

Church on the Hill

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

January 1, 2023

10:30 AM



Photo Credit: Emerson Chen Photography

Rev. Carlos Rivera — Guest Pastor

Mr. Sean Cotty — Music Director

Rev. Robert A. Perless – Pastor Emeritus

ORDER OF WORSHIP

BOLD – Congregation responds

* – Congregation Stands

Prelude Improvisation on “Auld Lang Syne” Sean Cotty

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

Lord, into your most holy presence we now come. Calm our anxious spirits. Remove the distractions that would keep us from you here today. Break down the walls of separation that we have built to keep you from our hardened hearts. Lead us in joy and celebration of the only reality worth knowing, that you love us as we are. Free us for joyful obedience to your claim and call on our lives this day and every day. **Amen.**

Call to Worship

We have come to worship God, the living God, **who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.** We have come to praise God, the almighty God, **who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace.** We have come to worship God, all-gracious God, **who chooses even you and me, to receive and carry the Word of life and hope. All glory to God!**

* **Hymn No. 152**

Angels We Have Heard on High

Prayer of Confession

Hear, O Lord, and answer me; for as rich as I may think that I am, I confess that I am poor and needy. Guard my life, for I am devoted to you. You are my God; save your servant who trusts in you. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I call to you all day long. Bring joy to your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. You are forgiving and good, O Lord, abounding in love to all who call to you in their time of desperation and need. Hear my prayer, O Lord; listen to my cry for mercy. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon/God's Wisdom for Life

Solo The Most Wonderful Birthday of All Carl Davis and Norman Newell
Soloist- Maureen Saepia-Chen

*The most wonderful Birthday of all
Is a Birthday we'll always remember,
When a baby was born that beautiful morn
Far away on a day in December.*

*Ring out the bells all over the world
And please The One above.
Ring out the bells all over the world
And bring Him the gift of your love.*

*The most wonderful Birthday of all,
Stars were shining like candles of glory,
And the angels above told the world of His love
At the start of this wonderful story.*

*Ring out the bells all over the world
And please The One above.
Ring out the bells all over the world
And bring Him the gift of your love.*

*The most wonderful Birthday of all
Is a Birthday that brings us together,
To praise and acclaim his glorious name
For the love that He gave us forever.*

*Ring out the bells all over the world
And please The One above.*

*Ring out the bells all over the world
And bring Him the gift of your love.*

Prayer of Illumination

God of all, open our hearts and minds to find your Truth in all places. Teach us your unforced rhythms of grace, that our lives might reflect your Wisdom. With Christ as our guide, we live and pray. **Amen.**

Scripture Readings

Maureen Saepia-Chen

Jeremiah 29: 10-14

1 Peter 1: 13

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“New Year New Hope”

Rev. Carlos Rivera

*** 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.*

*In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan.
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.
Snow had fallen snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter long ago.*

*Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain
Heaven and earth shall flee away, when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter, a stable place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.*

*Enough for Him, whom cherubic, worship night and day.
A breast full of milk, and a manger full of hay.
Enough for Him, whom angels, fall down before,
Thee ox and ass and camel, which adore.*

*What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb
If I were a wise man, I would do my part.
Yet what I can I give Him, give Him my heart.*

*** 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.**

* **Hymn No. 157**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

* **Benediction**

Postlude

Fugue in Eb Major

J. S. Bach

Announcements

MUSIC NOTE

Thank you to Maureen Saepia-Chen for singing for this morning's service!

FOOD FOR KIDS

We are starting up our collection of food for children at PS 116Q again! The bags of food are delivered to the school on Fridays for families who otherwise might go hungry over the weekend. A list of specific foods requested can be found in the weekly email, or if you prefer, monetary donations are always greatly appreciated.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

There is a collection box located by the entrance to the Church where we accept donations of boxed/canned goods throughout the year.

BARGAIN BOUTIQUE

The Bargain Boutique is open on Saturdays from 10 am- 1 pm. Donations are accepted on Saturdays only. *No Electronics, No TVs, No Furniture, No Textbooks*

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. Send an email request to the church office at **office@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

Jeri Bird

Diane Blagburn

Hank Boeckmann

Rosina Cuticone

Joanne Dunckhahn

Randy Eastman

Janet Fiala

Rita Gates

Ariana Han

Richard Iovale

Annie Jankowski

Andrew LaClaustra

Lynn Lauterbach

Christina Lee

Ernest Mendler

Kathy Meyer

Catherine Molino

Nina Proschel

The Redfern family

William Rudnick

Patrick Sullivan

Ed Surujballi

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

- Angela Brunjes
- Nancy Gessner (VP)
- Victor Han (VP)
- Rhoda Jabbour
- Irma Schubert

Deacons

- Heather Allison
- Ginny Chan
- Emerson Chen
- Margret Dougherty
- Adriene Toy

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