

# Church on the Hill

A Congregation of the  
Reformed Church In America

167-07 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Flushing, NY 11358

**December 13, 2020**

**11:00 a.m.**



**Rev. Blaine D. Crawford – Pastor**

**Mr. Sean Coffy – Music Director**

Rev. Robert A. Perless – Pastor Emeritus

**Welcome to worship at Church on the Hill!  
We're so glad you have joined us this morning. Please  
read the following for more details about the worship  
service.**

**\*\*Please silence your cell phones prior to the service\*\***

The sanctuary and pews have been thoroughly cleaned in preparation for worship today. During the worship service, we ask that you continue to **wear your masks for the duration of the service**. The congregation is invited to join in responses and the hymn singing—we ask that you **speak and sing at a conversational volume**. We have opened as many windows as possible in the sanctuary to increase ventilation. Please **do not attempt to open the windows that are closed**. Offering plates are located at the back of the sanctuary; **on your way out of the sanctuary, you can place your offering in the plates**. At the conclusion of the service, **please wait to be dismissed** by the ushers, allowing us to clear any video equipment in the aisle. We ask that you take your bulletin with you and do not leave it in the sanctuary. Bathrooms are available for use in Gessner Hall. There will be no coffee hour after the service.

# ORDER FOR WORSHIP

**BOLD** – Congregation responds

\* – Congregation Stands

PRELUDE

Improvisation on *Kingsfold*

Sean Cotty

VOTUM

SENTENCES

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of Israel,  
with expectant hearts  
we your people await Christ's coming.  
As once he came in humility,  
so now may he come in glory,  
that he may make all things perfect  
in your everlasting kingdom.  
For he is Lord for ever and ever. Amen.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING: Joy

CALL TO WORSHIP

\* HYMN No. 132

*Comfort, Comfort Now My People*

*Comfort, comfort now my people;  
tell of peace!" so says our God.  
Comfort those who sit in darkness  
mourning under sorrow's load.  
To God's people now proclaim  
that God's pardon waits for them!  
Tell them that their war is over;*

*God will reign in peace forever!*

*For the herald's voice is crying  
in the desert far and near,  
calling us to true repentance  
since the Kingdom now is here.  
Oh, that warning cry obey!  
Now prepare for God a way!  
Let the valleys rise to meet him,  
and the hills bow down to greet him!*

*Straight shall be what long was crooked,  
and the rougher places plain!  
Let your hearts be true and humble,  
as befits his holy reign!  
For the glory of the Lord  
now on earth is shed abroad,  
and all flesh shall see the token  
that God's word is never broken.*

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, you love justice;  
why, then, do we persist in wrongdoing?  
You have given us the gift of your Spirit;  
why, then, do we quench the Spirit among us?  
You have given us the words of the prophets and the Word  
himself;  
why, then, do we ignore what we have heard from you?  
Forgive us and restore us, we pray. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON/WISDOM FOR LIFE

DUET                    *Praise Ye the Lord of Hosts*    Camille Saint-Saens  
(from the Christmas Oratorio)

Soloists: Dorien Day and Elizabeth Mahowald  
*Praise ye the Lord of hosts, sing his salvation,  
bless His name, show forth his praise in His holy house!  
Rejoice, ye heavens, and be joyful, on earth,  
rejoice in the face of the Lord, for he cometh. Alleluia.  
Rejoice ye angels, rejoice all ye nations  
now in the face of the Lord, for he cometh. Alleluia.*

#### PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Holy One, giver of life and light, as your word is read and proclaimed, illumine our hearts and minds, that by the power of the Holy Spirit, our lives may reflect God's glory. Amen.

#### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 64:1-4, 8-11

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### SERMON

*Habits of the Heart*

Rev. Blaine  
Crawford

#### CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit  
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

**was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to hell.  
The third day he rose again from the dead.  
He ascended to heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.  
From there he will come 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.**

#### 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. 192

*O Sing a Song of Bethlehem*

*O sing a song of Bethlehem, of shepherd watching there,  
and of the news that came to them from angels in the air:  
the light that shone on Bethlehem fills all the world today;  
of Jesus' birth and peace on earth the angels sing alway.*

*O sing a song of Nazareth, of sunny days of joy,  
O sing of fragrant flowers' breath, and of the sinless Boy:  
for now the flowers of Nazareth in every heart may grow;  
now spreads the fame of his dear name on all the winds  
that blow*

*O sing a song of Galilee, of lake and woods and hill,  
of him who walked upon the sea and bade the waves be  
still:*

*for though, like waves on Galilee, dark seas of trouble roll,  
when faith has heard the Master's word, falls peace upon  
the soul.*

*O sing a song of Calvary, its glory and dismay;  
of him who hung upon the tree, and took our sins away:  
for he who died on Calvary is risen from the grave,  
and Christ, our Lord, by heaven adored, is mighty now to  
save.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Fugue in D minor*

*J.S. Bach*

# **Announcements**

## **Christmas Eve Reservations**

This year, reservations will be required for our Christmas Eve service if you would like to attend in-person. The service will also be live-streamed on our YouTube channel. A limited amount of seating is available in the sanctuary and additional overflow seating will be available in Gessner Hall (if needed) to watch the video feed of the service.

Reservations will be first come, first served. Please fill out the Google Form below or call the church office during office hours to make your reservations.

Our priority remains to keep our church and community healthy and safe!

## **Sanctuary Air Circulation**

As the temperatures begin to drop, the ushers will be opening fewer windows during the worship. However, we have installed new air filters for the sanctuary in order to meet current COVID-19 standards. We will continue to take all necessary precautions for your health and safety.

## **Weekly Calendar**

Check the weekly email tomorrow for all the happenings and ministries of Church on the Hill!

## **Bargain Boutique**

The Bargain Boutique will remain closed for the foreseeable future. Please hold all donations until we re-open.



## *Prayer Requests*

*If you would like to add a loved one to the prayer list,  
please contact the church office*

Miram Allen

Roslyn Andela

Babinsky Family

Bermudez Family

Diane Blagburn

Christina & Sadie Boll

Elizabeth Bossis

Susan Brooks

Carolyn Brunjes

Lillian Calfa

David Cerqueira

Gracinda Cerqueira

Jose Cerqueira

Marie Collins

Helen Cunningham

Rosina Cuticone

Lenny DeSimone

The Frocione Family

John & Hazel Gittens

Brooke Graffeo

Rosemarie Graffeo

Alex Guzman

Hotchkiss Family

Helen Hunt

Betty Kwong

Lynn Lauterbach

Nancy Lee

Jorge & Tiffany Martinez

Jean Mendler

Gerda Miller

Ruben & Eva Munoz

Murray Family

Patricia Olney

Barbara Rogers

## *Prayer Requests*

*If you would like to add a loved one to the prayer list,  
please contact the church office.*

Roppolo Family

Smith Family

Jocelyn Toner

Alison Venable

Vera Family

Alex Young

Joan Werbel

Zeisman Family



### **Community, Mission & Outreach**

Co-Chairs: Yoon Ryo & Patrick Symes

### **Community Nursery School Board**

President: Ginny Chan  
Consistory Rep: Dorien Day

### **Congregational Care**

Chair: Angela Brunjes

### **Buildings & Grounds**

Chair: Joe Macaluso  
Consistory Rep: Maureen Saepia-Chen & Victor Han

### **Christian Education & Youth**

Chair: Jeanne Sarran

### **Finance**

Chair: Doris Krsnak  
Consistory Rep: Margret Dougherty

### **Personnel**

Chair: Dana Chan

### **Worship & Music**

Chair: Rev. Crawford  
Consistory Rep: Irma Schubert

\*Chairperson is also Consistory Representative unless otherwise stated.

---



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*

Rev. Blaine Crawford, **President**  
Nancy Gessner, **Clerk**

**Elders**

Angela Brunjes  
Dorien Day  
Victor Han  
Jeanne Sarran (VP)  
Irma Schubert

**Deacons**

Dana Chan  
Margaret Dougherty  
Yoon Ryo  
Maureen Saepia-Chen  
Patrick Symes

Rev. Blaine Crawford, Minister: [pastor@churchonthehill.org](mailto:pastor@churchonthehill.org)  
Sean Cotty, Music Director: [sean.cotty@churchonthehill.org](mailto:sean.cotty@churchonthehill.org)  
Molly Mahowald, Office Administrator: [office@churchonthehill.org](mailto:office@churchonthehill.org)

**\*Revised** Office Hours: M-F, 10:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.  
Phone: (718) 358-3671  
Alternate Phone: (646) 571-8358  
[www.churchonthehill.org](http://www.churchonthehill.org)

