

Church on the Hill

A Congregation of the
Reformed Church in America

167-07 35th Avenue, Flushing, NY 11358



2020 Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

NOVEMBER 23, 2020

7:30 PM

Rev. Blaine D. Crawford – Pastor
Mr. Sean Cotty – Music Director
Rev. Robert A. Perless – Pastor Emeritus

Participants:

Rabbi Sharon Ballan, Temple Beth Sholom

Rev. Blaine D. Crawford, Church on the Hill

Rev. James Gajadhar, Resurrection Lutheran Church

Rev. Joseph Holcomb, St. Andrew Avellino

Mr. Sean Cotty, Music Director, Church on the Hill

Ms. Maureen Saepia-Chen, Church on the Hill

Ethan Legaspi, Queens Community Children's Choir

Amelia Legaspi, Queens Community Children's Choir

Vera Catalano, Queens Community Children's Choir

Many thanks to Mr. Emerson Chen whose technological expertise allows us to safely worship from home this year!

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Improvisation on the
National Anthem

Sean Cotty

VOTUM

Our help is in the name of the LORD, maker of heaven and earth.

SENTENCES

Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Almighty God,

Lord of heaven and earth,

in you we live and move and have our being.

You are the one who does good to all people,

making your sun to rise on the evil and on the good
and sending rain on the just and on the unjust.

Favorably behold us your servants, who call upon your
name, and send us your blessing from heaven, giving us
fruitful seasons, and satisfy us with food and gladness.

May both our hearts and our mouths be continually filled
with your praise. Amen.

WELCOME

Queens Community Children's Choir

Simple Gifts

'Tis the gift to be simple,

'Tis the gift to be free

'Tis the gift to come down

where you ought to be

*And when we find ourselves
in a place just right,
'Twill be in the valley
of love and delight.*

*When true simplicity is gained,
To bow and to bend
we shan't be ashamed.
To turn, turn
will be our delight,
'Till by turning, turning
we come round right.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

SCRIPTURE READING:

Psalm 65

¹Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion; and to you shall vows be performed,

²O you who answer prayer! To you all flesh shall come.

³When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.

⁴Happy are those whom you choose and bring near to live in your courts. We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, your holy temple.

⁵By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation; you are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the farthest seas.

⁶By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might.

⁷You silence the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples.

⁸Those who live at earth's farthest bounds are awed by your signs; you make the gateways of the morning and the evening shout for joy.

⁹You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.

¹⁰You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth.

¹¹You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

¹²The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,

¹³the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.

HYMN No. 353

For the Beauty of the Earth

Sung by: Maureen Saepia-Chen

*For the beauty of the earth,
For the glory of the skies
For the love which from our birth
Over and around us lies,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale, and tree, and flower
Sun and moon and stars of light,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the joy of ear and eye,
for the heart and mind's delight,*

*for the mystic harmony
linking sense to sound and sight,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild,
Lord of all, to thee we raise
this our hymn of grateful praise.*

SCRIPTURE READING:

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

⁶The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. ⁸And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. ⁹As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." ¹⁰He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. ¹¹You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; ¹²for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. ¹³Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and

with all others, ¹⁴while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. ¹⁵Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

HOMILY

Queens Community Children's Choir *America The Beautiful*
*O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain,
for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain!
America! America! God shed his grace on thee,
and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining
sea!*

*O beautiful for pilgrim feet, whose stern, impassioned stress
a thoroughfare for freedom beat across the wilderness!
America! America! God mend thine every flaw, confirm
thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law!*

*O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife,
who more than self their country loved, and mercy more
than life! America! America! May God thy gold refine,
till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine!*

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND INTERCESSION

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Little Fugue in G Minor

Bach



Consistory & Staff

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Nancy Gessner, **Clerk**

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

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