

Church on the Hill

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

December 24, 2022
Worship Service 8:00 PM



Photo Credit: Emerson Chen Photography

Rev. Dr. Ian Rottenberg — Guest Pastor

Mr. Sean Cotty — Music Director

Rev. Robert A. Perless – Pastor Emeritus

A Service of Lessons and Carols

The service of Lessons and Carols was developed in the late nineteenth century and first used at King's College Chapel in Cambridge, UK. The service is a re-telling of the story of the coming Christ. It follows a simple pattern: each lesson is told through a song and a Scripture reading. May you hear anew the story of the birth of Jesus as we listen, sing, and worship God this evening.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Christmas Eve

BOLD – Congregation responds

* – Congregation Stands

Prelude

Pastorale

Arthur Mancini

Simon Walsh, Flute; Maxfield Panish, Violin

Choral Prelude

Of the Father's Love Begotten

Plainsong (c. 13th Century)

*Of the Father's love begotten,
Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega,
He is the source, the ending He,
Of the things that are, that have been,
And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore!*

*O that birth forever blessed,
When the Virgin, full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving,
Bore the Savior of our race;
And the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
First revealed His sacred face,*

Evermore and evermore!

Sentences

Prayer of Invocation

Welcome

*** Hymn No. 161**

Once in Royal David's City

Advent Candle Lighting

Christ

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 While by the Sheep We Watched Hugo Jungst

*While by my sheep I watched at night
Glad tidings brought an angel bright:
How great my joy!
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high.
There shall be born, so he did say,
In Bethlehem a child today.
How great my joy!
Praise we the Lord in heaven on high.*

First Lesson

Isaiah 9: 2, 6-7

Anthem How Lovely Are the Messengers (from St. Paul) Mendelssohn

*How lovely are the messengers
That preach us the gospel of peace!
To all the nations is gone forth
The sound of their words;
Throughout the lands their glad tidings.*

Second Lesson

Isaiah 11: 1-9

Instrumental Trio

Suite en Trio (I. Serenade)

Mel Bonis

Simon Walsh, Flute; Maxfield Panish, Violin

Third Lesson

Luke 1: 26-38

* **Hymn No. 155**

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Fourth Lesson

Luke 2: 1-7

Anthem

Hodie Christus natus est

Francis Poulenc

(Sung in Latin)

*Today Christ is born;
Today the Savior has appeared;
Today on earth the angels sing.
The archangels rejoice;
Today the just exult, saying:
Glory in the highest to God, alleluia.*

Fifth Lesson

Luke 2: 8-20

Anthem

Christmas Lullaby

John Rutter

*Clear in the darkness a light shines in Bethlehem:
Angels are singing, their sound fills the air.
Wise men have journeyed to greet their Messiah:
But only a mother and baby lie there.
"Ave Maria, Ave Maria:"
Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing.*

*“Ave Maria, Ave Maria,
Maiden and mother of Jesus our King.”*

*Where are his courtiers, and who are his people?
Why does he bear neither sceptre nor crown?
Shepherd his courtiers, the poor for his people,
With peace as his sceptre and love for his crown.*

*“Ave Maria, Ave Maria:”
Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing.*

*“Ave Maria, Ave Maria,
Maiden and mother of Jesus our King.”*

*What though your treasures are not gold or incense?
Lay them before him with hearts full of love.
Paise to the Christ child, and praise to his mother
Who bore us a Saviour by grace from above.*

*“Ave Maria, Ave Maria:”
Hear the soft lullaby the angel hosts sing.*

*“Ave Maria, Ave Maria,
Maiden and mother of Jesus our King.”*

Sixth Lesson

Matthew 2: 1-11

*** Hymn No. 173**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

Seventh Lesson

John 1: 1-14

Anthem

Sing We Now of Christmas

John Leavitt

*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 all Noel!*

Gloria in excelsis Deo!

*Angels called to shepherds, “Leave your flocks at rest,
Journey forth to Bethl’hem, find the lambkin blest.”*

*Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all Noel!
From the eastern country came kings from afar,
Bearing gifts to Bethl'hem, guided by a star.
Sing we Noel, the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all Noel!*

Homily

Solo O Holy Night Adolphe C. Adam
Soloist- Maureen Saepia-Chen

*O holy night, the stars are brightly shining
It is the night, of the dear Saviour's birth
Long lay the world, in sins and error pining,
'Till he appeared, and the soul felt its worth.
Fall on your knees, oh hear the angel voices.
O night divine, O night, when Christ was born
O night divine, O night divine.*

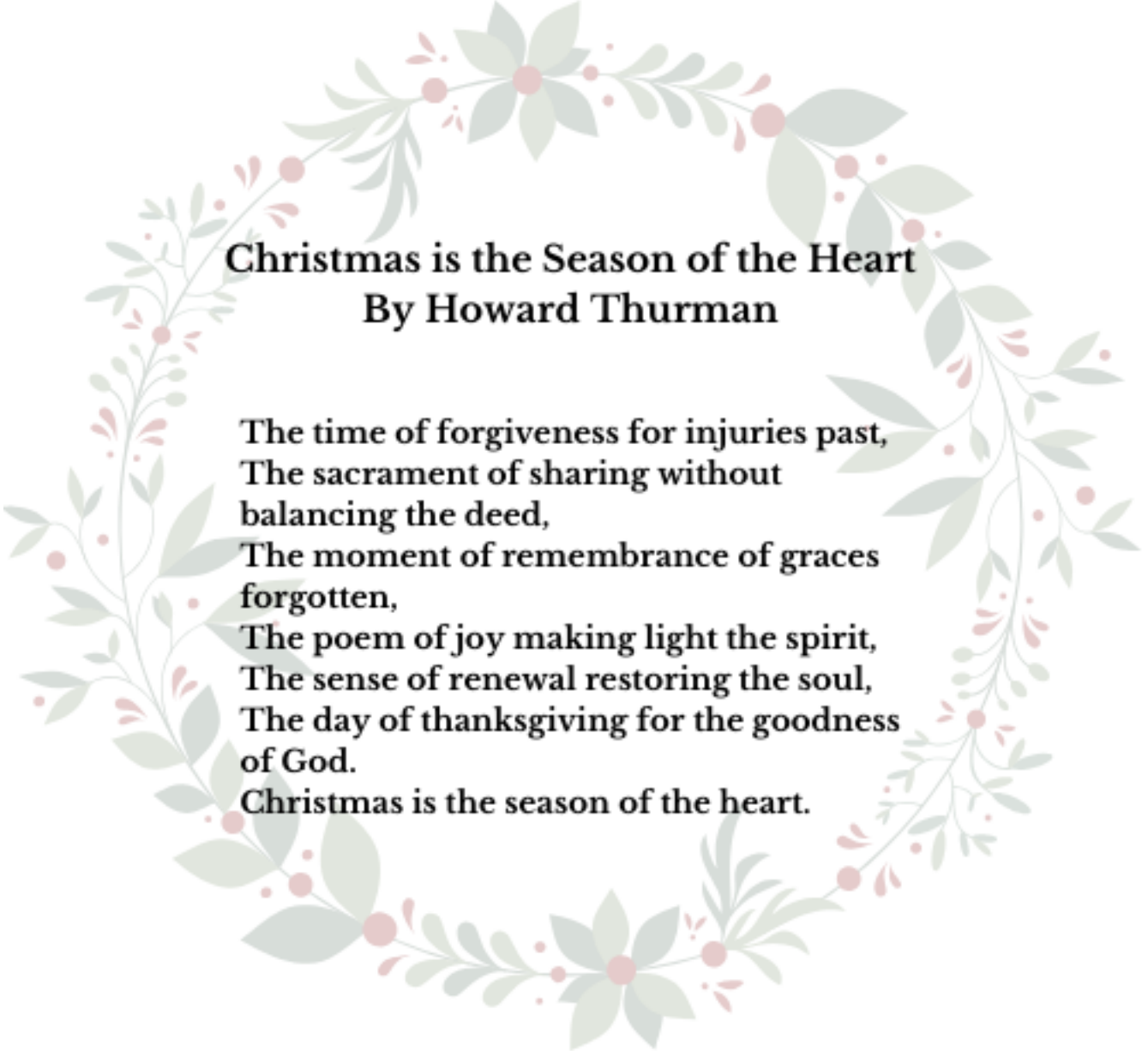
Anthem Infant Holy, Infant Lowly Arr. Gerre Hancock

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly
For his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Swift are winging angels singing,
Nowells ringing, Tidings bringing,
Christ the Babe is Lord of all.
Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping
Vigil till the morning new;
Saw the glory, heard the story,
Tidings of a gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow,*

*Praises voicing, greet the morrow,
Christ the Babe was born for you!*

Closing Hymn No. 164

Silent Night! Holy Night!



**Christmas is the Season of the Heart
By Howard Thurman**

**The time of forgiveness for injuries past,
The sacrament of sharing without
balancing the deed,
The moment of remembrance of graces
forgotten,
The poem of joy making light the spirit,
The sense of renewal restoring the soul,
The day of thanksgiving for the goodness
of God.
Christmas is the season of the heart.**



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

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

Nancy Gessner, **Clerk**

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Nancy Gessner (VP)

Victor Han (VP)

Rhoda Jabbour

Irma Schubert

Deacons

Heather Allison

Ginny Chan

Emerson Chen

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Community Concert Series

Lexy and Junie Chan

In appreciation of Mr. Sean, Ms. Rhoda, and Ms. Jeanne

Ginny and Hong Chan and Family

In appreciation of all those who help keep COTH running smoothly

Nancy Gessner

In memory of Arnold and Betty Gessner

Doris and Joe Krsnak

In appreciation of the wonderful people of Church on the Hill

Betty and Christina Kwong, Emily Lee

In memory of Alice Lee and Francis Kwong

Larry and Catherine Molino

In memory of Eleanor Molino



Food For Kids

Bramble and Weed Family

In memory of our loved ones

Angela Brunjes

**In appreciation of Rev. Doug Estella, Sean Cotty, and
the Choir.**

Doris Cosmatos, Gabriel and Andrew Young

In appreciation of "Aunt Cookie" Rhoda Jabbour

Nancy Gessner

In appreciation of the Search Committee

Rhoda Jabbour

In appreciation of Rev. Doug Estella

Buck Kellaway

In memory of Judie Kellaway

Carol Meadows

In memory of Parents and Siblings

Mary Moder

In memory of Harvey Moder

Steve and Jeanne Sarran

In appreciation of all the COTH helpers

Irma Schubert

In memory of loved ones

In appreciation of my children and grandchildren

Annabelle, Sarah, and Bob White

**In appreciation of Jeanne Sarran for her leadership of
the children's education program**



Music Fund

Linda Diez

In memory of Helga Brenner-Kahn

Michael and Margaret Gittens

**In memory of Yvonne Clarke, Beryl Sealy, and
Rudolph Gittens**

The Good Family

In memory of Elaine and Matthew

The Halley Family

In loving memory of John and Jayne Halley

Jean and Gerry Mendler

In appreciation of Sean Cotty and the Choir

Barbara and Bob Hoe

In memory of their parents

In appreciation of their children and grandchildren

Larry and Catherine Molino

In memory of Eleanor Molino

Sue and Jim Nicholas

In appreciation of Rev. D. Estella

Joyce Tambini

In memory of Fiorino, Beatrice Tambini

Adriene and Bill Toy

**In appreciation of all the people who help to keep
COTH running smoothly**

Sanctuary Technology

Barbara and Bob Hoe

**In appreciation of Emerson Chen and the entire
sanctuary technology team**

Joyce Tambini

**In memory of grandparents: Annie, Emanuel, Maria,
Ernesto**

The Whites

In memory of Frank "Rusty" Marmion, A great friend



Altar Flowers

Rev. SallyAnn Castle

**With gratitude and thanks for the members of COTH
and their generous support of the College Point Food
Pantry**

General Fund

Eleanor Doyle

In loving memory of Catherine Martinez

Rita Harper

In memory of Richard Harper

