

Sunday, July 19, 2026
Order of Worship – 10 a.m.- Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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 final page

Opening Prayer

***Call to Worship (based on Psalm 139 & Romans 8)**

One: God’s Spirit is in this place!

All: And God’s Spirit goes with us.

One: God’s Spirit bears witness with our spirit that...

All: We are God’s children. Together. Praise God!

***Opening Hymn PH 485 This is My Father’s World**

*** Prayer of Confession and Renewal**

One: For what we have done. For what we have left undone.

All: For all the ways we hurt ourselves, others, and Your creation.

One: Forgive us, O God.

All: Make us whole.

One: Be with us in this brief 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 God’s Pardon**

***Passing of the Peace of Christ**

The Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you.

First Reading Romans 8:12-25

Sermon "Groaning...Labor Pains...Hope"

Rev. Dr. Fred Weidmann

***Hymn NCH 576** For the Healing of the Nations vv. 1,3,4

***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 The Happy Home of the Faithful (Psalm 128)

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 Zelia Mathew

***Closing Hymn SING! 268** Here I Am, Lord

***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; Gayla Grzegorzcyk (niece of Leah Fink; Christopher Henderson; Noriko Iwamoto; Ethan Paxton LaBue; Allen Maurer; Constance Radut; Anne Sandager; Dora Shia; F.S. Wang; Luis Vazquez, Sr.; Yuying Zhai (mother of Wendy Wang).

For all who are grieving or suffering loss of any kind

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

Announcements & Upcoming Events

****Today- Wellness/Exercise group** after coffee hour.

****The World Service Committee is sponsoring a Blood Drive Sunday August 2 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Community.** Please plan to give. The NYC area is experiencing a significant shortage of supply at this time. Please also, if you are able to volunteer to support the event contact Jim March at james.march948@gmail.com.

****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: Zelia Mathew

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)