

# Church on the Hill

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

**September 18, 2022**  
**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 “Thaxted”

Sean Cotty

**Welcome**

**Votum**

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

**Sentences of Scripture**

**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**

Listen, for this is good news! **God’s grace is wider than our wildest imaginations.** God’s grace embraces us as we are and where we are, and draws us out to be the people we were created to be. **Through your grace, help us to grow in the knowledge of who you are as our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.**  
**Come, let us worship the Lord of all mercy and grace!**

\* **Hymn No. 3**

Holy God, We Praise Your Name

**Prayer of Confession**

**Faithful God, you are devoted to us. Forgive us when we are not devoted to you. We would rather be secure than be brave. We would rather be in control than be faithful. We know that you call**

out for us to follow, but we look for you in all the wrong places. Forgive us, God of mercy. Heal us from our self-centeredness. Empower us to know the depth of your grace, and lead us to share that grace with the world. Amen.

## **Assurance of Pardon/God's Wisdom for Life**

**Anthem**

With a Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw

*With a voice of singing declare ye this,  
And let it be heard, Alleluia.  
Utter it even unto the ends of the Earth.  
The Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia.  
O be joyful in God, all ye lands,  
O sing praises to the honor of his name,  
Make his praise to be glorious.  
With a voice of singing declare ye this,  
And let it be heard, Alleluia.*

## **Prayer of Illumination**

Almighty God, you are the source of all light. You divinely separated light from darkness so that we may have the beauty of the light of day. Dear Lord, illuminate this day and enlighten us as we seek to know you through your word. May we be led by your light so our hearts may be opened to your word. We pray that we receive every word you speak to us today. **Amen.**

## **Scripture Readings**

Steve Sarran

Psalm 67

2 Peter 3: 18

*This is the Word of the Lord.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

"Grow in Grace"

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<sup>†</sup> Church,  
The communion of saints,  
The forgiveness of sins,  
The resurrection of the body,  
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

<sup>†</sup> The word "catholic" means "universal,"  
referring to all followers of Christ worldwide.

**Anthem**

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Carl F. Mueller

*Create in me a clean heart, O God;  
And renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from thy presence;  
And take not thy holy spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation,  
And uphold me with thy free spirit.  
Then will I teach transgressors thy ways;  
And sinners shall be converted unto thee.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God!*

**\* 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.**

### **Prayer Response**

Write These Words in Our Hearts

*Write these words in our hearts,  
We beseech you, O Lord.*

### \* **Hymn No. 66**

The God of Abraham Praise

### \* **Benediction**

### **Response** (please be seated)

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.*

**Postlude** Trio Sonata No. 4 in E Minor (III. Un poco Allegro) J. S. Bach

# Announcements

## **CHILDREN AT WORSHIP - COTH'S CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

Jeanne Sarran has begun the Fall session of the Children's Ministry program. The program is open to children, ages 5 to 12. During the service, the children will process out and be led to Room 2-E. The focus this Fall is on the book of Exodus, chapters 1 through 14.

## **HARVEST FESTIVAL**

This years festival will take place on Saturday, October 15th with a rain date of October 22. Any donations can be brought to the Church office with an appointment.

## **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 Grand Reopening of the Bargain Boutique will be Saturday, October 15th, from 10am- 2pm. Donations accepted starting September and October, only on Saturdays. No electronics, no TVs, no furniture.

## **WEEKLY CALENDAR**

Check the weekly email tomorrow for all the happenings at COTH!

## **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](mailto:office@churchonthehill.org)**.



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.

## *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](mailto:office@churchonthehill.org)*

Diane Blagburn

Lucas Ditta

Joanne Dunckhahn

Randy Eastman

Janet Fiala

Annie Jankowski

Andrew LaClaustra

Connie McKinstry

Jean Mendler

Kathy Meyer

Lina Moreiras

Nina Proschel

The Redfern family

William Rudnick

Tina Surreira

Ed Surujballi

Virginia Young



*Consistory & Staff*

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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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