**Church on the Hill**

A Congregation of the

Reformed Church in America

167-07 35th Avenue, Flushing, NY 11358

**Easter Sunday**

**April 12, 2020**

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**Rev. Blaine D. Crawford – Pastor**

**Mr. Sean Cotty – Music Director**

Rev. Robert A. Perless – Pastor Emeritus

**ORDER FOR WORSHIP**

**BOLD** – Congregation responds

PRELUDE Improvisation on *Ode to Joy* Sean Cotty

SENTENCES

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Jesus said, “I have come that they may have life

and may have it to the full.”

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The light shines in the darkness,

And the darkness can never put it out.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

For I am convinced that neither death nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us form the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

The Lord is risen indeed.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

*(Based on Psalm 16)*

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, “You are my Lord: I have no good apart from you.”

The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.

I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure. For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.

You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

HYMN No. 254 *Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise:*

*sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise; He who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled, Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead.*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Glory be to God on high!*

*Alleluia to the Savior who has gained the victory!*

*Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity!*

*Alleluia, alleluia to the Triune Majesty!*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord, bring new life where we are worn and tired;

new love where we have turned hard-hearted;

forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded; and the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit where we are prisoners of ourselves.

*(Silent prayers of confession and unburdening)*

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON/WISDOM FOR LIFE

*(Based on Ephesians 2:4-7)*

God, who is rich in mercy,

out of the great love with which he loved us

even when we were dead through our trespasses,

made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus,

so that in the ages to come he might show

the immeasurable riches of his grace

in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

SOLO *The Holy City* Stephen Adams

Soloist: Emerson Chen

*Last night I lay asleeping  
There came a dream so fair  
I stood in old Jerusalem  
Beside the temple there  
I heard the children singing  
And ever as they sang  
Methought the voice of Angels  
From Heaven in answer rang  
"Jerusalem, Jerusalem!  
Lift up your gates and sing,  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Hosanna to your King!"*

*And then methought my dream was chang'd  
The streets no longer rang  
Hushed were the glad Hosannas  
The little children sang  
The sun grew dark with mystery  
The morn was cold and chill  
As the shadow of a cross arose  
Upon a lonely hill  
"Jerusalem, Jerusalem!  
Hark! How the Angels sing,  
Hosanna in the highest,  
Hosanna to your King!"*

*And once again the scene was changed  
New earth there seemed to be  
I saw the Holy City  
Beside the tideless sea  
The light of God was on its streets  
The gates were open wide  
And all who would might enter  
And no one was denied  
No need of moon or stars by night  
Or sun to shine by day  
It was the new Jerusalem  
That would not pass away  
“Jerusalem! Jerusalem  
Sing for the night is o'er  
Hosanna in the highest  
Hosanna for evermore!”*

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

God of life,

your Spirit raised Jesus from dead.

Your Spirit inspired the prophets and writers of Scripture.

Your Spirit draws us to Christ

and helps us to acknowledge him as Lord.

We ask that you will send your Spirit now

to give us deeper insight, encouragement, faith, and hope

through the proclamation of the Easter gospel. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES

Isaiah 25:6-9

John 20:1-23

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON *Waiting for Peace*  Rev. Blaine

Crawford

SOLO *Alleluia from Exultate Jubilate* W. A. Mozart

Soloist: Maureen Saepia-Chen

CONFESSION OF FAITH

**Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of Heaven and earth;**

**and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick 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.**

HYMN No. 234 *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

*Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!*

*All creation, join to say Alleluia!*

*Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!*

*Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!*

*Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!*

*Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!*

*Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!*

*Ours the cross, the grave, the skies. Alleluia!*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**hallowed by 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.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Improvisation on Sean Cotty

*Christ The Lord is Risen Today*

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Miram Allen

John Babinsky

Diane Blagburn

The Bonsaing Family

Elizabeth Bossis

The Calamusso Family

Lillian Calfa

Frank Cammarata &

Family

David Cerqueira

Gracinda Cerqueira

Jose Cerqueira

Marilyn Cooney

Edward Cotty

Helen Cunningham

Rosina Cuticone

Lenny DeSimone

Herb Durdik

The Frocione Family

Brooke Graffeo

Jayne Halley

Hotchkiss Family

Jane Lynch

Jorge & Tiffany

Martinez

Jean Mendler

Ruben & Eva Munoz

Joe Thorsen

Christie Tweed

Alison Venable

Joan Werbel

Sandy Weston