

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

Order of Worship – 10 A.M.

Sunday, May 12, 2024- Ascension Sunday, Seventh Sunday of Easter and Mother’s Day

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

Today- Garden Players Family Musical- Creature Mountain & the Slime Corporation- **(2 & 5 p.m.)**. Tickets: bio.link/gardenplayers

Celebration of Life for Jim Power--May 18, 4 p.m.

**** Annual Meeting Sunday May 19** following worship (lunch to follow in the CH).

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; Dawn Burrowes; Karin Del Greco; Millicent Fairhurst; Noriko Iwamoto; Allen Maurer; Constance Radut; Nancy Russo; Anne Sandager; Bette Sheets; Dora Shia; Jackie Stuart

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

***Call to Worship**

One: We open our hearts to the light of Christ.

All: We live in the joy of Christ.

One: The light of Christ shines for us.

All: Come, let us worship our Risen Christ, whose love and light guide us.

*** Opening Hymn** SING! 154 God Has Gone Up with Shouts of Joy!

***Prayer of Confession**

One: O Living God of Resurrection and Ascension glory

All: Forgive us for the times we stand looking at heaven...

One: When there is work to be done right here on earth.

All: Forgive us for the times when we neglected to share Your good news with the poor,

One: And with all those in need, even our own selves.

All: Where we have lost our way, show us yours.

One: Be with us now in this 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!

First Reading Ephesians 1:15-23 black bible, pg. 234

Second Reading Acts 1: 1-5, 8-11 black bible, pg. 143

Sermon Seeing with Our Hearts Reverend Frederick Weidmann

***Hymn** NCH 164 Arise, Your Light is Come

***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** "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

***Closing Hymn** SING! Gracious Spirit 166 vv. 1-2, 4-5

***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 infants/toddlers. Please join us for a time of **coffee and fellowship** following the service, at the CITG Sanctuary Steps (weather permitting) or 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

Reminder: Annual Meeting
Sunday, May 19 after 10 a.m. worship
in-person and via zoom

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50 Ascan Avenue, Forest Hills, NY 11375

(718) 268-6704 www.thecitg.org

Minister: Reverend Dr. Frederick Weidmann

Music Director: Dr. Sunny Knable

Liturgist: Stephen Arrigo