# 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

With genuine joy, we welcome all of you today. Please join us as we seek God's guidance in our lives.

# 23rd Sunday After Pentecost

November 16, 2025

11:00 AM

### Silent Preparation for Worship

May we properly invite you, dear Lord, to enter our hearts so we may know we've been in your presence. Amen.

#### Welcome

- \* Hymn of Praise #310 "Pass Me Not"
- \* Call to Worship: (responsively)

The God of Creation call us together.

WE COME INTO THE PRESENCE OF THE ONE WHO CREATED US.

God is not finished with us. There is more that we can be.

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO THE ONE WHO TAKES US FROM GLORY INTO GLORY God is doing something new and it is us!

WE GIVE UP OUR OLD WAYS TO WALK IN THE NEW PATH OF GOD.

Into the glorious future of God's reign, our Lord Jesus leads us.

WE FOLLOW THE CHRIST INTO GOD'S NEW WORLD. WE ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING AND INTO HIS COURTS WITH PRAISE. 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)

FOR CRUEL DEEDS DONE TO YOUR CREATION, FOR HARSH WORDS, FOR GUARDED LOVE GIVEN WITH A MISER'S TOUCH, AND FOR NARROW WORLDS WHERE COMPASSION IS TRAPPED IN RIGID LIMITS, FORGIVE US, O GOD. SEND US THE FREEDOM OF YOUR LOVING SPIRIT AND TEACH US A LOVE THAT KNOWS NO BOUNDS. THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, AMEN.

#### Announcements

\* Hymn of Preparation #380 - "Higher Ground"

Pentecost Theme: "Pentecost Power from On High!"

Scrípture: Malachí 4:1-2a

2 Thess. 3:6-13 (vv.6-8,10-12,13)

**Sermon** "Pentecost Power from On High Reminds Us the Day is Coming to Judge Evildoers and Empowers Believers to Do What is Right!"

Lord's Prayer

\* Doxology (#39)

\* Blessing of Our Tithes and Offerings

\* Prayer

\* Closing Hymn #306 - "Just As I Am"

\* 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 Ministries

Sunday 11:00 AM Worship Service (Holy Communion celebrated on the

1st Sunday of each month)

12::00 PM "Hour of Prayer Power" in Hahn Hall

Monday 5:00-9:00 PM Bushiken Karate

**Tuesday** 6:45PM **Men's Bible Study** & Fellowship: Contact Ed Bungert:

zajdml@optimum.net

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

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 Ill or have Medical Concerns:

Mike \* Rev. Liz Brantum \* Frank Font \* Sharon Alexander \* Rosa Stewart \* Carole Mahon \* Terry Mahon \* Carol & Wally Cintron \* Gene Peterson \* Damon Hayden \* Janet (friend of Mahon family) \* Beverly Morrison \* Patti Zeig \* Rev. Singletary \* Connie \* Loretta Byrd & Wendy \* Diante \* Allen Ford \* Alice & Alex Rivera \* Arlene 'Auntie' Mayers \*

Prayers for Those Dealing with Turmoil or Family Difficulties:

Donny & Carolyn Rosemond \* Nancy & Gene Peterson \* Barbara \* Jay Escobar & family \* Sharon Alexander \* Damon & Alex and family \* Wintress \* Kiera & Avery & Martz family \* Tyler, Nicole & Jackson \* All caregivers \* everyone battling addictions

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

Zachariah Bungert \* Ed & Marnie Reidy and their sons \* Elvis Frias Sr. & Theresa \* Diante Stinson \* Corey Streeter \* young adults

Prayers for Those Seeking Employment:

Zachariah Bungert

Prayers for World Concerns:

Concerns for job security for Federal workers \* 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 \* 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:

#### 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**

"Deck-the Halls!" morning is scheduled for Friday, December 5th at 10:00 AM, to be continued on Saturday if needed. Please make plans to come in to help decorate for the Christmas season.

#### 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.

# 380 — Higher Ground JOHNSON OATMAN, Jr. CHARLES H. GABRIEL 1. I'm press-ing on the up - ward way, New heights I'm gain-ing ev - 'ry day- My heart has no de-sire to stay Where doubts a - rise and fears dis - may; I want to live a - bove the world, Tho Sa - tan's darts at me are hurled; want to scale the ut - most height And catch a gleam of glo - ry bright; I'm on - ward bound, "Lord, plant my feet on high-er ground." Tho some may dwell where these a-bound, My pray'r, my aim, is high-er ground. For faith has caught the joy - ful sound, The song of saints on high-er ground. But still I'll pray till heav'n I've found, "Lord, lead me on to high-er ground." up and let me stand By faith on heav - en's ta - ble - land; plane than I have found-Lord, plant my feet on high-er ground. A high-er Tune: HIGHER GROUND ASPIRATION

# Malachi 4: 1-2a 2 Thessalonians 3: 6-13 (vv. 6-8, 10-12, 13)

**4** See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup> But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Now we command you, beloved, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from believers who are living in idleness and not according to the tradition that they<sup>[e]</sup> received from us. <sup>7</sup> For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not idle when we were with you, <sup>8</sup> and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it; but with toil and labor we worked night and day, so that we might not burden any of you.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> This was not because we do not have that right, but in order to give you an example to imitate.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: Anyone unwilling to work should not eat. <sup>11</sup> For we hear that some of you are living in idleness, mere busybodies, not doing any work. <sup>12</sup> Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

