERS AND MUSIC



We invite you to join in celebrating Easter Sunday by making a donation toward our Easter Flowers and Music. All gifts received by **Monday, March 31** will be gratefully acknowledged in the Easter Sunday bulletin. *(Please note that on our envelopes, the deadline is incorrectly listed as Monday, March 10.)*

Donate by Cash/Check

Within the sanctuary, you will find Easter Flowers and Music envelopes available. Checks should indicate "Flowers & Music" made payable to RPC at Rye Presbyterian Church 882 Boston Post Rd, Rye, NY 10580. Please place your sealed envelope in the offering plate, or deliver it to the church office.

Donate Online

To donate online, please visit ryepc.com/worship/easter-flowers-and-music/, or scan the QR Code attached to this announcement.

If you have any questions, please contact Max Crawley at mcrawley@ryepc.com.



WEST COAST SWING DANCE CLASSES

Please note the new time!

Every Thursday from 7-8 p.m. in the RPC Assembly Room

Taught by Dance Instructor Christopher Bledsoe

\$20/person/session – all levels welcome!

www.westie-night-out.com/

Brought to RPC by the Fellowship and Formation Committee.

Please rsvp each week to instructor

Christopher Bledsoe at (484) 393-5955 (text/call.)



SPECIAL COFFEE HOUR

PLEASE JOIN US ON
SUNDAY, MARCH 30, FOLLOWING WORSHIP

FOR A SPECIAL COFFEE HOUR TO
WELCOME OUR NEW CO-PASTOR

CARI PATTISON

A LIGHT BRUNCH WILL BE SERVED



SPECIAL OFFERING – LENT 2025 **One Great Hour of Sharing and LA Fire Relief**



With the blessing of Session, the RPC Mission and Outreach Committee has decided to split this year's Lenten special offering.

50% will go to direct LA fire relief primarily through the Bel Air Presbyterian Church. Through conversations with their pastor, we have learned of their work not only with families in their own church who lost their homes, but with churches and people in both Pacific Palisades and Altadena. The ashes of Ash Wednesday this year were a sign of our connection and commitment to those for whom much of life has turned to ash.

The other 50% will go to the PCUSA One Great Hour of Sharing, one of four annual special offerings in which we participate. Our participation in this special offering supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. All three programs work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need. From initial disaster response to ongoing community development, their work fits together to provide people with safety, sustenance, and hope.

Your gifts to this year's Lenten offering put our faith in action, and are a visible sign of our commitment to those in need throughout the world.

For more information on the One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering, visit pcusa.org/oghs.

Envelopes are in the pews on Sunday or checks may be sent to the church office. Please note "Lent Offering" on the memo line. You may also donate through RPC at ryepc.com/lent-special-offering/.



COMING HOME

Coming Home seeks to empower those who are returning to the community from incarceration. The 18-week program offers several volunteer opportunities, including serving as mentors who are paired with participants, as well as cooks who prepare and serve the evening meal. If you are interested in serving contact Program Coordinator, Kevin Bunch, at 914-473-2221 or by email at savedmedic2001@yahoo.com; or Mission and Outreach Committee Liaison, Douglas Carey, at 914-565-6748 or by email at poningoeearthcare@gmail.com.

RPC RUNS

We're introducing a new program at RPC!
Join us for a run on Friday mornings at 6:00 a.m.

We will start running at 6:00 a.m. from the RPC parking lot, making a 3 mile loop to Rye Town Park that finishes back at RPC.

Please show up 5-10 minutes early
if you would like to stretch and warm up.

This will be very relaxed... run at your own pace
and do what works for you! All are welcome!

Organized by Jordy Winslow. For more information,
email jordywinslow@gmail.com, or call 203-246-5690.



YOUTH SPRING CLEANUP PROJECT

Saturday, March 29, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

We will be partnering with the Westchester Parks Foundation for a spring cleanup projects at the Marshlands Conservancy, where we will be gathering debris, cleaning trails, and enjoying the outdoors together. Arrive dressed to work: closed toed shoes and long pants are required. Please RSVP online, as a signed waiver is needed to participate. Rain or shine, we're looking forward to seeing you there!

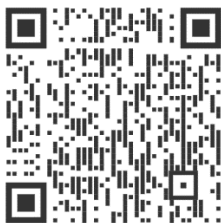
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4FABAF2CA4FCC52-55436737-youth>

YOUTH SERVICE TRIP BINGO

Sunday, April 6, following worship, Assembly Room

On Sunday, April 6, we will have our annual fundraiser to help support the Youth Service Trip to Pine Ridge Reservation! Our proceeds will go towards scholarships and trip fees, as well as an additional donation to the Re-Member program. There will be prizes for lucky winners! RSVP below!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0A4FABAF2CA4FCC52-55436737-youth>



FOOD2GROWON

Coming On Sunday, April 6, RPC will be participating in a nourishing food packing event with Food2GrowOn. Start time is 4 p.m. at Congregation KTI, at 575 King Street in Port Chester.

The packing should take approximately 1 hour. We need student and adult volunteers to help.

RPC members are also invited to purchase food items via Food2GrowOn's dedicated Amazon site for the event. ([Click here or use the QR code.](#))

Thank you to all who can volunteer their time to help pack or contribute food to this cause. If you are planning to volunteer at this event, please contact Brad Parish at jbp_1997@yahoo.com.

WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP GROUP

Tuesdays, 1:00-2:30 p.m., in the Library

RPC Women's Discipleship Group meets from 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. every Tuesday in the church library. We will be starting a new book study in early April. All are welcome to jump in at anytime. Please contact Alicia Baldwin at alicia.baldwin@verizon.net or Courtney Bennett at courtneybennett910@gmail.com with any questions.



THRIFT SHOP

The Thrift Shop is open on Thursdays, 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.

For more information on donations, please check the church website.

You can also email the shop at RyeThrift10580@gmail.com.

Regular Drop-Off Times: Wednesdays and Thursdays, 10:00-11:30 a.m.



CHILDCARE

Our team of dedicated staff and volunteers is available to care for children 3 months to 3 years old while parents attend worship services. Childcare can be found on the first floor of the Education Wing. If you have any questions, please reach out to Anne Halloin at ahalloin@ryepc.com.



GIVING AT RPC

Online donation options are available on our giving page, at ryepc.com/give/ and through the QR code. Contact Maida Robinson at mrobinson@ryepc.com with any questions. *Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the church.*

*We are a Stephen Ministry church that offers a one-on-one caring ministry to those in need.
If you need assistance from your pastors, deacons, or a Stephen Minister, please call at (914) 967-0842.
If you are experiencing an acute crisis, you can call or text 988
and you'll connect with a mental health professional through the National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.*



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Rend Your Heart

Music: Alec Wyton

Music © 1957 Carl Fischer, Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Kyrie eleison

Music: John L. Bell

Published in *Come, All You People: Shorter Songs for Worship*

Music © 1995 The Iona Community (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.).

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Bless the Lord, My Soul

Music and Text: Jacques Berthier

Music © 1984, 1998 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.).

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Baptized in Water

Text: Michael A. Saward Music: Gaelic melody, arr. Dale Grotenhuis

Text © 1982 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188).

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Music arr. © 1987 Faith Alive Christian Resources. Used by permission.

As a Chalice Cast of Gold (Inward Light)

Text: Thomas H. Troeger Music: Carol Doran

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There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Music: Maurice Bevan

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A Grateful Heart

Text: David Gambrell

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YOUR
Steadfast Love

is BETTER

THAN

LIFE...