

Church on the Hill

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

October 8, 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

Trio Sonata No. 4 in E Minor (II. Andante)

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

Christ Jesus, we come into your presence from many different places. We come with songs of joy and shouts of gratitude. We come carrying heavy burdens and sighs of suffering. As you welcome us into your house, lift our burdens and receive our praise. Salt us with your grace and flavor us with your mercy. Bind us together, that we may be at peace with one another and be strengthened to go forth in service to the world. In your holy name, we pray. **Amen.**

Call to Worship

Blessed be the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth! **Praise be to God, the Giver of many gifts!** Our help is in God's name, the One who calls us here. **We come with songs of praise, with prayers too deep for words.** Blessed be the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth! **Blessed be the Lord!**

* Hymn No. 372

When Morning Gilds the Sky

Prayer of Confession

We long for wisdom, O Lord, but prefer that it be our own. We turn away from the ideas of others and ignore the possibility and promise that come

from life together with you. Most of all, we drown out your gift of Wisdom as she seeks to get our attention, for we believe that we know better or would prefer to decide where we make her welcome. Forgive us, loving God. Bring an end to the self-righteousness that ignores you, and awaken us anew to the Wisdom that comes only from you. Show us how to walk in your ways and listen to your promise each and every day. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon/God's Wisdom for Life

Anthem

Create in me a Clean Heart, O God

Carl F. Mueller

*Create in me a clean heart, O God;
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from thy presence;
And take not thy holy spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation,
And uphold me with thy free spirit.
Then will I teach transgressors thy ways;
And sinners shall be converted unto thee.
Create in me a clean heart, O God!*

Prayer of Illumination

Prepare our hearts, O God, to accept your Word. Silence in us any voices but your own, so that we may hear your Word and also do it; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Scripture Readings

Maureen Saepia-Chen

Proverbs 17: 27-28, 18: 1-2

p. 523

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“The Ministry of Silence!”

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

Jesus My Breath, My Life, My Lord

John Carter

*Jesus my breath, my life, my Lord,
Take of my soul the inmost part;
Let vision, mind, and will be stored with Christ
The Master of my heart, my breath, my life, my Lord.*

*Jesus my Lord, my breath, my life,
My living bread for every day,
In calm and comfort, storm and strife,
Christ be my truth, as Christ my way,
My Lord, my breath, my life.*

*Jesus my life, my Lord, my breath,
The pulse and beat of all my years,
Constant alike in life and death,
And when eternal day appears
My life, my Lord, my breath.*

*** 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

Let the Words of My Mouth

*Let the words of my mouth,
And the meditation of my heart,
Be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord,
My strength and my Redeemer.
Amen.*

* **Hymn No. 223**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

* **Benediction**

Response (please be seated)

For the Life That You Have Given

*For the life that you have given,
For the love in Christ made known,
With these fruits of time and labor,
With these gifts that are your own:
Here we offer, Lord, our praises;
Heart and mind and strength we bring;
Give us grace to love and serve you,
Living what we pray and sing.*

Postlude

Trio Sonata No. 4 in E Minor (I. Adagio-Vivace)

J.S. Bach



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.

Music Notes

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God by the American composer Carl F. Mueller (1892-1982) relies on text from Psalm 51:10-13. While the verses themselves provide the basis for a beautiful anthem the context of the Psalm helps provide additional meaning. The Psalm is headed, "For the leader; a psalm: for David (when Nathan the prophet came to him after he had taken Bathsheba)." This is one of the seven so-called "Penitential Psalms." David was anointed King but had sinned through murder, adultery, attempting to hide his sins, and by not repenting (see the full story in 2 Samuel chs. 11,12). He was confronted by Nathan and in 2 Samuel 12:13 David acknowledges his sins. Our Psalm text is David's plea to God for more than forgiveness but rather a new, "clean heart" and renewal of "a right spirit." David knew the story of Saul who was anointed King, sinned against God, but did not repent, and, "The spirit of the Lord had forsaken Saul..." (1 Samuel 16:14). This context reveals the power of God's forgiveness when one who is broken in sin confesses and fully and honestly repents.

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. Thank you to Angela Brunjes, Irma Schubert, and Darlene White for hosting the Coffee Hour today!

HARVEST FESTIVAL

This year's festival will take place **this Saturday, October 14th** with a rain date of October 21st. We could still use lots of help with set up, clean up, and sales (contact Rhoda), as well as frozen foods (contact Anita, frozen food containers are available to pick up) and baked goods (contact Jean Mender)!

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

Susan Laurita

Lynn Lauterbach

Donna Lemay

Gessa Markantonis

Rose McLain

Kathy Mender-Murphy

Paul Mobius

Rev. Bob Perless

Iris and Ralph Prager

Patrick Sullivan

Ed Surujballi

Virginia Young



Consistory & Staff

Nancy Gessner, Victor Han, **Vice Presidents**
Nancy Gessner, **Clerk**

Elders

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

Deacons

Ginny Chan
Emerson Chen
Jerry Lutz
Adriene Toy

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