

**Welcome to Niskayuna Reformed Church
November 12, 2023
Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
Rev. Dr. Sherri & Rev. Michael Meyer-Veen**

The Approach to God

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

Welcome and announcements

Prelude Praise Medley

Ham

Introit

Votum

Scott Haefner

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

The Call to Worship: (Responsive): Psalm 33

Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous;

it is fitting for the faithful to praise God.

Sing to the LORD a new song;
play skillfully, and shout for joy.

For the word of the LORD is right and true;
and God is faithful in all things.

**The LORD loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of God's unfailing love.**

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
the stars by the breath of God's mouth.

**No king is saved by the size of their army;
no warrior escapes by their great strength.**

**A horse is a vain hope for deliverance;
despite all its great strength it cannot save.**

But the eyes of the LORD are on those who fear God,
on those who hope in God's unfailing love.

In the LORD our hearts rejoice,
for we trust in God's holy name.

**May your unfailing love be with us, LORD,
even as we put our hope in you.**

*Hymn of Worship “How Firm a Foundation”

Lift Up Your Hearts, 427
Verses 1,2,4,5

*The Salutation and People's Amen: Grace to you and peace from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

Call to Confession:

In his letter to the Corinthians, Paul writes,
“But God said to me, ‘My grace is sufficient for you,
for my power is made perfect in weakness.’
Therefore, I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses,
so that Christ’s power may rest on me.”
In the sufficiency of God’s grace
Let us also come and share our sins and our weaknesses
that Christ’s power may rest upon us.

Prayer of Confession (Unison):

**O God of shalom,
we have built up walls
to protect ourselves from our enemies,
but those walls also shut us off
from receiving your love.
Break down those walls.
Help us to see that the way to your heart
is through the reconciliation
of our own hearts with others
we fear or fail to understand.
Teach us more of what it means
to trust you as our soul source
of security and salvation.
Bless them and us,
that we may come to grow
in love for each other and for you,
through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison:

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

Words of Assurance: Isaiah 55:6-7

“Seek the LORD while God may be found;
call on the LORD while God is near.

Let the wicked forsake their ways
and the unrighteous their thoughts.

Let them turn to the LORD, and God will have mercy on them,
and to our God who freely pardons.”

*Gloria Patri:

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Anthem Sing to the Lord of Harvest

Willan

The Word of God

Junior Sermon

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Reading:

Proverbs 3:21-35

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

Gospel Reading

Luke 12:13-21

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

Sermon “Thickly Settled — Secured in Stewardship”

Pastor Mike

A Prayer for Blessing Upon the Word

*Hymn of Worship “Tis So Sweet To Trust in Jesus”

insert

The Response of God's People

The Offering

Offertory O Come to Me, Ye Weary

Florio

*The Doxology 544 and Prayer of Consecration

The Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

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.

*Hymn of Worship “Now Thank We All Our God”

The Hymnbook, 9

*The Benediction

Benediction Response

*The Postlude All Glory Be To God On High

Decius

*Please stand if you are able.

Prayer of Confession: [The Worship Sourcebook](#). CRC Publications, 2004.
Cover Photo Credit: <https://benchwarrior.wordpress.com/2019/09/23/trust-the-church/>



Announcements

Please join with the WFG and Mission & Service Groups' **UNDIES Project**. We are collecting new, packaged underwear for the men, women and children refugees who have recently been brought to Rotterdam. Your donations may be left in the laundry baskets located on the lower floor of the Education Building, by **Nov. 15**, please.

During October and November the children of our Sunday School will be collecting **NEW CHILDREN'S SOCKS** for the children of migrants and asylum seekers recently relocated to our area. With winter coming, they are in need of these very basic items to help them stay warm. Please help us out by dropping off your donations in the collection area on the lower level of the Education Building from now until **November 17!**

We will be ordering poinsettias for Christmas this year. If you would like to take one home, please mail or put in the collection plate a check for \$7 each made payable to **NRC** and note that you would like to take one home. Donations will also be greatly appreciated to the Christmas flower fund. We will be doing a Memorial bulletin working off last year's bulletin. If you have **NO** changes, there is no need to contact the office. If you have any changes/additions, contact Ellen at 518-785-5575 or office@niskayunareformed.org by **December 11th**. The bulletins will be included in the December 17th & December 24 bulletins.

Our Mission of the Month Collection will benefit the Capital District Region of Patriot Flight. This all-volunteer not-for-profit organization was created to honor America's Veterans for all their sacrifices. They fly local veterans to Washington, DC to visit and reflect at their memorials for their service, sacrifices and memories. The day trip from Albany, NY to Washington D.C., is provided at no cost to the veteran. The Veterans are flown back to Albany, NY the same day, where they receive a warm welcome home from the community. The next flight is in April 2024. Your generosity is greatly appreciated. Thank you!

The 2024 offering envelopes are in!!! They are on a table right outside the church offices. You can pick them up on Sunday or any time during the week that Ellen is in the office. She is usually in on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30-3. If for some reason you don't have your envelopes, let Ellen know and she can make some up for you!

For those of you who do not receive envelopes, the denominational fee for 2024 is **\$104/pp for the year/\$26 quarterly.**

We have the opportunity once again to help the Schenectady City Mission serve dinner. Our church has committed to providing 8 volunteers on Friday evening, December 1st. Volunteers work from 4:30-6:30, reviewing instructions, setting up, taking orders, serving tables and cleaning up. Dinner hour is from 5-6. Comfortable walking shoes, head (ex-baseball cap) are required. Gloves and aprons are provided. Children 10 or older are welcome to help, provided they are accompanied by a parent/adult.

The City Mission has the following sign-up link.

<http://nrc.citymissionofscheneectady.volunteerhub.com/>

Please text Michele Kopp at (518)424-3825 if you have any questions.

Scripture

Proverbs 3:21-35

My son, do not let wisdom and understanding out of your sight,
preserve sound judgment and discretion;

²² they will be life for you,
an ornament to grace your neck.
²³ Then you will go on your way in safety,
and your foot will not stumble.
²⁴ When you lie down, you will not be afraid;
when you lie down, your sleep will be sweet.
²⁵ Have no fear of sudden disaster
or of the ruin that overtakes the wicked,
²⁶ for the LORD will be at your side
and will keep your foot from being snared.
²⁷ Do not withhold good from those to whom it is due,
when it is in your power to act.
²⁸ Do not say to your neighbor,
“Come back tomorrow and I’ll give it to you”—
when you already have it with you.
²⁹ Do not plot harm against your neighbor,
who lives trustfully near you.
³⁰ Do not accuse anyone for no reason—
when they have done you no harm.
³¹ Do not envy the violent
or choose any of their ways.
³² For the LORD detests the perverse
but takes the upright into his confidence.
³³ The LORD’s curse is on the house of the wicked,
but he blesses the home of the righteous.
³⁴ He mocks proud mockers
but shows favor to the humble and oppressed.
³⁵ The wise inherit honor,
but fools get only shame.

Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” ¹⁴ Jesus replied, “Man, who appointed me a judge or an arbiter between you?” ¹⁵ Then he said to them, “Watch out! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; life does not consist in an abundance of possessions.” ¹⁶ And he told them this parable: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded an abundant harvest. ¹⁷ He thought to himself, ‘What shall I do? I have no place to store my crops.’” ¹⁸ “Then he said, ‘This is what I’ll

do. I will tear down my barns and build bigger ones, and there I will store my surplus grain. ¹⁹ And I'll say to myself, "You have plenty of grain laid up for many years. Take life easy; eat, drink and be merry." ²⁰ "But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life will be demanded from you. Then who will get what you have prepared for yourself?' ²¹ "This is how it will be with whoever stores up things for themselves but is not rich toward God."