

Church on the Hill

A Congregation of the
Reformed Church in America

167-07 35th Avenue, Flushing, NY 11358

October 18, 2020

11:00 a.m.



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Rev. Blaine D. Crawford – Pastor

Mr. Sean Cotty – Music Director

Rev. Robert A. Perless – Pastor Emeritus

**Welcome to worship at Church on the Hill!
We're so glad you have joined us this morning. Please
read the following for more details about the worship
service.**

****Please silence your cell phones prior to the service****

The sanctuary and pews have been thoroughly cleaned in preparation for worship today. During the worship service, we ask that you continue to **wear your masks for the duration of the service**. The congregation is invited to join in responses and the hymn singing—we ask that you **speak and sing at a conversational volume**. We have opened as many windows as possible in the sanctuary to increase ventilation. Please **do not attempt to open the windows that are closed**. Offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary; **on your way out of the sanctuary, you can place your offering in the plates**. At the conclusion of the service, **please wait to be dismissed** by the ushers, allowing us to clear any video equipment in the aisle. We ask that you take your bulletin with you and do not leave it in the sanctuary. Bathrooms are available for use in Gessner Hall. There will be no coffee hour after the service.

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

BOLD – Congregation responds

* – Congregation Stands

PRELUDE Improvisation on *Eventide* Sean Cotty

VOTUM

SENTENCES

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Faithful God, you are here. Tuck us into the cleft of the rock; cover us with your hand when we are anxious, that we may be courageous to do your will, through Christ, who calls us by name. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

* HYMN No. 365 *Abide with Me, Fast Falls the Eventide*

*Abide with me, fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens: Lord with me abide!
When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
help of the helpless, O abide with me.*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see:
O thou who changest not, abide with me.*

*I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be?*

Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;

ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness.

Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?

I triumph still, if though abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;

shine through the gloom and point me to the skies:

heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;

in life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Majestic God, do we tremble in awe before you?

Worthy God, have we raised your name in praise?

Sovereign God, have we executed justice?

Forgive us.

Cleanse us.

Free us.

Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON/WISDOM FOR LIFE

SOLO

The Lord's Prayer

Alfred Hay Malotte

Soloist: Maureen Saepia-Chen

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 for ever.
Amen.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Holy Spirit, illumine for us this Word,
that the message of the gospel
may come to us in power. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 33:12-23

Matthew 22:15-22

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

A Peculiar People

Rev. Blaine
Crawford

*CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to hell.**

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended to heaven

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**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.**

*HYMN No. 227

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee;
let the water and the blood, from thy wounded side which
flowed, be of sin the double cure, save from wrath and
make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands;
could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever
flow. All for sin could not atone; thou must save and thou
alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to thy cross I cling;
naked, come to thee for dress, helpless, look to thee for
grace; foul, I to the fountain fly, wash me, Savior, or I die!

While I draw this fleeting breath, when my eyes shall close
in death, when I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy
judgement throne, Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide
myself in thee.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom and the power
And the glory, forever. Amen.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fantasia in G-minor

J.S. Bach

Announcements

Operation Christmas Child

At their meeting last Wednesday (10/14), the consistory voted to discontinue Church on the Hill's support and affiliation with Operation Christmas Child which is operated by Samaritan's Purse. Concerns were raised during the Worship Committee meeting last week about hurtful and demeaning comments made by the CEO and president of Samaritan's Purse, Franklin Graham, about the LGBTQ community and Muslims. These concerns were then referred to consistory. The consistory acknowledged all the good done for children around the world through Operation Christmas Child, but felt the comments made by the CEO were hateful and damaging to the Christian witness and to our ministry and community at Church on the Hill. The deacons will be exploring other possible partners in addition to considering pouring more of our energy and generosity into our White Christmas partners.

If you have questions about this decision, please reach out to a member of consistory. For those who took shoeboxes during worship on 10/11, you can still fill them and donate, but the church will not be collecting them. You will need to either mail them or identify a different drop-off location.

The consistory would like to thank all those who have led and organized these efforts over the years to give generously to children around the world.

Weekly Calendar

Check the weekly email tomorrow for all the happenings and ministries of Church on the Hill!

Prayer Requests

*If you would like to add a loved one to the prayer list,
please contact the church office*

Miram Allen

Babinsky Family

The Cipriani Family

Diane Blagburn

Christina & Sadie Boll

Elizabeth Bossis

Susan Brooks

Carolyn Brunjes

Lillian Calfa

David Cerqueira

Gracinda Cerqueira

Jose Cerqueira

Marie Collins

Helen Cunningham

Rosina Cuticone

Lenny DeSimone

Michael Doliner

The Frocione Family

The Gessner Family

John & Hazel Gittens

Brooke Graffeo

Rosemarie Graffeo

Alex Guzman

Hotchkiss Family

Lynn Lauterbach

Jorge & Tiffany Martinez

Jean Mendler

Ruben & Eva Munoz

Murray Family

Patricia Olney

Roppolo Family

Prayer Requests

*If you would like to add a loved one to the prayer list,
please contact the church office.*

Joseph Saepia

Joan Werbel

Smith Family

Mike

Jocelyn Toner

Stacey

Alison Venable



Community, Mission & Outreach

Co-Chairs: Yoon Ryo & Patrick Symes

Community Nursery School Board

President: Ginny Chan
Consistory Rep: Dorien Day

Congregational Care

Co-Chairs: Angela Brunjes

Buildings & Grounds

Chair: Joe Macaluso
Consistory Rep: Maureen Saepia-Chen & Victor Han

Christian Education & Youth

Chair: Jeanne Sarran

Finance

Chair: Doris Krsnak
Consistory Rep: Margret Dougherty

Personnel

Chair: Dana Chan

Worship & Music

Chair: Rev. Crawford
Consistory Rep: Irma Schubert

*Chairperson is also Consistory Representative unless otherwise stated.



The sanctuary is looped for the hard of hearing. In order to connect to the system, please sit in the north set of pews (on your right when you enter the sanctuary) and set your hearing device to the "T" setting.



Consistory & Staff

Rev. Blaine Crawford, **President**

Nancy Gessner, **Clerk**

Elders

Angela Brunjes

Dorien Day

Victor Han

Jeanne Sarran (VP)

Irma Schubert

Deacons

Dana Chan

Margaret Dougherty

Yoon Ryo

Maureen Saepia-Chen

Patrick Symes

Rev. Blaine Crawford, Minister: pastor@churchonthehill.org

Sean Cotty, Music Director: sean.cotty@churchonthehill.org

Molly Mahowald, Office Administrator: office@churchonthehill.org

***Revised** Office Hours: M–F, 10:30 a.m.–3:30 p.m.

Phone: (718) 358-3671

Alternate Phone: (646) 571-8358

www.churchonthehill.org

