Church on the Hill

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

> December 27, 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

Allegro from Flute Sonata in A-Major J.S. Bach Simon Walsh, Flute

VOTUM

SENTENCES

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Saving God, the prophet Anna and righteous Simeon sang your praise and proclaimed Jesus our Lord to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. Let us who seek redemption in this day prepare our hearts, that we may believe the good news of Jesus, receive the light of your salvation, and live according to your word. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

* HYMN No. 162 The First Noel, the Angel Did Say The first Noel, the angel did say, was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay; in fields they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east, beyond them far, and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far, to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

This star drew nigh to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest, and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay. Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we confess that we have kept silent in midst of prejudice and hatred; we have been idle in the face of violence and injustice; we have not been a light to the nations. Forgive us. Repair the ugliness of our sin and restore in us your beautiful grace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON/WISDOM FOR LIFE

SOLO Largo e dolce from Flute Sonata in A-Major J.S. Bach

Simon Walsh, Flute

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

As you led Simeon to embrace the infant Jesus, guide us, Holy Spirit, by your gracious light that we may welcome your saving Word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

Luke 2:22-40

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

and the life everlasting. Amen.

SERMON

Looking for Redemption

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,

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. 157

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today; ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this; he has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.

Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye need not fear the grave, Jesus Christ was born to save; calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.

Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Finale from Symphony No. 6

Widor

Announcements

Church Office Closure

The church office will be closed through January 3rd. Regular office hours will resume on January 4, 2021.

Sanctuary Air Circulation

As the temperatures begin to drop, the ushers will be opening fewer windows during the worship. However, we have installed new air filters for the sanctuary in order to meet current COVID-19 standards. We will continue to take all necessary precautions for your health and safety.

Weekly Calendar

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

Bargain Boutique

The Bargain Boutique will remain closed for the foreseeable future. Please hold all donations until we re-open.

Prayer Requests

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

Miram Allen The Frocione Family

Roslyn Andela John & Hazel Gittens

Babinsky Family Brooke Graffeo

Bermudez Family Rosemarie Graffeo

Diane Blagburn Alex Guzman

Christina & Sadie Boll Hotchkiss Family

Elizabeth Bossis Helen Hunt

Susan Brooks Betty Kwong

Carolyn Brunjes Lynn Lauterbach

Lillian Calfa Nancy Lee

David Cerqueira Jorge & Tiffany Martinez

Gracinda Cerqueira Jean Mendler

Jose Cerqueira Gerda Miller

Marie Collins Ruben & Eva Munoz

Helen Cunningham Murray Family

Rosina Cuticone Patricia Olney

Lenny DeSimone Barbara Rogers

Prayer Requests

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

Roppolo Family

Smith Family

Jocelyn Toner

Rosemary Vasquez

Alison Venable

Vera Family

Alex Young

Joan Werbel

Zeisman Family



Community, Mission & Outreach

Co-Chairs: Yoon Ryo &

Patrick Symes

Community Nursery School Board

President: Ginny Chan

Consistory Rep: Dorien Day

Congregational Care

Chair: 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.





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.

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