

# Church on the Hill

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

**September 26, 2021**

**10:30 a.m.**



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**Mr. Sean Cotty – 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 *Amazing Grace*            Sean Cotty

VOTUM

SENTENCES

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

\* HYMN No. 3

*Holy God, We Praise Your Name*

*Holy God, we praise your name,  
Lord of all, we bow before you;  
All on earth your scepter claim,  
all in heaven above adore you;  
infinite your vast domain,  
everlasting is your reign.*

*Hark! the loud celestial hymn  
angel choirs above are raising;  
cherubim and seraphim*

*in unceasing chorus praising,  
fill the heavens with sweet accord:  
holy, holy, holy Lord.*

*Lo! the apostolic train  
join your sacred Name to hallow;  
prophets swell the glad refrain,  
and the white-robed martyrs follow;  
and from morn to set of sun,  
through the Church the song goes on.*

*Holy Father, Holy, Son,  
Holy Spirit, Three we name you;  
while in essence only one,  
undivided God we claim you,  
then, adorning, bend the knee,  
and confess the mystery.*

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of mercy, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that we have strayed from your truth and from your holy will. We have failed in love, forgotten to be just, and have turned away from your wisdom. Forgive us our sin and restore us to your ways, for the sake of Your Son, our only Savior, Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON/WISDOM FOR LIFE

ANTHEM

*Lord, Lead Us Still*

Johannes Brahms

*Along the varied paths of life,  
Through hours of joy and sorrow keen,*

*In grim temptation's mortal strife,  
In doubt or confidence serene,  
Lord, lead us still, O lead us still.*

*Through all the changes of the years,  
Whate'er of good or ill betide,  
In laughter gay or bitter tears,  
O keep us ever at Thy side;  
Lord, lead us still, O lead us still.*

*And when at last the tale is told,  
The victory won by Thy good grace,  
May we Thy glory, Lord, behold,  
In that blest Homeland see Thy face;  
Lord, lead us still, O lead us still.*

## 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.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 9: 38-50

Ephesians 1: 15-23

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

*A Prayer for the Church*

Rev. Doug Estella

## \*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.

## ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION

Presentation of Jeanne Sarran (Deacon)

Question: As a deacon, will you faithfully, diligently, and cheerfully manifest Christ's love and care, gather and distribute the offerings of God's people, visit and comfort the distressed, minister to the poor and needy, and strive to advance God's reign of justice and peace?

Response: **I will, and I ask God to help me.**

ANTHEM

*Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring*

J.S. Bach

*Jesu, joy of man's desiring,  
Holy Wisdom, Love most bright,  
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring,  
soar to uncreated light.  
Word of God our flesh that fashioned  
with the fire of life impassioned.  
Striving still to Truth unknown,  
Soaring, dying, round Thy throne.*

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.**

RESPONSE

*Hear Our Prayer, O Lord*

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

\*HYMN No. 502

*Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound*

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed!*

*The Lord has promised good to me,  
his word my hope secures;  
he will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.*

*Through many dangers, toils and snares  
I have already come;  
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.*

BENEDICTION *For the Life That You Have Given*

*For the life that you have given,  
for the love in Christ made known,  
with these fruits of time and labor,  
with these gifts that are your own:*



*here we offer, Lord, our praises;  
heart and mind and strength we bring;  
give us grace to love and serve you,  
living what we pray and sing.*

RESPONSE

POSTLUDE            *Organ Sonata No. 3 (Fragment)* Mendelssohn

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## **Announcements**

### **Deacon Ordination and Installation**

The Consistory elected Jeanne Sarran to fill Patrick Symes' position as Deacon. Thank you to Jeanne for stepping in to this position and for all the work you do to keep the Church on the Hill operating smoothly each and every day. Many thanks to Patrick Symes for his devoted service. May he rest in peace.

### **Prayer List**

The prayer list has started anew. Please reach out to the church office if you would like to add a name to the prayer list.

### **Weekly Calendar**

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

### **Bargain Boutique**

Keeping in mind the continued health and safety of church staff and members of our community, the Consistory at Church on the Hill has decided to close the Bargain Boutique indefinitely.

We will not be accepting donations of any kind until further notice.



## *Prayer Requests*

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

Diane Blagburn

Susan Brooks

Marilyn Harlin

Lynn Lauterbach

Curtis Meadows

Rhonda Meadows

Diane Thorp

The Family of Patrick Symes



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

Chair: Heather Allison

### **Community Nursery**

#### **School Board**

President: Ginny Chan

Consistory Rep: Rhoda Jabbour

### **Congregational Care**

Chair: Angela Brunjes

### **Buildings & Grounds**

Consistory Rep: Maureen Saepia-Chen & Victor Han

### **Christian Education & Youth**

Chair: Jeanne Sarran

Consistory Rep: Dana Chan

### **Finance**

Chair: Doris Krsnak

Consistory Rep: Margret Dougherty

### **Personnel**

Chair: Dana Chan

### **Worship & Music**

Chair: Irma Schubert

Consistory Rep: Rhoda Jabbour

\*Chairperson is also Consistory Representative unless otherwise stated.

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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*

Dorien Day, **Vice President**

Nancy Gessner, **Clerk**

**Elders**

Angela Brunjes  
Dorien Day, VP  
Victor Han  
Rhoda Jabbour  
Irma Schubert

**Deacons**

Heather Allison  
Dana Chan  
Margret Dougherty  
Maureen Saepia-Chen  
Jeanne Sarran

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:  
Mon-Tues, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Wed-Fri, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

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