

THE CHURCH OF THE MASTER

Reformed Church in America

2783 Lafayette Avenue, Bronx, NY 10465

(718-597-6298) cotm47@verizon.net

Rev. Dr. Melva J. Hayden, Pastor

(646-321-2380) therevlaw@aol.com

WWW.COTMBRONX.ORG

*On this second Sunday after the Epiphany,
we extend a welcome to all who have come to praise our Creator.
We are sincerely happy that you have come.*

2nd Sunday after Epiphany

January 14, 2024

11:00 AM

Silent Preparation for Worship

*Father, may we each be open to whatever surprise
or guidance you have for us today. Thank you.*

Welcome

** Hymn of Praise #354 - "Where Could I Go?"*

** Call to Worship: (responsively)*

Christ was brought to Jerusalem and presented to the Lord at the time of purification. The proper sacrifice was made, according to the law of Moses.

HIS PARENTS FULFILLED THAT WHICH WAS REQUIRED OF THEM.

Simeon was a devout man. The spirit revealed that Simeon would see the Messiah before he died.

THE SPIRIT'S WORDS WERE FULFILLED AND SIMEON MET THE MESSIAH.

The Lord will always faithfully fulfill his promises to us through his Son.

WE SHALL PROCLAIM WITH SIMEON, "MY EYES HAVE SEEN YOUR SALVATION!"

COME, LET US WORSHIP HIM, AS IN THIS NEW YEAR WE BEGIN OUR DAYS AND OUR LIVING IN THE PRESENCE AND PROMISE OF CHRIST'S FORGIVING LOVE. AMEN.

** Prayer of Praise and Adoration*

** Confession of Faith - Apostles' Creed (#622 in hymnal), page 5 on this PDF*

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (in unison)

DEAR GOD, WE DON'T EXPECT MUCH. WE DON'T PRAY PASSIONATELY AND WAIT PATIENTLY. WE DON'T LOOK FOR ANSWERED PRAYER IN THE TEMPLE OR ANYPLACE ELSE. GOD, MAKE US MORE LIKE SIMEON! WHEN PRAYERS AREN'T ANSWERED ACCORDING TO OUR TIME FRAME, WHEN WE DON'T SEE ANY PROOF THAT YOU ARE WORKING, WE GROW FRUSTRATED, EVEN ANGRY WITH YOU. TEACH US TO GROW IN THE SILENT DAY OF WAITING FOR YOUR PROMISES TO BE FULFILLED. GOD, MAKE US MORE LIKE SIMEON! FORGIVE US WHEN WE ATTEMPT TO RECREATE YOU AND YOUR WILL ACCORDING TO OUR WISHES. GIVE US EYES TO SEE YOU AS YOU REALLY ARE, AND TO BELIEVE THAT YOU FULFILL ALL OUR DREAMS. GOD, MAKE US MORE LIKE SIMEON! AMEN.

Announcements

* *Hymn of Preparation #454 - "I Have Decided to Follow Jesus"*

Epiphany Theme: "Jesus Is the Light of the World!"

Scripture: Psalm 139:1-6,13-18 (vv. 1-3,4-6,13-15,16-18)

John 1:43-51 (vv.43-45,46-48,49-51)

Sermon: "Jesus is the Light of the World: That Still Sees and Calls Us to Follow the Light!"

Lord's Prayer

* *Doxology (#39)*

* *Blessing of Our Tithes and Offerings*

* *Prayer*

* *Closing Hymn (insert) - "We Shall Overcome"*

* *Choral Benediction: "Shalom to You"* (congregation)

Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends. May God's full mercies bless you, my friends.

In all your living and through your loving, Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.

* *Benediction (Pastor)*

Church of the Master Ministries

Sunday	11:00 AM	Worship Service (Holy Communion celebrated on the 1 st Sunday of each month)
Monday	5:00-9:00 PM	Bushiken Karate
Wednesday	7:00 PM	Online Bible study: Contact Ron Rivera for info on joining
	5:00-9:00PM	Bushiken Karate
Thursday	7:30 PM	Women's Alcoholic Anonymous
Friday	7:00 PM	"Hour of Prayer Power" virtual meeting
		The conference call-in number is 605-475-4860, code - 371231#
Saturday	12:00 noon	Online Bible study: Contact Ron Rivera for info on joining
	9:30AM-1:00PM	Bushiken Karate

MINISTRY OF PRAYER

“Rejoice in your hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer”

The Prayer List

Our prayers reflect a wonderful and whole-hearted commitment to intercessory prayer by this congregation. Each name will remain on the prayer list for 3 weeks.

Prayers of Thanksgiving:

Prayers for Those with Special Needs:

Diane * Anne Dowling * Jerry Kemps * Jane Maze * Donald Zuvich

Prayers for Those Who Are Ill or have Medical Concerns:

Skip Adams * Deanna * Loretta Byrd & Wendy * Terry Mahon * Leon Stinson * Aunt Betty * Diane * Stephanie Leeder * Virginia & Joe Smith * John Almodovar * Ellen McCullough * Peter Koys * Ethan * Carole Mahon * Olga Caldera * Damon George Hayden * Allen Ford * Alice & Alex Rivera * Arlene 'Auntie' Mayers * Rosa Stewart * LouEllen Crowley * People with COVID

Prayers for Those Dealing with Turmoil or Family Difficulties:

Sharon Alexander * Damon & Alex and family * Jay & family * Delgado family * Wintress * Domina * Denise Waldron * Byrd family * Kiera & Avery & Martz family * Tyler, Nicole & Jackson * Ed Reidy & family * All caregivers * everyone battling addictions

Prayers For Those Seeking Direction:

Diante Stinson * Corey Streeter * young adults

Prayers for Those Seeking Employment:

Nick * Alex Ingram * Terry Mahon

Prayers for World Concerns:

An end to the war between Russia & Ukraine and the Middle East conflict * An end to all the violence * Peace and healing in our community and the nation * COVID patients, families & all healthcare workers * All first responders * Our country's safety * The future of our churches * Our President and his administration * Pastor Sohail Latif and his congregation in Pakistan * Worldwide conflicts * Katie Mahon and all active duty members & their families

Prayers for the families & friends of those who have died:

John Kooi * Paul * Teresa

PRAYERS FOR THE GROWTH OF CHURCH OF THE MASTER:

Lord, please send people through our doors with whom we can share the love and saving grace of Jesus Christ.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There will be a Consistory meeting next Sunday following the worship service.

CHURCH OF THE MASTER MISSION STATEMENT

We are a Christ-centered community church united in prayer and loving Christian fellowship, Bible teaching and preaching Christ crucified, risen and coming again.

Where Could I Go? — 354

JAMES B. COATS

JAMES B. COATS

1. Liv - ing be - low in this old sin - ful world, Hard -
 2. Neigh - bors are kind, I love them ev - 'ry one, We
 3. Life here is grand with friends I love so dear, Com -
 Chorus Where could I go, O where could I go, Seek -

ly a com - fort can af - ford; Striv - ing a - lone to
 get a - long in sweet ac - cord; But when my soul needs
 fort I get from God's own Word; Yet when I face the
 ing a ref - uge for my soul? Need - ing a friend to

face temp - ta - tions sore, Where could I go but to the Lord?
 man - na from a - bove, Where could I go but to the Lord?
 chill - ing hand of death, Where could I go but to the Lord?
 help me in the end, Where could I go but to the Lord?

D.C. for Chorus

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PEACE AND COMFORT

The Apostle's Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus — 454

Attributed to an Indian prince
As sung in Garo, Assam

Folk melody from India
Arr. by Norman Johnson

1. I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus, I have de - cid - ed
2. Tho no one join me, still I will fol - low, Tho no one join me,
3. The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me, The world be - hind me,

to fol - low Je - sus, I have de - cid - ed to fol - low Je - sus—
still I will fol - low, Tho no one join me, still I will fol - low—
the cross be - fore me, The world be - hind me, the cross be - fore me—

No turn - ing back, (No turn - ing back,) no turn - ing back!

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COMMITMENT

**Psalms 139: 1-6, 13-18)vv. 1-3, 4-6, 13-15, and 16-18)
John: 1:43-51 (vv. 43-45, 46-48, and 49-51)**

O LORD, you have searched me and known me.

² You know when I sit down and when I rise up;
you discern my thoughts from far away.

³ You search out my path and my lying down,
and are acquainted with all my ways.

⁴ Even before a word is on my tongue,
O LORD, you know it completely.

⁵ You hem me in, behind and before,
and lay your hand upon me.

⁶ Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain it.

¹³ For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.

¹⁴ I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonder-
fully made. Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.

¹⁵ My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret, intricately
woven in the depths of the earth.

¹⁶ Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written all the days that
were formed for me, when none of them as yet
existed.

¹⁷ How weighty to me are your thoughts, O
God! How vast is the sum of them!

¹⁸ I try to count them—they are more than the
sand; I come to the end^[a]—I am still with you.

⁴³ The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." ⁴⁴ Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. ⁴⁵ Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "We have found him about whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus son of Joseph from Nazareth."

⁴⁶ Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." ⁴⁷ When Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward him, he said of him, "Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!" ⁴⁸ Nathanael asked him, "Where did you get to know me?" Jesus answered, "I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you."

⁴⁹ Nathanael replied, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" ⁵⁰ Jesus answered, "Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these." ⁵¹ And he said to him, "Very truly, I tell you, ^[a] you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

We Shall Overcome

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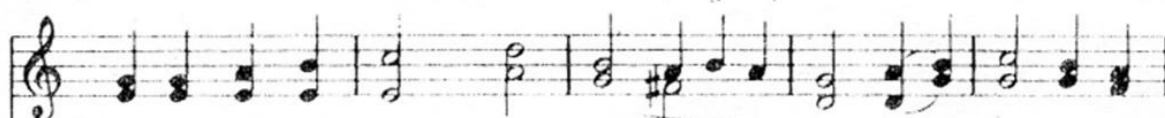
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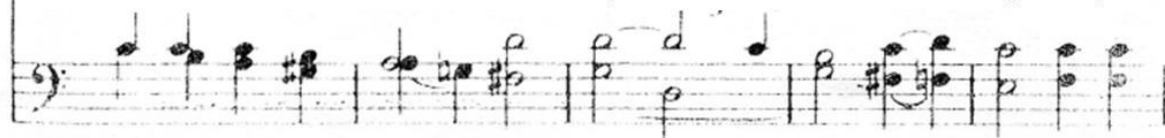
adapt by William Farley Smith, 1986



1. We shall o - ver - come, we shall o - ver - come



We shall o - ver - come some - day! Oh, deep in my



heart I do be - lieve we shall o - ver - come some - day!



2. We'll walk hand in hand.
3. We shall all be free.
4. We shall live in peace.
5. The Lord will see us through.