

Church on the Hill

A Congregation of the
Reformed Church in America

167-07 35th Avenue, Flushing, NY 11358

December 25, 2020

11:00 a.m.



Rev. Blaine D. Crawford – Pastor

Mr. Sean Cotty – Music Director

Rev. Robert A. Perless – Pastor Emeritus

ORDER FOR WORSHIP

BOLD – Congregation responds

* – Congregation Stands

PRELUDE

Improvisation on
Hark The Herald Angels Sing

Sean Cotty

VOTUM

SENTENCES

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Wondrous God, we praise you and bless you for the gift of your only begotten Son, the true light who enlightens everyone that has come into the world. May all who receive him and believe in his name be born anew as beloved children of your redeeming purpose. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

* HYMN No. 171

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

*Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners
reconciled!"*

*Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in
Bethlehem!"*

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

*Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting
Lord, late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's
womb:*

*veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,
pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."*

*Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of
Righteousness!*

*Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second
birth.*

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Faithful God, you love righteousness and hate wickedness,
yet we have not lived lives of integrity and truth;
we have failed to honor you.**

We repent of those faults and turn to you in love.

**Pardon our offenses and purify our hearts,
that our lives may glorify you to the ends of the earth.
Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON/WISDOM FOR LIFE

CHORAL ANTHEM

Born 'Neath a Star

Cynthia Gray

Featuring Members of the COTH Chancel Choir

*Born 'neath a star was a child so small
with shelter o'er but a drafty stall;
Yet He'd be known as the "Lord of All,"
born beneath a star that night.*

*Led by a star was a shepherd boy,
after angels told him of wondrous Joy;
Sent down to earth as a baby boy,*

born beneath a star that night.

*And love filled the earth
at the news of the Christ Child's birth,
And hope did abound that through Him
peace would be found.*

*We three kings of Orient are;
Bearing gifts, we traverse afar.*

*Under the star of the Christmas tree,
we still share the joy of that ancient eve
When Christ was born, the "King of Peace,"
born beneath a star that night.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Loving God, before time and space
your living Word was with you creating all things.
In the fullness of time, he came to bring peace
and to show us how to love.
By the anointing of your Holy Spirit,
inspire us to share his light wherever we go
as we carry your good news of salvation
to the ends of the earth. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 52:7-10

John 1:1-14

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Sights and Sounds of God

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.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child Donald Busarow

Gentle Mary laid her Child Lowly in a manger;

There he lay, the Undeiled, To the world a stranger.

Such a Babe in such a place, Can he be the Savior?

Ask the saved of all the race Who have found his favor.

Angels sang about his birth, Wise men sought and found

him; Heaven's star shone brightly forth Glory all around

him. Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, Heard the angels

singing; All the plains were lit that night, All the hills were

ringing.

*Gentle Mary laid her Child Lowly in a manger;
He is still the Undefined, But no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth, Beautiful the story;
Praise his name in all the earth;
Hail! the King of Glory, Hail! the King of Glory!*

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Communion Prayer

Words of Institution

Confession of Faith

Great is the mystery of the faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen! Christ will come again

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.**

*HYMN No. 159

Sing We Now of Christmas

Sing we now of Christmas, Noel, sing we here!

Hear our grateful praises to the Babe so dear.

Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!

Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

*Angels called to shepherds, "Leave your flocks at rest,
journey forth to Bethlehem, find the lambkin blest."*

Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!

Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

*In Bethlehem they found him; Joseph and Mary mild,
seated by the manger, watching the holy child.*

Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!

Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

*From the eastern country came the kings afar,
bearing gifts to Bethlehem guided by a star.*

Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!

Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

*Gold and myrrh they took there, gifts of greatest price;
there was ne'er a place on earth so like paradise.*

Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!

Sing we now of Christmas, sing we now Noel!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Improvisation on Noel Nouvelet

Sean Cotty

Merry Christmas!

Prayer Requests

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

Miram Allen

Roslyn Andela

Babinsky 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

The Frocione Family

John & Hazel Gittens

Brooke Graffeo

Rosemarie Graffeo

Alex Guzman

Hotchkiss Family

Helen Hunt

Betty Kwong

Lynn Lauterbach

Nancy Lee

Justin & Jessica Mark

Jorge & Tiffany Martinez

Jean Mendler

Ruben & Eva Munoz

Murray Family

Patricia Olney

Rasquinha Family

Roppolo Family

Prayer Requests

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

Joseph Saepia

Alex Young

Smith Family

Joan Werbel

Jocelyn Toner

Zeisman Family

Alison Venable