

## Order of Worship

10 A.M.

**October 1, 2023** - World Communion Sunday *and* Celebrating Jacqui-Maria Russell's 15 years of Service

***Welcome to the Church-in-the-Gardens...***

***Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.***

*\*We invite you to place your name and contact information on a Visitor Card in the pew rack. Please place it in the offering plate or give it to a greeter.*

*\*Please be sure to get a parking pass from a greeter if you have parked a car that does not already have a decal or parking pass displayed.*

*\*Please silence your cell phone*

***God bless you as together we experience God's life-giving word.***

### Prelude

### Announcements

•Gifts of food are urgently needed for MONKWORK, our Ridgewood neighbor. Families are hungry, and food stamps, now called "SNAP," have just been cut. Bring canned goods and non-perishable donations every Sunday to the basket at the sanctuary entrance Thank you.

•Wednesdays October 4, 11, 18, 5 p.m. zoom-*The Biblical Creation Stories, God, and Us*

•Saturday October 7 at 11 a.m. -*Blessing of the Animals*

•Open House NYC returns to The CITG.Saturday, October 21, 2023, 10:00am- 2pm.

Volunteers needed! Sign up to help after Sunday worship !

**Please Pray:** : Marcelina Astonitas (mother of Carlos Pesantes); Phylia Banks; Christopher Craig; Karin Del Greco; Cindy Herendeen; Noriko Iwamoto; Patrick Lazar; Kevin McGrath (friend of Jacqui Russell); Dan Olson; Jeanne Martin; Constance Radut; Anne Sandager; Dora Shia

**For all who are grieving or suffering loss of any kind:** the family of James Power

**Prayers for those in residential care:** Hanna Bassous; Millicent Fairhurst

**Gathering Song SING! 1** Sing a New Song Refrain

Sing a new song unto the Lord; let your song be sung from mountain high.

Sing a new song unto the Lord, singing, "Alleluia

### Opening Prayer

**\*Call to Worship (adapted from Isaiah 55)**

One: From north and south and east and west, all Creation sings forth your praise!

**All: The mountains and the hills burst in song;**

One: The trees of the field shall clap their hands.

**All: Your steadfast love never ceases.**

One: With joy and peace,

**All: Let us worship God together.**

**\* Opening Hymn** PH 66 For the Beauty of the Earth vv. 1, 2, 5, 6

**\*Prayer of Confession\*\***

One: Gracious God, you create the whole world and proclaim it good,

**All: Yet so much that we do causes division and suffering.**

One: You call us to unity,

**All: Yet so much that we do leads to conflict over peace.**

One: You hear the cries of the oppressed,

**All: Yet we so often turn away.**

One: Forgive us.

**All: Grant us the vision to see one another as siblings in Christ.**

One: Be with us in the time of silent reflection...

**\*Sung Response SING! 58 Children from Your Vast Creation**

Children from your vast creation, gather here for guidance, Lord;

We of every tongue and nation yearn to see your earth restored.

You have shown that your intention wills a world kept free from strife.

Open us to love's dimension, filled with true abundant life.

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Passing of the Peace of Christ**

The Peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

**Choir Anthem** I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me -African-American Spiritual

**First Lesson** Philippians 2:1-11a red bible, pg. 197, black bible, pg. 240

**Gospel Lesson** Matthew 21:23-32 red bible, pg. 23, black bible, pg. 28

**Sermon** "The Same Mind" Reverend Frederick Weidmann

**\*Hymn** PH 150 O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High vv. 1,3,5  
(NOTE: verse 5 is on previous page)

**\*Pastoral Prayer**

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

**Sung Response** Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia Amen.

**Offering**

**Offertory**

**\*Doxology** “with Alleluias”

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures here below. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God the source of all our gifts,  
Praise Jesus Christ whose pow’r uplifts,  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit, Alleluia! Alleluia!

**\*Prayer of Dedication** Stephen Arrigo

**Holy Communion**

**The Great Thanksgiving**

One: The Lord be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**  
One: Lift up your hearts.  
**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**  
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**The Sanctus** SING! 19 vv. 1-2

**Communion Prayer and Words of Institution**

**We Receive**

**Prayer after Communion**

One: O God, you have gathered us and fed us.  
**All: Make us one in You.**  
One: Increase our faith, hope, and love.  
**All: Lead us in the way of Christ. AMEN**

**\*Closing Hymn** PH 245 As We Gather at Your Table

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

*\*All who are able, please rise*

**\*\*Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession adapted from  
specialofferings.pcusa.org**

Children (and parents) are welcome to go downstairs to **Sunday School** for fun, learning, and activities—we leave worship following the Scripture Readings and before the Sermon.

There is a Cradle Room available downstairs for parents and children, and coloring books and activities available at the back of the church.

Please join us for a time of Coffee and Fellowship following the service in the lounge.

There are 4 ways you can **make a contribution to The Church-in-the-Gardens:**

1. Send a check to the church (50 Ascan Avenue Forest Hills, NY 11375)
2. Set up a "bill payment" through your bank to have checks mailed to the church.
3. Through Zelle. Our name is listed as Church in the Gardens, Forest Hills, NY; use email treasurer@thecitg.org
4. Collection plate at the back of the sanctuary

**The Church-in-the-Gardens**  
**A Congregational Church of the United Church of Christ**  
**Forest Hills Gardens, New York**



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50 Ascan Avenue, Forest Hills, NY 11375  
(718) 268-6704    [www.thecitg.org](http://www.thecitg.org)  
[admin@thecitg.org](mailto:admin@thecitg.org)

Minister: Reverend Dr. Frederick Weidmann  
Music Director: Dr. Sunny Knable  
Liturgist: Stephen Arrigo

**Our Church Covenant**

“We covenant and agree with each other to unite as a Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, for Christian fellowship, for public worship and for the advancement of God’s kingdom in the world. We agree to maintain the institutions of the gospel, to promote the peace and prosperity of the Church, to walk together in brotherly love.”

Adopted by this congregation in 1913