

Church on the Hill

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

March 26, 2023

10:30 AM



Photo Credit: Emerson Chen Photography

Rev. Dr. Ian Rottenberg — Guest Pastor

Mr. Sean Cotty — Music Director

Rev. Robert A. Perless – Pastor Emeritus

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Fifth Sunday in Lent

BOLD – Congregation responds

* – Congregation Stands

Prelude

Voluntary in D minor

Orlando Gibbons

Welcome

* **Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father,

And to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,

World without end. Amen, Amen.

Votum

Our help is in the name of the Lord,
who made heaven and earth. **Amen.**

Sentences of Scripture

Prayer of Invocation

Gracious God, we call upon your name, thanking you for your presence in our midst and yearning to receive your spirit in our hearts. Bless our words, our prayers, our songs, and our fellowship through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Call to Worship

(From Psalm 130)

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord. **Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!** I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; **my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.** Hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem. **It is he who will redeem us from all iniquities.**

* **Hymn No. 297**

Spirit of the Living God

Prayer of Confession

Loving God, you see into each of us and know us fully as creatures in need of your constant care. We confess that we have neither heard your word nor followed your will. We have failed through things that we have done, and things that we have left undone. Give us a receptive spirit to hear your wisdom, and renew us in your strength. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon/God's Wisdom for Life

Anthem

Ah, Holy Jesus

Craig Courtney

*Ah, holy Jesus, how hast Thou offended
That we to judge Thee have in hate pretended?
By foes derided, by Thine own rejected,
O most afflicted!*

*Who was the guilty? Who brought this upon Thee?
Alas, my treason, Jesus, hath undone Thee!
'Twas I, Lord Jesus, I it was denied Thee;
I crucified Thee.*

*For me, kind Jesus, was Thine incarnation,
Thy mortal sorrow, and Thy life's oblation;
Thy death of anguish and Thy bitter passion,
For my salvation.*

*Therefore, kind Jesus, since I cannot pay Thee,
I do adore Thee, and will ever pray Thee,
Think on Thy pity and Thy love unswerving,
Not my deserving.*

Prayer of Illumination

Open our eyes that we may see. Open our ears that we may hear.
Open our hearts that we might accept your word for our lives. **Amen.**

Scripture Readings

Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Romans 8: 6-11

Sue Nicholas

p. 704-705

p. 919

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

*** Confession of Faith**

The Apostles' Creed (RCA contemporary version)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
 Creator of heaven and earth.
 I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
 He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
 And born of the Virgin Mary.
 He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
 Was crucified, died, and was buried.
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again.
 He ascended into heaven,
 And is seated at the right hand of the Father.
 He will come again 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 word "catholic" means "universal,"
 referring to all followers of Christ worldwide.

Anthem

Drop, drop slow tears

Orlando Gibbons

*Drop, drop slow tears, and bathe those beauteous feet,
 Which brought from heaven the news and Prince of peace.
 Cease not, wet eyes, his mercies to entreat;
 To cry for vengeance sin doth never cease.
 In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears;
 Nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears.*

*** Doxology**

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
 Praise Him all creatures here below,
 Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

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 Hear Our Prayer, O Heavenly Father

*Hear our prayer, O heavenly Father,
For the dear Redeemer's sake. Amen.*

* **Hymn No. 465**

Out of the Depths

* **Benediction**

Response (please be seated) Drop, drop slow tears (excerpt)

Orlando Gibbons

*In your deep floods drown all my faults and fears;
Nor let his eye see sin, but through my tears*

Postlude

Voluntary in A minor

Orlando Gibbons

About the Music

We turn again to Craig Courtney for his arrangement of "Ah, Holy Jesus." This traditional hymn composed in 1630 (#231 in the COTH Hymnal) is a staple of the Lenten season. Written as a chorale, Courtney offers two unison verses and then an a cappella stanza. For the fourth verse, he brings in a dramatic piano line with triplets driving to a powerful conclusion before reverting to a quiet restatement of the title.

"Drop, drop slow tears" has lyrics by Phineas Fletcher (1582-1650) and music by Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625). The text is based on Luke 7:38 in which a sinful woman kneels and bathes Jesus's feet with her tears, wipes them with her hair, and anoints them with perfume.

Announcements

LENTEN MISSION

As part of our Lenten observance, we partner with area organizations to support individuals in need, with a focus on food insecurity. All food and monetary donations will go to Food for Kids and the food pantry at First Reformed Church of College Point. If you choose to make a monetary gift, you can do so via Tithe.ly under Lenten Mission, or via a check with the memo Lenten Mission. You can also collect and donate food (you can find the list of foods on the flier on the table in the back of the sanctuary, or in our Weekly Email). Make it fun and a challenge! See if your house can collect an item a day for 40 days, or partner with some friends to gather 40 items, an item for each day of Lent!

BIBLE STUDY

The next Zoom Bible Study date will be **March 28th at 7 pm**. We will discuss Chapter 5, Jesus Understands Physical Pain. The Zoom link can be found in the Weekly Email.

COFFEE HOUR

Please join us for coffee hour after the service, downstairs in Gessner Hall.

CHILDREN AT WORSHIP - COTH'S CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The Sunday Program for children ages 5 to 12 is ongoing. During the service, the children will process out and be led to Room 2-E.

BARGAIN BOUTIQUE

The Bargain Boutique is open on Saturdays from 10 am- 1 pm. Donations are accepted on Saturdays only. *We are unable to accept: Electronics, TVs, Furniture, Textbooks*

WEEKLY CALENDAR- LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, April 2- Palm Sunday Service with Revs. Bill and Lynn Hanousek
Bake and Craft sale fundraiser for Food For Kids at Coffee Hour

Friday, April 7- Good Friday Service, The Seven Last Words, 7:30 pm

Sunday, April 9- Easter Sunrise Service at Bowne Park, 7:00 am
Easter Sunday Service with Revs. Bill and Lynn Hanousek
Easter Egg Hunt after the service, in lieu of Coffee Hour

JOIN OUR EMAIL LIST!

Be sure to sign up for our email list to keep up with the latest Church on the Hill happenings through the weekly email and the Beacon. A sign-up form can be found on **churchonthehill.org**

Prayer Requests

If you would like to add a loved one to the prayer list, or if your loved one no longer needs to be on the prayer list, please contact the church office at office@churchonthehill.org

Diane Blagburn

Glenda Burke

Joanne Dunckhahn

Randy Eastman

Janet Fiala

Adam Gonzalez

Ariana Han

Thomas Degnen

Gregory Happ

Richard Iovale

Anne and Bill Lannom

Lynn Lauterbach

Christina Lee

Kathy Meyer

Marti and Tom Pearce

The Redfern family

Debi Romano

William Rudnick

Patrick Sullivan

Virginia Young



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**

Elders

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Nancy Gessner (VP)
Victor Han (VP)
Rhoda Jabbour
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