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

The psalmist declares: "How good it is to sing praises to our God; for he is gracious" (Psalm 147:1). So then, let us worship.

5th Sunday after Epiphany

February 4, 2024

11:00 AM

Silent Preparation for Worship

God, I bring all that I am today before you. Thank you for always welcoming me with open arms.

Welcome

- * Hymn of Praise #548 "Glory to His Name"
- * Call to Worship: (in unison)

THE GRACE OF GOD WAS GIVEN TO US IN CHRIST JESUS BEFORE THE BEGNNING OF TIME, BUT IT HAS NOW BEEN REVEALED THROUGH THE APPEARING OF OUR SAVIOR, CHRIST JESUS, WHO HAS DESTROYED DEATH AND HAS BROUGHT LIFE AND IMMORTALIRY TO LIGHT THROUGH THE GOSPEL. IT IS THIS GRACE AND FAITH WE PROCLAIM AND HOLD ON TO. IT IS THIS GOD AND SAVIOR WE WORSHIP. LET US PRAISE AND ADORE OUR LIVING LORD. 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)

WE CONFESS TO YOU, GREAT LOVER OF ALL CREATION, THAT WE HAVE FAILED TO LOVE YOU WITH OUR WHOLE BEING. WE HAVE BEEN SEDUCED BY THE THINGS OF THIS WORLD AND HAVE LET THEM GUIDE OUR LIVES INSTEAD OF YOU. WE HAVE POURED OUT OUR AFFECTIONS ON THINGS THAT COULD NEVER SATISFY. WE HAVE FAILED TO LOVE AND CARE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS AS WE DO OURSELVES. WE HAVE IGNORED MANY IN NEED AND WE HAVE HATED OUR ENEMIES. WE HAVE FAILED TO UNDERSTAND THAT ALL HUMANITY IS OUR NEIGHBOR. FORGIVE US AND BY THE POWER OF YOUR HOLY SPIRIT, RESTORE IN US A NEVER-FAILING LOVE OF YOU AND OF OUR NEIGHBORS. AMEN.

Announcements

* Hymn of Preparation #227 - "At the Cross"

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

Scripture: Isaiah 40:21-31 (vv.21-23,25-27,28-31)

Mark 1:29-39 (vv.29-31,32-34,35-37,38-39)

Sermon: "Jesus is the Light of the World: Who Will Do Just What He Says He Will Do!"

- * Doxology (#39)
- * Blessing of Our Tithes and Offerings
- * Prayer Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion Lord's Prayer
- * Closing Hymn #321 "It Is Well with My Soul"
- * 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

1st 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

^{*} Please stand if able

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:

Barbara * Skip Adams * Deanna * Loretta Byrd & Wendy * Terry Mahon * Leon Stinson * Aunt Betty * Diante * 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:

Dorothy * 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:

Zechariah * 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 * Sean Reidy & Katie Mahon and all active duty members & their families Prayers for the families & friends of those who have died:

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

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.



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.



Isaiah 40:21-31 (vv.21-23,25-27,28-31) Mark 1:29-39 (vv.29-31,32-34,35-37,38-39)

Have you not known? Have you not heard?
Has it not been told you from the beginning?
Have you not understood from the foundations of the earth?

²² It is he who sits above the circle of the earth, and its inhabitants are like grasshoppers; who stretches out the heavens like a curtain, and spreads them like a tent to live in;
²³ who brings princes to paught, and makes the

²³ who brings princes to naught, and makes the rulers of the earth as nothing.

- ²⁴ Scarcely are they planted, scarcely sown, scarcely has their stem taken root in the earth, when he blows upon them, and they wither, and the tempest carries them off like stubble.
- ²⁵ To whom then will you compare me, or who is my equal? says the Holy One.

- ²⁶ Lift up your eyes on high and see: Who created these? He who brings out their host and numbers them, calling them all by name; because he is great in strength, mighty in power, not one is missing.
- ²⁷ Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"?
- ²⁸ Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable.
- ²⁹ He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless.
- ³⁰ Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted;
- but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

As soon as they^[a] left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. ³¹ He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

³² That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. ³³ And the whole city was gathered around the door. ³⁴ And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

³⁵ In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. ³⁶ And Simon and his companions hunted for him. ³⁷ When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." ³

⁸ He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do." ³⁹ And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

THE CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Meaning of the Sacrament, The Invitation Communion Prayer

The Lord be with you

AND ALSO WITH YOU

Lift up your hearts!

WE LIFT THEM UP TO THE LORD

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

FOR IT IS HOLY AND RIGHT TO DO SO

Holy and right it is, and our joyful duty to give thanks to you at all times and in all places, O Lord our Creator, almighty and everlasting God! You created heaven with all its hosts and the earth with all its plenty. You have given us life and being, and preserve us by your providence. But you have shown us the fullness of your love in sending into the world your Son, Jesus Christ, the eternal Word, made flesh for us and for our salvation. For the precious gift of this mighty Savior who has reconciled us to you we praise and bless you, O God. With your whole Church on earth and with all the company of heaven we worship and adore your glorious name.

HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD OF HOSTS! HEAVEN AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST! BLESSED IS HE THAT COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST!

(A short period of silence and the prayer continues)

Sharing the Bread & Sharing the Cup

Thanksgiving after Communion

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

AND ALL THAT IS WITHIN ME, BLESS GOD'S HOLY NAME

Bless the Lord, O my soul,

AND FORGET NOT ALL GOD'S BENEFITS

who forgives all your iniquity,

WHO HEALS ALL YOUR DISEASES

who redeems your life from the Pit,

WHO CROWNS YOU WITH STEADFAST LOVE AND MERCY

The Lord is merciful and gracious,

SLOW TO ANGER AND ABOUNDING IN STEADFAST LOVE

God does not deal with us according to our sins,

NOR REQUITE US ACCORDING TO OUR INIQUITIES

for as the heavens are high above the earth,

SO GREAT IS GOD'S STEADFAST LOVE TOWARD THOSE WHO FEAR HIM

as far as the east is from the west,

SO FAR DOES GOD REMOVE OUR

TRANSGRESSIONS FROM US

as a father pities his children,

SO THE LORD PITIES THOSE WHO FEAR HIM

God did not spare His only son, but gave him up for us all,

and will also give us all things with Him.

THEREFORE SHALL MY MOUTH AND HEART SHOW FORTH THE PRAISE OF THE LORD, FROM THIS TIME FORTH FOREVERMORE. AMEN.

