

The Church-in-the-Gardens

Forest Hills, New York

An Open & Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ



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 1913)

Our Open & Affirming Covenant Statement

We affirm the worth and dignity of each individual. We welcome everyone into the full life and ministry of the church including persons of all sexual orientations, gender identity and expression, mental and physical ability, marital status, family structure, age, race, ethnicity, nationality, and any other way that people self-identify. As our clear expression of Christian love, we are open and affirming of all people. (Adopted 2024)

Order of Worship – 10 A.M.

August 11, 2024 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost and Baptism

Prelude

Announcements

***OFFICE-** The Parish Hall, including the Church Office, is again open. However due to ongoing work please email (admin@thecitg.org) or call (718 -268-6704) ahead if you are planning to stop by.

UPCOMING FALL BIBLE STUDIES- See the announcement in the Weekly Word AND be sure to click the link to indicate your preferences for when we meet.

***GIFTS OF FOOD** are urgently needed for distribution through our central Queens partners. 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; Patricia Faas; Karin Del Greco; Jessica Faas; Millicent Fairhurst; Cynthia Faria; Noriko Iwamoto; Karen Lanegran (mother of Katie); Allen Maurer; Cheryl Mowatt (mother of Andrew); Constance Radut; Sharon Roth; Nancy Russo; Anne Sandager; Dora Shia; Jackie Stuart

For all who are grieving or suffering loss of any kind

Prayers for those in residential care: Hanna Bassous; Nafees Watkins

Opening Prayer

*Call to Worship

One: As we gather for Worship,

All: And as we gather to celebrate Holy Baptism,

One: Pour out upon us and your whole church...

All: The gift of your Holy Spirit.

One: Let all who pass through the waters of baptism be dead to sin...

All: And alive in the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

*** Opening Hymn SING! 236 Take Me to the Water**

Prayer of Confession and Renewal (based on Psalm 130)

One: Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

All: Hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to my supplications.

One: If you, O Lord, should mark our iniquities who could stand?

All: But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

One: I wait for the Lord; my soul waits.

All: In God's word I hope.

One: Be with us in this 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 all!

And also with you!

Baptism of Owen Safuto

Prayer (in unison)

We give you thanks, O God, for the gift of your child, Owen.

**We pray that he would ever know your steadfast love and healing power,
and the gifts of your Holy Spirit.**

**Bless him, his family and our whole church family as we experience and share
your love. AMEN.**

Sung Response NCH 283

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me;

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

First Reading Psalm 24:1-5, 8

One: I will bless the Lord at all times; God's praise shall continually be in my mouth.

All: My soul makes its boast in the Lord; let the humble hear and be glad.

One: O magnify the Lord with me and let us exalt God's name together.

All: I sought the Lord; God answered me and delivered me from all my fears.

One: Look to God and be radiant; never be ashamed.

All: O taste and see that the Lord is good.

Second Reading Ephesians 4:25-5:2 black bible, pg. 236

Sermon "...Be Radiant" Reverend Frederick Weidmann

***Hymn** NCH 286 Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness "Refrain, 1, 4, Refrain"

***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 Alison Hyslop

***Closing Hymn** NCH 282 Every Time I Feel the Spirit

***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

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A Congregational Church of the United Church of Christ

50 Ascan Avenue, Forest Hills, NY 11375

(718) 268-6704 www.thecitg.org

Minister: Reverend Dr. Frederick Weidmann

Guest Musician: Randall Keith Horton

Liturgist: Alison Hyslop