

Order of Worship
Sunday April 21, 2024

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

****Looking Ahead- Rev. Fred will be on vacation from April 10 thru April 29.**

Guest minister on 4/28 will be Reverend Bonnie McDougall Olson.

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!

****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; Millicent Fairhurst; Noriko Iwamoto; Patrick Lazar;; Allen Maurer; Constance Radut; Nancy Russo; Anne Sandager; Dora Shia; Jackie Stuart; Jac Tortoroli

For all who are grieving or suffering loss of any kind: Dan Olson and Rev. Bonnie McDougall Olson on the passing of Dan's mom, Joan.

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

Opening Prayer

***Call to Worship**

One: Praise God for the joyous gift of a new day

All: Thank God for healing and ever-present help.

One: God sees and hears our weeping and lifts our souls from the pit of despair

All: Give thanks to God who turns mourning into dancing,

One: Praise God who hears our cries and answers our prayers

All: We believe you are working to make us whole.

*** Opening Hymn** Come, All You People (SING! 4)

***Prayer of Confession**

One: When we feel cut off from our best selves, crushed by circumstances, filled with malice and anger,

All: Filled with malice and anger, devastated by our losses, there is hope.

One: We are invited to face our brokenness, to turn from evil, to live beyond our losses.

All: That is why, together, we confess our sins.

***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!

First Lesson Ruth 1:1-5; 15-22 black bible, pg. 299

Gospel Lesson John 6:35-41 black bible, pg. 118

*At this time, children (and parents) are welcome to go downstairs to **Sunday School** for fun, learning, and activities.

Sermon From Broken to Blessed Reverend Linda Tarry-Chard

***Hymn** Hold to God's Unchanging Hand (insert)

***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

***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.

***Prayer of Dedication** Rob MacKay

***Closing Hymn** I Am the Bread of Life (SING! 152)

Benediction

Postlude

**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

Welcome **Reverend Linda Tarry-Chard** to our pulpit this morning. Linda Tarry-Chard is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. For 14 years, she served as Minister for Membership, Care and Parish Life and Minister for Interfaith and Ecumenical Relations at The Riverside Church of New York. At Riverside, Rev. Tarry-Chard stewarded discipleship and learning for the 1,200-member congregation. She launched and sustained 14 ministries; created educational and social justice programs serving the congregation and local community; organized church-wide worship events; provided pastoral counseling to congregants; and produced high profile public events and memorial services. Rev. Tarry-Chard is also founding President of Project People Foundation, a non-profit that funds education and employment training programs in Southern Africa and the United States. She has generated over \$1.8M from major funding campaigns to support daycare centers for children and skills development programs for women. Rev. Tarry-Chard has over 25 years of experience as a diversity consultant and has served on numerous boards. Currently, she serves on the Harlem Hebrew Charter School board and is a Clergy Mentor for the Union Theological Seminary-Lilly Foundation/VISION Program. Rev. Tarry-Chard fulfills pulpit supply ministry requests in the Tri-State area; holds a Master of Science in Education from Fordham University and a Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary.

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



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

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50 Ascan Avenue, Forest Hills, NY 11375
(718) 268-6704 www.thecitg.org
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Guest Minister: Reverend Linda Tarry-Chard
Music Director: Dr. Sunny Knable
Liturgist: Rob MacKay