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) <u>therevlaw@aol.com</u> WWW.COTMBRONX.ORG

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son...." (John 3:16) to offer eternal life for all. God does not condemn you; God reaches out to embrace you. Welcome!

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent

March 16, 2025

10:00 AM

#### Silent Preparation for Worship

"I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever; with my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations" (Psalm 89:1)

#### Welcome

\* Hymn of Praise #412 - "What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

#### \* Call to Worship: (in unison)

THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION; WHOM SHALL I FEAR? THE LORD IS THE STRONGHOLD OF MY LIFE; OF WHOM SHALL I BE AFRAID? ONE THING WE ASK OF THE LORD, THIS WE WILL SEE: TO LIVE IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD; TO SEEK THE BEAUTY OF GOD; TO SEE THE TRUTH OF GOD. DURING THIS SEASON OF LENT, MAY THIS BE OUR TRUE WORSHIP AND DEVOTION AS WE PRAY TO UNDERSTAND THE WAY OF THE CROSS. AMEN.

\* Prayer of Praise and Adoration

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

#### Call to Confession

GRACIOUS GOD, YOUR SON JESUS CHRIST WEPT OVER JERUSALEM AND LONGS TO GATHER YOUR CHILDREN UNDER THE WINGS OF YOUR LOVE. WE CONFESS THAT OFTEN OUR THOUGHTS, WORDS AND ACTIONS HAVE BETRAYED THE GOODNESS YOU HAVE SHOWN TO US. WE HAVE SPURNED YOUR WORD AND GRIEVED YOUR HEART. FORGIVE US, LOVING GOD. THOUGH WE HAVE WANDERED FAR FROM HOME, HELP US TO KNOW THAT WE ARE NEVER OUT OF THE REACH OF YOUR LOVE. GIVE US GRACE TO HEAR YOUR CALL SO THAT WE MIGHT RETURN TO YOU. LEAD US AGAIN TO EMBRACE THE TRUTH OF YOUR WORD AND TO TRUST YOUR NEVER- FAILING LOVE. GOOD SHEPHERD, YOU COME TO SEEK US AND WHEN YOU FIND US, MAY YOUR LOVE LIFT US UP TO YOUR SHOULDERS AS YOU CARRY US HOME. AMEN.

#### Announcements

\* Hymn of Preparation #467 - "When We All Get to Heaven" Lent Theme: "Bread of Life!" Scripture: Psalm 27:1-14 (vv.1-3,4-6,7-9,10-12,13-14) Phil. 3:17-4:1 (vv.20)
Sermon- "The Bread of Life is Our Light and Our Salvation and Gives Us Citizenship in Heaven!"

- \* Doxology (#39)
- \* Blessing of Our Tithes and Offerings
- \* Prayer
- \* Closing Hymn #128 "Wonderful Words of Life"

\* **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)
- \* Please stand if able

Church of the Master Mínístríes	
<b>Sunday</b> 11:00 AM	Worship Service (Holy Communion celebrated on the 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of each month)
<b>Monday</b> 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 \* Elena Caldera \* Anne Dowling \* Jerry Kemps \* Jane Maze \* Donald Zuvich Prayers for Those Who Are III or have Medical Concerns:

Kevin Martz \* Janet (friend of Mahon family) \* Beverly Morrison \* Robert Solimando \* John T \* Novella Thomas \* Michael Campinello \* Michele \* Anthony \* Adam-Troy \* Patti Zeig & John \* Stephanie \* Rev. Singletary \* Connie \* Pat Lynam \* Carole Mahon \* Loretta Byrd & Wendy \* Diante Damon George Hayden \* Allen Ford \* Alice & Alex Rivera \* Arlene 'Auntie' Mayers \* Rosa Stewart

Prayers for Those Dealing with Turmoil or Family Difficulties:

Washington family \*Cheryl & family \* Jay Escobar & family \* Close friends of the Bungerts \* Sharon Alexander \* Damon & Alex and family \* Wintress \* Byrd family \* Kiera & Avery & Martz family \* Tyler, Nicole & Jackson \* All caregivers \* everyone battling addictions

Prayers For Those Seeking Direction/Needing God's Presence in Their Lives:

Elvis Frias Sr. & Theresa \* Devell \* Zachariah Bungert \* Diante Stinson \* Corey Streeter \* young adults

Prayers for Those Seeking Employment:

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 \* The President and his administration \* Pastor Sohail Latif and his congregation in Pakistan \* Worldwide conflicts \* Sean Buckley & Katie Mahon and all active duty members & their families

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

Ellen McCullough \*

#### 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**

A Memorial service for **Ellen McCullough** will be held here at the church this Saturday, March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 11:00 AM. Everyone is invited.

\*Our 2025 Classis Assessment is \$133.00 per member. **Please help us make these payments every quarter by paying your share.** If you'd like to pay quarterly, the amount is \$33.25.

#### **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. 1 1 1 1 . . . .



## 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.



## Psalm 27: 1-14 (vv. 1-3, 4-6, 7-9, 10-12, 13-14) Philippians 3:17-4:1 (v. 20)

The LORD is my light and my salvation;

whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>2</sup>When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh—my adversaries and foes— they shall stumble and fall.

<sup>3</sup> Though an army encamp against me,

my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

<sup>4</sup>One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD

all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

<sup>5</sup> For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

<sup>6</sup>Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD. <sup>7</sup>Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud, be gracious to me and answer me!

<sup>8</sup> "Come," my heart says, "seek his face!" Your face, LORD, do I seek.

<sup>9</sup> Do not hide your face from me. Do not turn your servant away in anger, you who have been my help. Do not cast me off, do not forsake me, O God of my salvation!

<sup>10</sup> If my father and mother forsake

me, the LORD will take me up. <sup>11</sup> Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. <sup>12</sup> Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries, for false witnesses have risen against me, and they are breathing out violence.

<sup>13</sup> I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living.
<sup>14</sup> Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!

<sup>17</sup> Brothers and sisters,<sup>[k]</sup> join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. <sup>18</sup> For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. <sup>19</sup> Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things.

# <sup>20</sup> But our citizenship<sup>[1]</sup> is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>21</sup> He will transform the body of our humiliation<sup>[m]</sup> that it may be conformed to the body of his glory,<sup>[n]</sup> by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself.

4<sup>1</sup> Therefore, my brothers and sisters,<sup>[a]</sup> whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

