

Church on the Hill

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

April 2, 2023
10:30 AM



Photo Credit: Emerson Chen Photography

Revs. William and Lynn Hanousek — Guest Pastors

Mr. Sean Cotty — Music Director

Rev. Robert A. Perless – Pastor Emeritus

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Palm Sunday

BOLD – Congregation responds

* – Congregation Stands

Prelude

Improvisation on “The Palms”

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, Jesus Christ, on the first Palm Sunday you entered the rebellious city where you were to die. Enter our hearts, we pray, and subdue them to yourself. And as your disciples blessed your coming and spread garments and branches in your way, make us ready to lay at your feet all that we have and are, that we too may bless your coming. In the name of the Lord, **Amen.**

Call to Worship

We raise our voices and wave with joyful hope the palms of deliverance of God's people. **Hosanna! Hosanna to the Son of David!** Our hearts are filled with expectation as we welcome the coming King. **Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!** We receive into the crowded streets of our lives the one who is Savior, not only of us, but of all the earth. **Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven!**

* Hymn No. 204

All Glory, Laud and Honor

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, in this Holy Week, as we follow Jesus down his path of sorrow, confront us with our sin that made this sacrifice necessary. Reassure us that we are acceptable in your sight through the power of your forgiving love. Inspire us by your Holy Spirit to do loving works of service in Jesus' name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon/God's Wisdom for Life

Anthem

Ride on! Ride on!

John Prindle Scott

Soloists- Bruce Hoffacker and Steve Hoffacker

And the people took branches of palm trees,

And went forth to meet Him, and cried:

Hosana! Hosana! Hosana!

Blessed is he that cometh,

That cometh in the name of the Lord!

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!

In lowly pomp ride on to die

O Savior meek pursue Thy road

With palms and scattered garments strowed.

O Christ, Thy triumphs now begin

Over captive death and conquered sin.

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!

The angel armies of the sky

Look down with sad and wondering eyes

To see the approaching sacrifice.

Ride on! Ride on in majesty!

In lowly pomp ride on to die;

Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain,

Then take, O God, Thy power and reign.

Prayer of Illumination

Holy Spirit, open our hearts to receive your Word, reveal to us the good news, and enable us to trust in the promise of salvation in Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Matthew 21: 1-17

p. 802

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Everybody Loves a Parade!”

Rev. Bill Hanousek

* **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

God is Our Refuge

Allen Pote

*God is our refuge and strength;
A present help in time of trouble
Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,
Though the waters roar and foam, we will not fear.
Come and behold the work of the Lord,
The awesome acts of God.
He is in the midst of his people,*

In all the earth.

He is the Word, we are His hands,

He will lead us

He is the air, we are His song,

We will celebrate his presence all the day long.

God is our refuge and strength;

A present help in time of trouble

Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea,

Though the waters roar and foam, we will not fear.

Come and behold the work of the Lord,

The awesome acts of God.

He is in the midst of his people,

In all the earth.

He is the rain, we are the stones,

He will cleanse us

He is the air, we are His song,

We will celebrate his presence all the day long.

*** 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.

The Communion Service

Communion Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy and right it is, and our joyful duty to give thanks to you at all times and in all places, O Lord our Creator, almighty and everlasting God! You created heaven with all its hosts and the earth with all its plenty. You have given us life and being, and preserve us by your providence. But you have shown us



the fullness of your love in sending into the world your Son, Jesus Christ, the eternal Word, made flesh for us and for our salvation. For the precious gift of this mighty Savior who has reconciled us to you we praise and bless you, O God. With your whole Church on earth and with all the company of heaven we worship and adore your glorious name saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

Most righteous God, we remember in this Supper the perfect sacrifice offered once on the cross by our Lord Jesus Christ for the sin of the whole world. In the joy of his resurrection and in expectation of his coming again, we offer ourselves to you as holy and living sacrifices. Together we proclaim the mystery of the faith:

Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray, that the bread which we break and the cup which we bless may be to us the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Grant that, being joined together in him, we may attain to the unity of the faith and grow up in all things into Christ our Lord. And as this grain has been gathered from many fields into one loaf, and these grapes from many hills into one cup, grant, O Lord, that your whole Church may soon be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

The Communion—Words of Institution

(We partake of the Bread.)

The bread which we break is the communion of the body of Christ.

(We partake of the Cup.)

The cup of blessing which we bless is the communion of the blood of Christ.

Thanksgiving after Communion

Brothers and sisters, since the Lord has now fed us at his Table, let us praise God's holy name with heartfelt thanksgiving! Bless the Lord, O my soul, **and all that is within me, bless his holy name.**

Bless the Lord, O my soul, **and do not forget all his benefits—**

Who forgives all your iniquity, **who heals all your diseases,**

Who redeems your life from the Pit, **who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.**

The Lord is merciful and gracious, **slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.**

He does not deal with us according to our sins, **nor repay us according to our iniquities.**

For as the heavens are high above the earth, **so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;**

As far as the east is from the west, **so far does he remove our transgressions from us.**

As a father has compassion for his children, **so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him,**

Who did not spare his own Son, but gave him up for us all, and will also give us all things with him. **Therefore shall my mouth and heart show forth the praise of the Lord, from this time forth forevermore. Amen.** (*From Psalm 103, with additions*)

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.**

Prayer Response

Cast thy burden upon the Lord

Felix Mendelssohn

*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. 203**

Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

* **Benediction**

Response (please be seated) Ride on! Ride on! (Excerpt)

*Ride on! Ride on in majesty!
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
Bow Thy meek head to mortal pain,
Then take, O God, Thy power and reign.*

Postlude

Liebster Jesu, Wir Sind Hier

J.S. Bach

About the Music

“*Ride On! Ride On!*” is a traditional text for Palm Sunday written by Henry Hart Milman (1791-1868). It is in our hymnal at number 205. Although Milman wrote only 13 hymns during his long career all remain in common use. His *When our heads are bowed with woe* is described as having “...no peer in its presentation of Christ’s human sympathy.” [J. Julian, Dictionary of Hymnology, 1907] The setting is by John Prindle Scott (1877-1932). In his early career, Scott was a concert baritone soloist. However, his hearing deteriorated and he turned to composition.

“*God is Our Refuge*” has lyrics by Jay Johnson and is based on Psalm 46. The Psalmist envisions a time when “...mountains shake...” Mountains were considered the pillars that held up the sky and their “shaking” represents the undoing of all creation. But “...we will not fear...” – God is with us. The Psalm ends with the well-known verse 10 (not included in the piece), “Be still, and know that I am God.” The setting is by Allen Pote (1945-). Pote is a well-established composer and a co-director of the nationally recognized Pensacola Children’s Choir.

Announcements

LENTEN MISSION

As part of our Lenten observance, we partner with area organizations to support individuals in need, with a focus on food insecurity. All food and monetary donations will go to Food for Kids and the food pantry at First Reformed Church of College Point. If you choose to make a monetary gift, you can do so via Tithe.ly under Lenten Mission, or via a check with the memo Lenten Mission. You can also collect and donate food (you can find the list of foods on the flier on the table in the back of the sanctuary, or in our Weekly Email). Make it fun and a challenge! See if your house can collect an item a day for 40 days, or partner with some friends to gather 40 items, an item for each day of Lent!

COFFEE HOUR

Please join us for coffee hour after the service, downstairs in Gessner Hall.

CHILDREN AT WORSHIP - COTH'S CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

The Sunday Program for children ages 5 to 12 is ongoing. During the service, the children will process out and be led to Room 2-E.

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*

WEEKLY CALENDAR- LOOKING AHEAD

Friday, April 7- Good Friday Service, The Seven Last Words, 7:30 pm

(Now available: COTH rideshare! If you prefer not to drive at night but would like to attend, please see Ginny Chan if you would accept a ride. Also, see her if you would be willing to pick up a friend on your way to church! You may contact the Church office to arrange a ride as well.)

Sunday, April 9- Easter Sunrise Service at Bowne Park, 7:00 am

Easter Sunday Service with Revs. Bill and Lynn Hanousek

Easter Egg Hunt after the service, in lieu of Coffee Hour

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

Diane Blagburn

Glenda Burke

Joanne Dunckhahn

Randy Eastman

Janet Fiala

Adam Gonzalez

Ariana Han

Thomas Degnen

Gregory Happ

Richard Iovale

Anne and Bill Lannom

Lynn Lauterbach

Christina Lee

Kathy Meyer

Marti and Tom Pearce

The Redfern family

Debi Romano

William Rudnick

Patrick Sullivan

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**

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Angela Brunjes
Nancy Gessner (VP)
Victor Han (VP)
Rhoda Jabbour
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