

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE FOR ORGAN

Mr. Neves

Variations on *Jesus, You Who Rescued My Soul*

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

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

Open unto me – light for my darkness.

Open unto me – courage for my fear.

Open unto me – hope for my despair.

Open unto me – peace for my turmoil.

Open unto me – joy for my sorrow.

Open unto me – strength for my weakness.

Open unto me – wisdom for my confusion.

Open unto me – forgiveness for my sins.

Open unto me – love for my hates.

Open unto me – thy Self for my self.

Lord, Lord, open unto me. Amen.

– Rev. Howard Thurman

CHORAL INTROIT

O Come, Let Us Worship

J. Harold Moyer, 1969

O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord our maker;
for he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand.

- Psalm 95:6-7

✦ *please stand as you are able*

✦ **CALL TO WORSHIP** (Psalm 72)

Leader: Give the people your justice, O God,

People: Judge your people with righteousness and your poor with fairness.

Leader: May you defend the cause of those who cry to you, giving deliverance to the needy and removing the power of the oppressor.

People: May you be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.

Leader: May you redeem our lives from oppression and violence; blessed be your glorious name, O Lord.

All: Come, let us worship God together!

✦ **HYMN 744**

Arise, Your Light Is Come!

Festal Song

✦ **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in your gracious presence, we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The fear and resentment we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

Silent prayers of confession are offered.

Forgive us, we pray, for the sake of the Christ who came to give us all a second chance. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE ELEISON (*sung by the choir*)

Franz Schubert, 1826; adapt.

Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

- Greek, 5th/6th centuries; transl

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Friends, hear the good news! God pours out grace upon us without condition and in abundance. It is only because of the gift of God's grace that we can proclaim that we are a forgiven people. Know this truth and be at peace:

All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

✦ EASTERTIDE RESPONSE

Be Not Afraid

Jacques Berthier, 1998

The image shows a musical score for the song 'Be Not Afraid'. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: 'Be not a - fraid; sing out for joy! Christ is ris-en, al-le - lu - ia!'. The first system ends with a double bar line, and the second system continues the melody and accompaniment.

- Taizé Community, 1998

Children ages 4 through 5th grade may now go to their Sunday School classes.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Amos 5:22-24

(Pew Bible, p. 854)

Micah 6:8

(Pew Bible, p. 866)

At the conclusion of each reading:

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL LESSON

Luke 4:18-19

(Pew Bible, New Testament, p. 61)

SERMON

“Breaking the Chains They Never Saw”

Deborah Pretlow

✦ HYMN 649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

Amazing Grace

THE RESPONSE

✦ AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (from the *Iona Abbey Worship Book*)

We believe and trust in God who has created and is creating, the one who has come in Jesus—the Word made flesh—to reconcile and make new, and who works in us and others by the power of the Holy Spirit. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God’s presence, to live with respect for creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus crucified and risen, our judge and hope. In life and in death, and in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

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 (*sung by the choir*)

Vincent Persichetti (1915-1987)

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Please visit ryepc.com/give/ to give online. If you do not have your offering with you today, “Gift cards” are in the pews so that you may participate in this portion of worship by placing one in the offering plate.

ANTHEM FOR CHOIR AND ORGAN

A Prayer of St. Francis

Warren M. Swenson (b. 1937)

Lord, make of me an instrument, a sounding instrument of peace;
where hatred grows, may I plant love; where there is discord, harmony;
where doubt and error, faith and truth; despair let me replace with hope;
the shadows pierce with beams of light; 'mid sorrow, may I sing of joy.

Lord, grant that I not so much seek to be consoled as to console;
be understood, as understand; to be beloved, as to love.
In giving, so shall we receive; in pardoning, shall we pardon gain.
And, when we close our eyes in death, may we behold eternal life.

- attr. Francis of Assisi (c. 1182-1226); para.

This anthem found its genesis in a hymn written by the composer for All Souls Parish in Port Chester. All Souls closed in 2020 (the building was purchased by this church for use as a community center, now sold to and being developed by the Rye YMCA). Many All Souls members joined and are active in RPC's many ministries.

✦ EASTERTIDE DOXOLOGY

Lasst uns erfreuen

The tune is printed in the hymnal at no. 10.

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

- Thomas Ken, 1674; adapt.

✦ PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SENDING FORTH

✦ HYMN 772

Live into Hope

Truro

✦ CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

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

We Are Marching in the Light of God (Siyahamba) arr. Robert B. Farlee (b. 1950)

RECEPTION

Following worship, a full lunch reception will be held in the Assembly Room.
All are invited! (The Assembly Room is found by exiting the front right doors.)

Guest Preacher: Deborah Pretlow, MPS

Our guest preacher, Deborah D. Pretlow, is a speaker, advocate, and emerging social worker whose life reflects the power of redemption, second chances, and transformation. As a survivor of domestic violence and a woman directly impacted by the criminal legal system, she has turned her lived experience into a platform for healing, justice, and hope.

After returning home following nearly 27 years of incarceration, Deborah has become a powerful voice for individuals navigating trauma, reentry, and restoration. While incarcerated, she earned a Master of Professional Studies through New York Theological Seminary and was one of nine women selected to participate in the first master's degree program established at Bedford Hills Correctional Facility. After more than 40 years of such opportunities being offered in men's prisons only, this marked an historic step forward in educational equity.

As the first woman to speak for Church & Justice Sunday, Deborah carries a message grounded in faith, resilience, and truth: that no life is beyond redemption, second chances are essential, and moving forward is always possible.



PARTICIPANTS IN WORSHIP

Sarah Barringer, Ashley Ginnings, Pat McGunagle, and Susan Morison, *ushers*

DEDICATIONS

The chancel flowers are given by

Susan Morison, in memory of R. Bruce Morison.

In Memoriam

Robert Gay, March 25, 2026

Barbara Moe, April 6, 2026, grandmother of Samuel Altenberger,
and extended family to his wife, Anne Halloin

Welcome to Rye Presbyterian Church

GENERAL INFORMATION

If you are a guest today, we welcome you and hope you are enriched and inspired by this time of worship. To learn more about the ongoing life of the church, please 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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL (Age 4 – Grade 5)

Sunday School is held on Sunday mornings during worship in the Education Wing. If you have any questions or if you would like to register your child for Sunday School, please reach out to Anne A. Halloin at ahalloin@ryepc.com.

CHILDCARE (3 Months Old – 3 Years Old)

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

RAINBOW BAGS

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.

HEARING ASSISTANCE

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

GRACE NOTES NEWSLETTER

Pick up one of our full-color monthly church newsletters, available at every sanctuary entrance: includes photos, updates, articles, and devotions from pastors. It is also available digitally through email, along with our website’s resources page at ryepc.com/grace-notes-newsletter/.

THIS WEEK

Today, Sunday, April 12

- 11:00 a.m. Full Lunch Reception – Assembly Room
- 11:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Chapel
- 11:30 a.m. High School Youth Group: Bread of Life Volunteer Session – Bread of Life
- 2:00 p.m. Middle School Connection: Empty Bowls Pottery Session – Clay Art Center

Monday, April 13

- 1:00 p.m. Helping Hands Rye Pop-Up – Westminster Room

Tuesday, April 14

- 1:00 p.m. Women’s Discipleship – Library/Hybrid
- 6:45 p.m. Stephen Ministry Continuing Education and Supervision
– Westminster Room and Conference Room

Wednesday, April 15

- 10:00 a.m. Chapel Yoga – Chapel
- 4:15 p.m. Spring Sing... and More – Westminster Room

Thursday, April 16

- 9:30 a.m. Stephen Ministry Leaders – Library
- 10:00 a.m. Thrift Shop – Assembly Room
- 7:00 p.m. Coming Home Dinner – Westminster Room

Sunday, April 19

- 8:45 a.m. Moms’ Bible Study – Youth Rooms
- 9:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Warm-Up – Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Keen-Agers Interest Meeting – Library
- 11:15 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Chapel
- 8:00 p.m. Men’s Bible Study – Library

UPCOMING EVENTS

To learn more, visit ryepc.com/about-rpc/events/



HELPING HANDS RYE POP-UP

Monday, April 13, at 1:00 p.m., in the Westminster Room

We invite you to join us for a quick pop-up event to assist Helping Hands Rye with rolling socks in anticipation of their Undie Fundie event later this month. Our past pop-ups have gone so quickly that we are taking on additional supplies. So come, pull up a chair, and help us roll socks and underwear! If you have any questions, please contact Young Kim at 914-707-3604 or 222ykim@gmail.com. To learn more about Helping Hands Rye, visit helpinghandsrye.org.

SPRING SING... AND MORE 2026

for Children in Kindergarten
through Grade 5



Wednesdays, April 8 through May 20

4:15 - 4:45 p.m., in the Westminster Room

(snack available at 4:00)



Children are invited to join Mr. C. to grow in faith through song and story. There also will be occasional explorations of different musical instruments, having the children hear, see, and learn about them from those who play them.

So that he might be able to prepare appropriately, please let Mr. C. know if your child plans to attend:

jcharneski@ryepc.com.



PARENTING YOUNG ADULTS

Guest Speaker Rev. Andrea Raynor



April 28, at 7:30 p.m., in the Westminster Room

Join us for a time of discussion, sharing, and support.

What happens when the small child, who once needed you for everything, suddenly doesn't need you so much – at least not in the same way? Just when you think the most challenging parts of parenting are behind you, a young adult who once was your baby emerges from the chrysalis. Who is this person! No longer a child and not fully adult, their needs (and ours) have changed. How do we navigate, understand, and parent through the years that seem to offer few resources – spiritually, emotionally, and practically?

Rev. Andrea Raynor (Andie) will be our facilitator. Andie is the mother of two grown children (now in their thirties – phew!) Although most known for her work as a hospice chaplain and writer, she recently started a new chapter herself. She is currently working as a Campus Minister at Manhattan University in the Bronx, supporting and guiding young adults on their spiritual journeys.

All are welcome! Let us know if you plan to attend by contacting Sue DeStaebler: sdestaebler@mac.com.

Organized by the Fellowship and Formation Committee



KEEN-AGERS INTEREST MEETING
Sunday, April 19, at 11:00 a.m., in the Library

There will be a meeting for anyone interested revitalizing a former program in our church called "Keen-Agers." The purpose is to share ideas, explore possibilities, and design programs tailored to the interests of older adults in our congregation. We welcome your thoughts and participation as we work together to create opportunities for fellowship, friendship, and fun.

DINNER AT NOON
Saturday, April 25, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., at the Carver Center
400 Westchester Ave, Port Chester, NY 10573

Calling volunteers for Dinner at Noon! Dinner at Noon is a community meal offered on Saturdays at the Carver Center in Port Chester to those in need. The next Dinner at Noon provided by RPC is scheduled for Saturday, April 25. We are looking for volunteers to contribute food items (such as juice or a dessert), set tables, plate food, serve meals to guests, and clean up. Please help us make this a special meal for our neighbors! Contact Madison Walsh at madisonlichliterwalsh@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering. Families with children ages 8 and up are welcome to volunteer together; having children help serve the meal is a rewarding experience for all!

SAVE THE DATE: AUTHOR TALK
Tuesday, May 5, at 10:00 a.m., in the Library

Our guest speaker is author Sophia May, discussing her new book
God, Me, and Coffee: 30 Real-Life Devotions for Everyday Faith.

Join us for this book launch, author reading, book-signing, and discussion.
Coffee and pastries will be served. This event is free and open to all!

Organized by the Fellowship and Formation Committee

YOUTH EVENTS

To learn more, visit ryepc.com/about-rpc/events/



MIDDLE SCHOOL CONNECTION: EMPTY BOWLS POTTERY SESSION

Today, April 12, from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m., at the Clay Art Center
40 Beech Street, Port Chester, NY 10573

Middle schoolers are invited to the Clay Art Center in Port Chester to make clay pots for the upcoming Empty Bowls fundraiser. Come and use your artistic skills for a great cause!

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP: BREAD OF LIFE VOLUNTEER SESSION

Today, April 12, from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., at Bread of Life
65 Orchard Avenue, Rye, NY 10580

High schoolers are invited to come and volunteer at Giving Tree Global's Bread of Life food pantry. RSVP with Anne A. Halloin at ahalloin@ryepc.com so that you can sign a waiver before we arrive!

YOUTH SUMMER SERVICE TRIP: BINGO FUNDRAISER



Sunday, April 26, from 11:15 – 12:15 p.m., in the Assembly Room

Join us for our annual Bingo Fundraiser following worship! The suggested donation is \$5 per Bingo Card to help pay for this year's Youth Summer Service Trip.

To make a donation ahead of the event, please visit our [Youth Service Trip PayPal](#).

This year, RPC is partnering with the Appalachia Service Project for our Youth Summer Service Trip. To learn more about ASP, visit asphome.org.

ONGOING EVENTS

To learn more, visit ryepc.com/about-rpc/ongoing-events/



MONDAY MORNING BIBLE DISCUSSION

Monday, April 20, at 9:00 a.m., via Zoom

WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP GROUP

Tuesdays, from 1:00 – 2:25 p.m., in the Library

CHAPEL YOGA

Wednesdays, from 10:00 – 11:00 a.m., in the Chapel

SPRING SING... AND MORE 2026

Wednesdays, from 4:15 – 4:45 p.m., in the Westminster Room
Singing and learning for children in Kindergarten through Grade 5

THRIFT SHOP

Thursdays, from 10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., in the Assembly Room
Email RyeThrift10580@gmail.com for donation information

COMING HOME 2026

Thursdays, at 7:00 p.m., in the Westminster Room
Dinner is open to church members by RSVP
Email Douglas Carey at poningoeearthcare@gmail.com

MOMS' BIBLE STUDY

Sunday, April 19, from 8:45 – 9:45 a.m., in the Conference Room
Childcare is available!

HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP DINNER

Sunday, April 26, at 6:00 p.m., in the Westminster Room

MEN'S SUNDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY

Sunday, April 19, at 8:00 p.m., in the Library and via Zoom

ALL ARE WELCOME!



...I was in prison and you visited me...

Matthew 25:36



Melvin Isaac – Class of '98



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O Come, Let Us Worship

Music: J. Harold Moyer

Published in *The Mennonite Hymnal*.

Music © 1969 Harold Press, Scottsdale, Penn., and Faith and Life Press, Newton, Kan.

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Arise, Your Light Is Come!

Text: Ruth Duck

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Be Not Afraid

Text: Taizé Community Music: Jacques Berthier

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

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Amen

Music: Vincent Persichetti

Music © 1956 Elkan-Vogel Co., Inc., Philadelphia, PA.

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Live into Hope

Text: Jane Parker Huber

Text © 1980 Jane Parker Huber (admin. Westminster John Knox Press).

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We Are Marching in the Light of God (Siyahamba)

Music arr. Robert Buckley Farlee

Music arr. © 2001 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

CHURCH STAFF

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Alonso Osorio, *Sunday Sexton*

Haniel Neves, *Knock Intern in Sacred Music*



*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.*



GIVING AT RPC

Online donation options are available on our giving page: ryepc.com/give/.

Contact Maida Robinson at mrobinson@ryepc.com with any questions.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of the church.

