

Church on the Hill

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

April 21, 2024
10:30 AM



Photo Credit: Emerson Chen Photography

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Fourth Sunday of Easter

BOLD – Congregation responds

* – Congregation Stands

Prelude Improvisation on “The Lord is My Shepherd” James Rushin

Welcome

Votum

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

Sentences of Scripture

Call to Worship

Come, walk with the Lord this day. **We seek places of peace and rest from the stresses of our lives.** The Shepherd will lead you to places where your soul may be restored. **We come, sometimes fearful of the hostilities of the world.** In the midst of all the turmoil, The Shepherd will provide for your needs abundantly. **Surely these wonders will heal and restore our spirits.** **Amen.**

Prayer of Invocation

Thank you, loving God, for bringing us to this time of worship. Refresh us and heal us again. Remind us of the many ways in which you have blessed our lives with your abundant love and your presence. Guide our hearts and our spirits that we may hear your words and our souls may be stirred into active service to your people. In the name of the Good Shepherd, who leads us to life, we pray. **Amen.**

* Hymn No. 522

Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Prayer of Confession

God of many pastures, we never tire of hearing the voice of our shepherd; we never tire of hearing the call to lay our burdens down; we never tire of hearing the invitation to dwell in your house forever. Forgive us, loving shepherd, when we try to keep you as our own— thinking that we alone have your love, thinking that others wander alone without your care and guidance. Open our eyes, that we may recognize the sheep of your fold wherever they may be and whatever they may look like. **Amen.**

Kyrie

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Words of Assurance

The one who lays his life down for the sheep will surely rescue us and lead us to safe pastures. Through the love and grace of our shepherd, goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives, and we shall dwell securely forever. **Amen.**

Anthem

I Shall Not Be Moved

Alice Parker

*Glory Hallelujah, I shall not be moved,
Anchored in Jehovah, I shall not be moved,
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters,
I shall not be moved.*

*In his love abiding, I shall not be moved,
And in him confiding, I shall not be moved,
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters,
I shall not be moved.*

*Though all hell assail me, I shall not be moved,
Jesus will not fail me, I shall not be moved,
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters,
I shall not be moved.*

*Though the tempest rages, I shall not be moved,
On the rock of ages, I shall not be moved,
Just like a tree that's planted by the waters,
I shall not be moved.*

Responsive Psalter Reading

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. **He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.** He restores my soul. He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. **Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.** You prepare the table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. **Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

**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

The New 23rd

Ralph Carmichael

*Because the Lord is my shepherd,
I have everything that I need.
He lets me rest in meadows green
And leads me beside the quiet stream:
He keeps on giving life to me
And helps me to do what honors Him the most.
Even when walking through the dark valley of death,
I will never be afraid,
For he is close beside me,
Guarding, guiding all the way,
He spreads a feast before me
In the presence of my enemies
He welcomes me as His special guest
With blessing overflowing.
His goodness and unfailing kindness
Shall be with me all of my life,
And afterwards I will live with Him,
Forever and ever, in His home.*

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.***

Prayers of Intercession

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 Lord

*Hear our prayer, O Lord; Incline thine ear to us
And grant us thy peace. Amen.*

*** Hymn No. 635**

He Leadeth Me

Sending Forth

The Good Shepherd leads us forward, from this place, into the world to serve God's people, to witness to God's love in all that we do. Go in peace and God's peace will go with you. **Amen.**

*** Benediction**

Response (please be seated)

May the Grace of Christ Our Savior

*May the grace of Christ our Savior And the Father's boundless love,
With the Holy Spirit's favor, Rest upon us from above. Amen.*

Postlude

Improvisation on "He Leadeth Me"

James Rushin

Announcements

CONNECTION CONVERSATION

Join the Transition Team for a Connection Conversation Today- following the service, down in Gessner Hall — Pizza and salad will be served.

Join us after church for a Connection Conversation, an Open Listening Forum. We want to hear from you - your questions, concerns, and ideas about what the future of this church may hold.

MUSIC NOTE

Thank you to our guest organist, James Rushin, for joining us this morning for worship! James Rushin is an MD/Composer/multi-instrumentalist/producer who loves white water rafting and ice cream. Her compositions, recordings, and orchestrations have been heard across the country this year from the trial run of

an *X-Men* musical in Chicago, to the choose your own adventure play *Maybe She Dies* (libretto: Amy Claussen) at the Kennedy Center, to the currently running *Rathskeller* (libretto/music: Brianna Barnes) at SheAtlanta Arts Festival. James continues to enjoy regular musical outings with *Freestyle Love Supreme* and various new works in and around New York City. James specializes in musical dramaturgy in developing works and working with live bands. You can find her twice a month with a new Broadway cast at *Broadway Sessions* at Green Room 42.

CONCERT

Join us at 2:00 pm on Saturday, May 11th for the Queens Community Children's Choir's Spring Concert! The concert will take place in the COTH sanctuary, and there will be a reception to follow in Gessner Hall. The children will be joined by guest artists Abram Korsunsky and friends. The musical pairing will be Disney songs and Beethoven's 4th Piano Concerto. What do these two have in common? Come find out!

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

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.