

Order of Worship – June 7, 2026, 10 a.m.
Second Sunday after Pentecost and Holy Communion

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

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

**Please fill out a Visitor Card and 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 outside the church.*

**Please silence your cell phone*

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

Prelude

Announcements and Prayer Requests- see INSERT

Opening Prayer

***Call to Worship (based on Psalm 33)**

One: Sing out to the Lord!

All: **Sing to the Lord a new song.**

One: For God loves righteousness and justice.

All: **The earth is full of the love of God.**

***Opening Hymn NCH 6 Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good vv. 1,2,5,6**

*** Prayer of Confession and Renewal**

One: God of Grace, Love, and Community

All: **You know our shortcomings.**

One: Forgive us.

All: **Make us new.**

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

***Sung Response NCH 283**

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. REPEAT

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

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

***Assurance of Pardon**

***Passing of the Peace of Christ**

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

Choir Anthem

Total Praise
Randall Keith Horton, Conductor

Richard Smallwood/arr. Joel Raney

Gospel Reading Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Reflection "As Jesus was Walking Along..."

Rev. Dr. Fred Weidmann

***Hymn NCH 553** There Is a Balm in Gilead vv. 1-2

***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 Sing to Him a New Song (Psalm 33)

arr. Sunny Knable

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 Ira Apsel

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

One: ...we joyfully praise you and say:

All: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of power and might;**

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Breaking of the Bread//Receive

Prayer after Communion

One: O God of heavenly glory, O God of earthly care and compassion:

All: Strengthen our faith

One: That we may grow in love for you, each other, and the world,

All: Through Jesus Christ our savior, teacher, brother and friend.

AMEN.

***Closing Hymn SING! 72 I'm So Glad, Jesus Lifted Me vv. 1,2,3,1**

***Benediction**

Postlude

**All who are able, please rise.*

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.

Ways you can **make a contribution to The Church-in-the-Gardens** (in addition to the offering plate):

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

Please Pray For: Phylia Banks; Dawn Burrowes; Richard Corson; Jeanne DeYcaza; Joe Dujmic, Sr.; Jessica Faas; Cynthia Faria; Rebecca (mother of Harris Ferrell); Christopher Henderson; Noriko Iwamoto; Ethan Paxton LaBue; the Mains family; Allen Maurer; Constance Radu; Anne Sandager; Dora Shia; F.S. Wang; Matthew Varghese; Luis Vazquez; Yuying Zhai (mother of Wendy Wang).

For all who are grieving or suffering loss of any kind: Suad Khalil, Nazeeh Bestourous, and family, and all grieving the loss of their brother-in-law. Victor; Carmen Lazar and family, and all grieving the loss of her brother, Beto.

For those in residential care: Millicent Fairhurst; Nafees Watkins; Jackie Stuart

Announcements & Upcoming Events

****Today- Wellness/Exercise group** in the lounge following coffee hour.

****Musica Reginae**-East Meets West-Saturday, June 13, at 4pm and Flying Strings Youth Ensemble at 7p.m.

****Birthday-in-a-Box kits** will be blessed during worship service on June 14. Donations (\$25 Target or Amazon gift cards) may be brought to church thru June 14. See Weekly Word for more details.

****Summer Camp Openings Still Available at the CH.** See Weekly Word for more details.

****GIFTS OF FOOD** are urgently needed. Please bring canned goods and non-perishables on Sunday to the basket at the sanctuary entrance AND please check expiration dates before donating. Thank you.

The Church-in-the-Gardens

A Congregational Church of the United Church of Christ

Minister: Reverend Dr. Fred Weidmann

Music Director: Dr. Sunny Knable

Liturgist: Ira Apsel

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)