

Church on the Hill

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

April 14, 2024
10:30 AM



Photo Credit: Emerson Chen Photography

Rev. Sally Ann Castle — Interim Minister
Mr. Sean Cotty — Music Director

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Third Sunday of Easter

BOLD – Congregation responds

* – Congregation Stands

Prelude Improvisation on “Jesus Christ is Risen Today” Sean Cotty

Welcome

Transition Team Minute

Votum

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

Sentences of Scripture

Call to Worship

Peace be with you. **And also with you.** Come and see the love God has given to us. **Come and see what it means to be children of God.** Come with this hope, that Christ’s presence is real. **With joy, we come to see the Lord.**

Prayer of Invocation

Miraculous God, come to us now, even as your Son came to those first disciples on the shores of Galilee. Speak your peace to our hearts. Touch us with your Holy Spirit. Reveal your word, that we may hear your message this day, and live as your disciples in the days and years to come. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

* Hymn No. 115

Fairest Lord Jesus

Prayer of Confession

Holy and righteous one, we are stunned by the miracles of new life and forgiveness you offer. When our awe turns to disbelief, renew us with your joy. When our fear turns to rejection, lead us into your presence. When our stumbling leads to sin, forgive us by your grace, and direct our steps in your paths of righteousness. In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

**Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Words of Assurance

Beloved, we are God's children now. Because we have this hope, we are forgiven and purified. As beloved children, we are made one with Christ and brought into the righteousness of God. **Amen.**

Anthem

Alleluia! Give Thanks to the Risen Lord

Donald Fishel (arr. Joel Raney)

*Alleluia, alleluia, shout for joy loud and long;
Alleluia, alleluia, sing to God a glorious new song.*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name!*

Jesus is Lord of all the earth.

He is the King of creation.

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name!*

Spread the good news o'er all the earth;

Jesus has died and has risen!

We have been crucified with Christ.

Now we shall live forever.

*Come, let us praise the living God,
Joyfully sing to the Savior.*

*Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord,
Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to his name!*

Alleluia, alleluia, sing to God a glorious new song.

Responsive Psalm 4

Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. **Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.** How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies? **But know that the Lord has set apart the faithful for himself; the Lord hears when I call to him.** When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent. Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the Lord. **In peace I will lie down and sleep.** There are many who say, 'O that we might see some good! **Let the light of your face shine on us, O Lord!**' You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and

wine abound. **I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O Lord, make me lie down in safety.**

*** 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.***

Prayer of Illumination

Even as the risen Christ appeared to those first disciples, so Christ is present with us now. Let us pray for open minds and ready hearts to hear and receive the word of God. Amen.

Epistle Reading

1 John 3: 1-7 (p. 990)

Abraham Lin

Gospel Reading

Luke 24: 36b-48 (p. 861)

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

*** Hymn No. 84**

Children of the Heavenly Father

Sermon

“Children of God”

Rev. Sally Ann Castle

*** 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

Let Us With A Gladsome Mind

Alan Ridout

*Let us with a gladsome mind, Praise the Lord for he is Kind:
For his mercies shall endure, Ever faithful, ever sure.*

*Let us blaze his name abroad, For of gods he is the God:
For his mercies shall endure, Ever faithful, ever sure.*

*He with all commanding might, Filled the new made world with light:
For his mercies shall endure, Ever faithful, ever sure.*

*He the golden tressed sun Caused all day his course to run:
For his mercies shall endure, Ever faithful, ever sure.*

*The horned moon to shine by night, Mid her spangled sisters bright:
For his mercies shall endure, Ever faithful, ever sure.*

*All things living he doth feed, His full hand supplies their need
For his mercies shall endure, Ever faithful, ever sure.*

Offering

*** 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.***

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

Cast Thy Burden Upon the Lord

*Cast thy burden upon the Lord,
And he shall sustain thee;
He never will suffer the righteous to fall:
He is at thy right hand.*

*Thy mercy, Lord, is great
And far above the heavens:
Let none be made ashamed
That wait upon thee.*

* Hymn No. 591

Dear Lord and Father of Mankind

Sending Forth

May the light of God's face shine upon us. **May the beauty of Christ's love shine through us.** May the power of God's Spirit flow within us. **May we go forth as God's beloved children, revealing the risen Christ in all that we say, and in all that we do.**

* Benediction

Response (please be seated)

Celtic Alleluia

Christopher Walker

Postlude

Festive Trumpet Tune

David German

Announcements

CONNECTION CONVERSATION

Join the Transition Team for a Connection Conversation

Sunday, April 21st following the service, down in Gessner Hall

Light lunch will be served

Connection conversations are opportunities for Congregational Members to Meet, Learn, and Discuss the Transition Process. The Interim period is a time to explore questions, concerns, fears, hopes, and dreams of the future ministry of the Church on the Hill. These will be informal get-togethers for me to meet the members and friends of the congregation, and for you to meet me. As we move forward together we will engage in focused discussions concerning the Five Tasks of the Interim. These tasks include: Heritage, Leadership,

Connections, Mission, and Future. Plan to attend! Bring questions, questions, questions! Whatever you wanted to know about Interim ministry, but were afraid to ask! My hope is that your questions will result in conversation and reflection, helping to envision where God is calling COTH to be. The Transition Team will lead this Open Listening Forum. The conversation will be guided by mutual respect and active listening, allowing the opportunity for all participants to speak without interruption. Through this dialogue, we hope to hear your stories, memories, and hopes. Join the conversation!

COFFEE HOUR

Please join us for coffee hour after the service, downstairs in Gessner Hall. Thank you to the Congregational Care Committee for putting together today's Coffee Hour!

BIBLE STUDY

New Bible Study will begin on Tuesday, April 30th at 7 pm on Zoom. *Context: Putting Scripture in Its Place* by Josh Scott. **Exploring the Chapter behind the Verse.** *Context* looks at verses we know by heart but may not know the people, places, and times that give them meaning. Josh Scott delves into these well-known Scripture verses, exploring their true meanings by examining them in their original biblical context. Through this process, he unveils fresh and enlightening interpretations that are often missed when these Scriptures are taken out of context.

CHILDREN AT WORSHIP

Children at Worship is ongoing! The class is for children ages 6-13. During the service. The children will process out and be led to Room 2-E.

OFFERING

If you feel called to give, offering plates are located in the rear of the sanctuary, where you can leave your offering upon entry or exit of the sanctuary.

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, and Large Toys/Stuffed Animals* Find us on Instagram @cothbargainboutique for a fun look inside the Boutique and to find out about special sales and hidden gems!

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

Karin Bennitt

The Bermudez Family

Diane Blagburn

Hank Boechmann

Katie and Clayton Buckley

The Cappellano Family

Richard D.

Thomas Degnen

Gabriel DeMelo

Linda Diez

Lucas Ditta

Joanne Dunckhahn

Alison Friedman

Michael Gittens

Adam Gonzalez

The Greer Family

Bob Iovale

Rudy Jakob

Mary Kansfield

The Family of

Rev. Norm Kansfield

Mike Kenny

Susan Laurita

Donna Lemay

The Liao/ Lin Family

Gessa Markantonis

Rose McLain

Donna McLernon

Christian Mender

Kathy Mender-Murphy

Paul Mobius

Mary Moder

Lillian Mukai

Marti and Tom Pearce

The Family of Rev. Bob Perless

Iris and Ralph Prager

Nina Proschel

Yvette Sanford

Trevor Sealy

Patrick Sullivan

Ed Surujballi

Simon Walsh and Family

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.