

Church on the Hill

A Congregation of the
Reformed Church in America

167-07 35th Avenue, Flushing, NY 11358

December 6, 2020

11:00 a.m.



Rev. Blaine D. Crawford – Pastor

Mr. Sean Coffy – 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

Improvisation on
Savior of the Nations, Come

Sean Cotty

VOTUM

SENTENCES

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Loving God, you sent your prophet John to prepare your way among us, to call us to repentance and make our pathways straight. Strengthen us to live lives of steadfast love and faithfulness as we await the Messiah's return, that all may see your reign of peace through your just and gracious rule. Amen.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: Love

CALL TO WORSHIP

* HYMN No. 138

Savior of the Nations, Come

*Savior of the nations, come,
show yourself the Virgin's son.
Fill with wonder, all the earth,
that our God chose such a birth.*

*Not by human power or seed
did the woman's womb conceive;
only by the Spirit's breath
was the Word of God made flesh.*

*Christ laid down his majesty,
passed thro' dark Gethsemane;
though he left his Father's home,
Christ now sits on God's own throne.*

*Christ in glory, intercede
for your creatures' suffering need;
let your resurrecting power
soon complete the victory hour.*

*Praise to you, O Lord, we sing;
praise to Christ, our newborn King!
With the Father, Spirit, one,
let your lasting kingdom come.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Faithful God, we confess that we have not led lives of holiness. We suffer from impatience, apathy, and greed; we have not been at peace.

We repent of these offenses and turn to you in love.

**Forgive our iniquity and pardon our sins,
that we may walk in righteousness
to the glory of your name.**

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON/WISDOM FOR LIFE

ANTHEM *Prepare the Way of the Lord* William Rowan

Featuring Members of the COTH Chancel Choir

Prepare, prepare the way of the Lord!

Prepare the way!

Make straight his path.

Every valley shall be exalted,

*every hill made low;
and the crooked shall be made straight,
and the rough places plain.*

*And the glory of the Lord
shall be revealed,
and all mankind shall see it,
shall see it together.*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Mighty God, send your Holy Spirit to speak peace,
that the good news of this age may be proclaimed
through your word, which stands forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 40:1-11

2 Peter 3:8-15a

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Waiting for God's New World

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.**

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. 136

On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

*On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh:
awake and listen for he brings
glad tidings of the King of Kings.*

*Let every heart be cleansed from sin,
make straight the way for God within,
and so prepare to be the home
where such a mighty guest may come.*

*For you are our salvation, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flowers that wither and decay.*

*To heal the sick, and stretch out your hand,
and make the fallen sinner stand;
shine out, and let your light restore
earth's own true loveliness once more.*

*To you, O Christ, all praises be,
whose advent sets your people free;
whom with the Father we adore
and Holy Spirit evermore!*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Organ Sonata No. 4 (Finale)

Mendelssohn

Announcements

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.

White Christmas

Because of COVID-19, White Christmas will look different this year. While we will still collect actual gifts, several of our partners are asking for monetary donations to purchase gifts cards. Gift tags can be picked up during worship or at one of the times listed below. Due to COVID-19 safety protocols, gifts will not be brought up to the front during the White Christmas service. Instead, in-person gifts can be dropped off at the following locations and times:

- During Sunday worship, from now until Sunday, December 13th
- In Gessner Hall on Wednesday, **December 2nd** and Wednesday, **December 9th** from **12:30pm – 1:30pm**

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

Bermudez 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

Jorge & Tiffany Martinez

Jean Mendler

Gerda Miller

Ruben & Eva Munoz

Murray Family

Patricia Olney

Barbara Rogers

Prayer Requests

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please contact the church office.*

Roppolo Family

Smith Family

Jocelyn Toner

Alison Venable

Nemesio Vera

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.



Consistory & Staff

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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