

Church on the Hill

A Congregation of the
Reformed Church in America
167-07 35th Avenue, Flushing, NY 11358

October 15, 2023

10:30 AM



Photo Credit: Emerson Chen Photography

Revs. William and Lynn Hanousek — Guest Pastors

Mr. Sean Cotty — Music Director

Rev. Robert A. Perless – Pastor Emeritus

ORDER OF WORSHIP

BOLD – Congregation responds

* – Congregation Stands

Prelude

Prelude and Fugue in C Minor

J.S. Bach

Welcome

* 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, Amen.*

Votum

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

Sentences of Scripture

Prayer of Invocation

O Living God of past and future, we praise you for this present moment. Fill us with your joy and empower us with your Holy Spirit, that our strength may be renewed to sing a new song of your glory in a world which longs for your justice and peace. All this we ask in the name of Jesus, in whom we become your new creation. **Amen.**

Call to Worship

Sing praises to our Lord: **who heals us and makes us whole.** Sing praises to our Lord, faithful children of God: **whose joy rises in our lives each and every day.** Sing praises to our Lord, faithful children of God; **give thanks to God's holy name:** God's Kingdom is near to us; **God's peace resides in our hearts.**

* Hymn No. 2

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, You call us to be salt of the earth and light of the world. We confess that our witness is often bland and gloomy. Forgive us when we fail to be an influence for good, and when we condone or do what is

wrong in Your sight. Help us to flavor the earth with righteousness and to reflect the light of your love in a dark world; through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon/God's Wisdom for Life

Anthem

Locus Iste

Anton Bruckner

(Sung in Latin)

*This place was made by God a priceless mystery;
It is without reproof.*

Prayer of Illumination

O Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us; through Jesus Christ, **Amen.**

Scripture Readings

Steve Sarran

Psalms 146 (Good News Translation)

p. 507

Matthew 5: 1-12 (Good News Translation)

p. 785

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon "Finding Happiness in a World of Sadness!" Rev. William Hanousek

* **Confession of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed (RCA contemporary version)

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit

And born of the Virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate,

Was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

And is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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.**

[†] The word "catholic" means "universal,"
referring to all followers of Christ worldwide.

Anthem

The Spirit of the Lord

Philip W. J. Stopford

*The spirit of the Lord is upon me,
Because he hath anointed me
To preach the gospel to the poor.
He hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted,
To preach deliverance to the captives
And recovering of sight to the blind,
To preach the acceptable year of the Lord,
To give unto them that mourn a garland of ashes,
The oil of joy for mourning,
The garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness,
That they might be called trees of righteousness,
The planting of the Lord that He might be glorified.
For as the earth bringeth forth her bud,
And as the garden causeth the things
That are sown in it to spring forth,
So the Lord God will cause righteousness
And praise to spring forth before the nations.
The spirit of the Lord.*

*** Doxology**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise Him all creatures here below,
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

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.**

Prayer Response

Hope of the World

*Hope of the world, O Christ of great compassion:
Speak to our fearful hearts by conflict rent;
Save us, your people, from consuming passion,
Who by our own false hopes and aims are spent.*

* **Hymn No. 309**

Wonderful Words of Life

* **Benediction**

Response (please be seated)

Sevenfold Amen

Postlude

Etude Op. 10 No. 8 in F Major

F. Chopin

Music Notes

This morning's anthems are from two different periods. *Locus Iste* by Anton Bruckner (1824-1896) was composed in 1869 while Philip W. J. Stopford's (1977-) *The Spirit of the Lord* is a very recent work. *Locus Iste* was written for the dedication of the votive chapel of the New Cathedral in Linz, Austria. Ever since it has been regularly used for the dedication or anniversary of sacred spaces. While no scriptural reference is given for the piece there is common agreement that the stories of Jacob's Ladder – "Surely the Lord is in this place..." – (Genesis 28:16) and the burning bush – "...for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground." – (Exodus 3:5) are the basis for the text. Listening to the quiet beauty of the piece it is easy to miss the power of the words: "This place was made by God"! As you listen we encourage you to look with awe at this Sanctuary and Chancel; for surely the Lord is in this place and it is holy ground.

The Spirit of the Lord is dedicated "For the Enthronement of the Archbishop of Philadelphia, Most Reverend Charles J. Chaput, O.F.M.Cap., September 8, 2011." (O.F.M.Cap stands for Order of Friars Minor Capuchin) The text is from

Isaiah 61; but more importantly, is part of the ministry of Jesus. In Luke 4:16-18 Jesus preaches in Nazareth and quotes Isaiah as follows (in part), "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he has anointed me;..." After concluding the reading Jesus goes on to say in verse 21 "Today...in your hearing this text has come true." This scene is often regarded as the beginning of Jesus's ministry.

Announcements

INTRODUCTION

A native of Astoria, the Rev. Bill Hanousek has served churches in Hasbrouck Heights (New Jersey), Canarsie, The Upper East Side, and Queensboro Hill (Flushing). He was ordained in 1969. Bill has led worship at Church on the Hill in the past and with his good friend, The Rev. Bob Perless, competed in numerous NYC marathons.

The Rev. Lynn Hanousek graduated from New Brunswick Theological Seminary and was ordained in 1989. She has served churches in the Bronx, Yonkers, and Queensboro Hill. Pastors Bill and Lynn have been married 52 years and are blessed with three children and their spouses, 6 grandchildren, and 2 cats.

CHILDREN AT WORSHIP

The Fall session of the Sunday Program for children ages 6 to 13 has started. During the service, the children will process out and be let to Room 2-E.

OFFERING

If you feel called to give, offering plates are located in the rear of the sanctuary, where you can leave your offering upon entry or exit of the sanctuary.

COFFEE HOUR

Please join us for coffee hour after the service, downstairs in Gessner Hall.

HARVEST FESTIVAL

This year's festival has been rescheduled to our rain date: **This Saturday, October 21st**. We can still use lots of help and any baked goods or frozen foods. The Boy Scouts are selling Christmas Wreaths, if you are interested, you can speak to Doris Krsnak today at Coffee Hour. Checks should be made payable to "The Dads Club of Troop 1 Flushing".

BARGAIN BOUTIQUE

The Bargain Boutique is open on Saturdays from 10 am- 1 pm. Donations are accepted on Saturdays only. *We are unable to accept: Electronics, TVs, Furniture, Textbooks, and Large Toys/Stuffed Animals*

JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST!

Be sure to sign up for our email list to keep up with the latest Church on the Hill happenings through the weekly email and the Beacon. A sign-up form can be found on **churchonthehill.org**

Prayer Requests

If you would like to add a loved one to the prayer list, or if your loved one no longer needs to be on the prayer list, please contact the church office at office@churchonthehill.org

Diane Blagburn

The Bermudez Family

The Cappellano Family

Richard D.

Thomas Degnen

Gabriel DeMelo

Lucas Ditta

Joanne Dunckhahn

Randy Eastman

Adam Gonzalez

The Family of

Richard Iovale

Rudy Jakob

Mary and Norman Kansfield

Susan Laurita

Lynn Lauterbach

Donna Lemay

Gessa Markantonis

Rose McLain

Kathy Mendler-Murphy

Paul Mobius

Rev. Bob Perless

Iris and Ralph Prager

Patrick Sullivan

Ed Surujballi

Virginia Young



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

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Nancy Gessner, **Clerk**

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Linda Diez
Nancy Gessner (VP)
Victor Han (VP)
Rhoda Jabbour
Sarah White

Deacons

Ginny Chan
Emerson Chen
Jerry Lutz
Adriene Toy

Sean Cotty, Music Director: sean.cotty@churchonthehill.org
Amanda Sudolsky, Office Administrator: office@churchonthehill.org

Phone: (718) 358-3671
Email: office@churchonthehill.org
www.churchonthehill.org

