

Order of Worship
Sunday March 31, 2024 - Easter Sunday

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

****The Special Offering for Lent and Easter** is to support Dayspring Ministries, Haiti. There is an envelope in your Bulletin. More info in Weekly Word.

****Next Sunday, April 7**—second and final scheduled **meeting with the Open & Affirming Covenant team** following worship. Please join us. Please see bulletin insert for more info.

****Looking Ahead**—Rev. Fred will be leading worship and preaching next Sunday April 7. Following that **Rev. Fred will be on vacation from April 10 thru April 29.**

Guest ministers will be: Sunday April 14 (Rev. Linda Terry-Chard), Sunday April 21 (Rev. Linda again), and Sunday April 28 (Rev. Bonnie).

For pastoral emergencies, please contact the church office.

****Looking Further Ahead: Annual Meeting Sunday May 19** following worship

****“Make a Joyful Noise!” CITG Jazz Ensemble, Tuesday, May 7, at 7:30 pm**

The CITG Concert Series presents a concert of all original compositions and arrangements by the CITG Jazz Ensemble, including saxophonists Don Hansen and Bill Humphrey, guitarist Alan Tichman, bassist Gene Torres, drummer Mike Jett, and Music Director and pianist Sunny Knable. The suggested donation of \$20 goes toward the CITG Music Fund. Come hear a joyful noise right here in the CITG sanctuary!

****Gifts of food** are urgently needed for MONKWORX, our Ridgewood neighbor.

Please bring canned goods and non-perishable donations every Sunday to the basket at the sanctuary entrance. Thank you.

Please pray for: Marcelina Astonitas (mother of Carlos Pesantes); Phylia Banks; Christopher Craig; Karin Del Greco; Cynthia Faria; Noriko Iwamoto; Patrick Lazar; Jeanne Martin; Constance Radut; Nancy Russo; Anne Sandager; Dora Shia; Jackie Stuart; Jac Tortoroli

For all who are grieving or suffering loss of any kind.

Prayers for those in residential care: Hanna Bassous, Millicent Fairhurst

Easter Acclamation

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Opening Prayer

***Call to Worship**

One: This is the day that God has made;

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: We gather today to shout

All: Alleluia!

One: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

One: Out of the doom of death and despair, Victory comes, Glory appears. Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Introit Sound the Trumpet -Dale Peterson; Nelly Vusik, guest conductor

*** Opening Hymn** NCH 233 Christ the Lord is Risen Today vv. 1-4

***Prayer of Confession**

One: God calls us to step out of the tombs that consume us...

All: Into fullness of life in the Living Christ.

One: Yet too often we do not remember the creative power of resurrection

All: and bury our joy.

One: Too often give in to the ways of chaos and destruction

All: and shut ourselves off from the ways of peace, love, and hope.

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

***Sung Response SING! 58**

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!

Baptism Keana Liao
Sung Response Spirit of the Living God
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me 2X
Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me,
Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

The Easter Psalm (adapted from Psalm 136:1-9, 23-26)
One: O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good,
All: God’s steadfast love endures forever.
One: O give thanks to the God of gods,
All: Whose steadfast love endures forever.
One: O give thanks to the Lord of lords,
All: Whose steadfast love endures forever.
One: God made the heavens with wisdom,
All: And spread out the earth upon the waters.
One: God remembered us when we were down,
All: And rescued us from our foes.
One: Give thanks! God’s abundance is for all.
All: God’s steadfast love endures forever.

Gospel Lesson Mark 16:1-8 black bible, pg. 66

Choir Anthem Angels Rolled the Stone Away -African-American Spiritual

****There will be no Children’s Message today.**
Children, and all involved in Sunday School, please go now to Rm. 212**

Sermon “...Who Will Roll the Stone Away...?” Reverend Frederick Weidmann

***Hymn** NCH 245 The Day of Resurrection

***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. (2x)

Offering
Offertory Praise the Lord! (Psalm 150) -Sunny Knable
***Doxology** (traditional)
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.

***Prayer of Dedication** Glenda Maurer

***Closing Hymn** SING! 157 Lord, I Lift Your Name On High

Benediction

Postlude

****EASTER EGG HUNT outside, along Greenway North**
****COFFEE and Fellowship in the Lounge**

**All who are able, please rise*

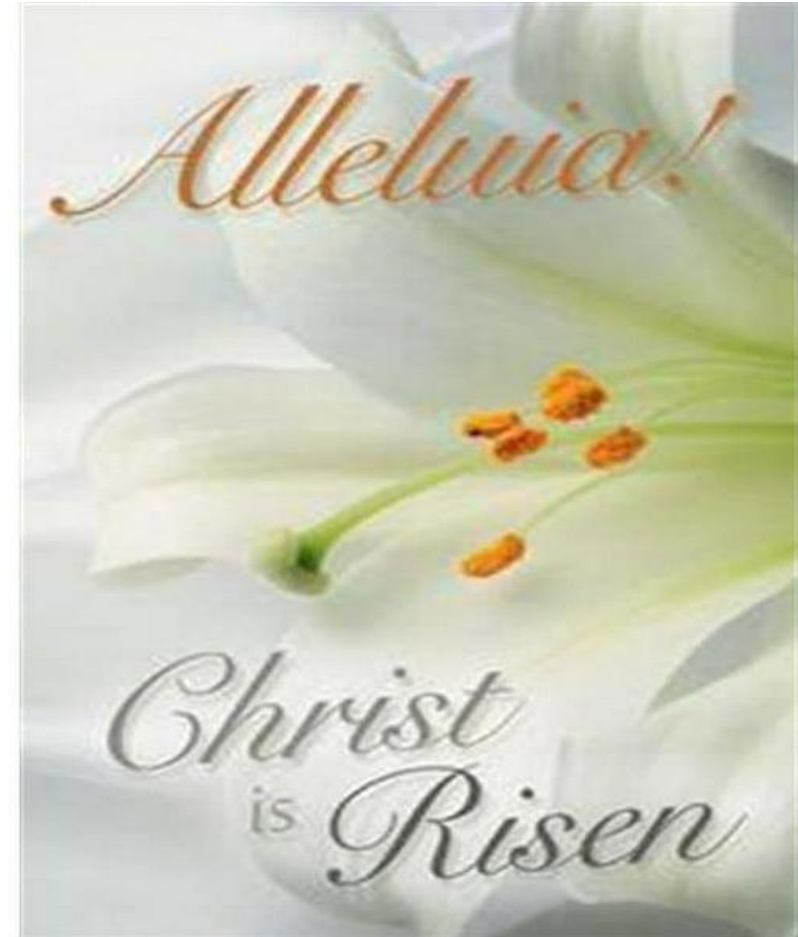
Children (and parents) are welcome to go downstairs to **Sunday School** for fun, learning, and activities—we leave worship following the Scripture Readings and before the Sermon.

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
admin@thecitg.org

Minister: Reverend Dr. Frederick Weidmann
Music Director: Dr. Sunny Knable
Liturgist: Glenda Maurer

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

The Flower and Chancel committee gratefully acknowledges these generous donations to glorify our sanctuary for Easter.

Contributions for palms, Easter lilies, and flowers were given by:

The Jett family; The Gropper family; Thomas and Gloria Webb; Yang Oke and Dal Hwang; Andrea Berta; Kay Finch and Jim March; Bette Sheets; Anne Seeler; Betty Chen; Mavis Chan; Allen and Glenda Maurer; Reverends Fred and Kerstin Weidmann; Harris Ferrell and Allison Rogovin; Tom Hogan and Cindy Knauer; Jennifer Gudino; EJ, Sean and Jake Thorsen.

Easter Lilies and flowers were also dedicated by the following individuals:

Yang and Dal Hwang, in honor of all who are fighting for peace and freedom of the world.

Andrea Berta, in memory of Earl L. Tucker.

Kay Finch and Jim March, in loving memory of their parents.

Mavis Chan, in memory of my parents.

Allen and Glenda Maurer, in memory of our parents.

Harris Ferrell and Allison Rogovin, in memory of our grandparents.

Reverends Fred and Kerstin Weidmann, in memory of Rev. Dr. Carl and Kathryn Weidmann, and in memory of Karl Timothy Weidmann.

Tom Hogan and Cindy Knauer, in honor of baby Josephine.

Jennifer Gudino, in memory of my grandmother Mabel.

EJ, Sean and Jake Thorsen, in honor of Thomas Thorsen and Soon Hyang Park.

Thomas and Gloria Webb, in memory of Gloria's father, Angel Trujillo and Thomas' mother, Mary L. Webb.

The listed donations for palms, Easter lilies, and flowers were received by Monday, March 23. Additional donations will be acknowledged in next week's bulletin.