

# READINGTON REFORMED CHURCH

Pastor Cathy Gumpert

John Ayer, Music Director

## SANCTUARY REDEDICATION SERVICE

MAY 6, 2007

3:00 p.m.

### THE APPROACH TO GOD

\*Please rise if you are able

Prelude

“The Living Church”

Words and music by Lorraine Nelson Wolf

Lydia Lelah, vocalist

Jennifer Weber, piano

*If these walls could talk, oh the stories they would tell from long ago and far away, a world would spring to life. Filled with people much like you, who had dreams about today, dreams they brought to life so you could find your way.*

*They built a living church filled with a loving God who's alive, alive as you and me.*

*Spirit of God, descend into our loving hearts. Hear us as we humbly pray:*

*May the hands that cut the trees, that built these walls that made this church be the hands we offer to You today.*

*Listen with your heart to the music of the past then think about the years to come, how will we make this last? For the people who still search, for the ones who lost their way.*

*We can be the light that leads them to the day.*

*We are a living church filled with a loving God who's alive, alive as you and me.*

*Spirit of God, descend into our loving hearts. Hear us as we humbly pray:*

*May the hands that cut the trees, that built these walls that made this church be the hands we offer to You today.*

Call to Worship

Psalm 122

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the LORD!”

People: **Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.**

Leader: Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.

People: **To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD, as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD. For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.**

Leader: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you. Peace be within your walls, and security within your towers.”

People: **For the sake of our relatives and friends we will say, “Peace be within you.”**

ALL: **For the sake of the house of the LORD our God, we will seek your good.**

LIFE BY HIS MERCY

### Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation 417

RECENT SQUARE 6/4/17

To century Latin  
From John Mason Neale 1811, ab. 1861, 1872 Music: Thomas Smart, 1807

1. Christ is made the sure founda - tion, Christ the head and  
2. To this tem - ple, where we call You, Come, O Lord of  
3. Here be - stow on all Your ser - vants What they ask of  
4. Lord and lov - er in the Fa - ther, Lord and lov - er

our ser - vants, Cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,  
Hear, to - day, With Your won - der - ful lov - ing-kind - ness  
You to give, What they gain from You for - ev - er  
to the Son, Lord and lov - er to the Spir - it,

Build - ing all the church in one; Ho - ly, O - ver - all  
Hear Your peo - ple as they pray, And Your full - ness  
With the bless - ed Spir - it, And here - all let  
Ev - er bless and re - ver - ence, One in might and

help for - ev - er, And our com - m - union de - creed a - fore,  
ben - e - dic - tion, Shed with us in walls of Je - ru - sa - lem,  
in Your glo - ry, In - ev - er more with You to reign  
out in glo - ry, While we - end - ing in - gen - ite - rum.

## THE WORD OF GOD

Prayer of Confession

Psalm 122

Marvin Fields

**Lord God Almighty, we are so glad to come into this beautiful sanctuary to be able to offer praise and thanksgiving, and to celebrate its rededication. We are built as a congregation, firmly bound together by the Holy Spirit. But too often we forget those ties. We get distracted by the outside world and by the problems we struggle with. We lose track of our purpose, which is to glorify You in all times and in all places. We are sorry, Lord. Call us back to You, so that we can spread the Good News of Jesus Christ to all who will listen, in this lost and broken world that You love so much. We ask this in His strong name. Amen.**

Kyrie Eleison

**Lord, have mercy upon us, Christ, have mercy upon us, Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Words of Assurance

Isaiah 49:15-18

Teaching of the Law

Mark 12:28-31

\*Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

## Praise God for this holy ground

Tune: "HEYMONYSTRAAT", John L. Bell.

Maestoso  $\text{♩} = 80$   
Praise God for this ho - ly ground, place and peo - ple  
sight and sound. Ha - le - lu - jah! Ha - le - lu - jah!  
Ha - le - lu - jah! God's good - ness is e - ter -  
nal. last time

Words and music by John L. Bell, copyright © 2002 WGRG, Inc. Community, Glasgow, Scotland.  
GIA Publications, Inc., exclusive North American agent, 7404 S. Moor Ave., Chicago, IL 60658

1. Praise God for this holy ground, place and people, sight and sound. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.
2. Praise God in whose word we find food for body, soul and mind. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.
3. Praise God who through Christ makes known all are loved and called God's own. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.
4. Praise God's Spirit who befriends, raises, humbles, breaks and mends. Hallelulah! Hallelulah! Hallelulah! God's goodness is eternal.
5. Though praise ends, praise is begun where God's will is gladly done. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.

For why? The Lord our God is good; His mercy is forever sure;  
His truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

**\*To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, the God whom heaven and earth adore,  
From men and from the angel host be praise and glory ever more. Amen.**

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

1 Kings 9:1-9

Cymbalum Ringers

“Extol the Lord”

Howard F. Starks

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 4:1-6, 14-16

Readington Ringers

“Rigaudon”

André Campra  
arr. Martha Lynn Thompson

Scripture Reading

Matthew 16:13-20

Sermon The More Things Change the More They Remain the Same

### **THE RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

\*Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, 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 Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Anthem

“The Old Hundredth Psalm Tune” Ralph Vaughan Williams  
*Chancel & Youth Choirs - verses 1-4*  
*Congregation - verse 5*  
*Brenda Gerlipp, pianist*

All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;  
Him serve with fear, His praise forth tell, Come ye before Him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed, without our aid He did us make;  
We are His folk, He doth us feed, and for His sheep He doth us take.

O enter then His gates with praise, approach with joy His courts unto;  
Praise, laud, and bless His name always, for it is seemly so to do.

### **Sanctuary Rededication**

A Presentation of Wyckoff Bible by Hardenburg Family

Dearly Beloved in the Lord, the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has in His grace brought to its consummation our work of preparing a house for His worship and the honor of His Name. Within these walls His Gospel is to be proclaimed once again, and His sacraments are to be celebrated. We are now gathered in His presence for the purpose of devoting again this church by a solemn act of worship to its proper and sacred use and of rededicating it to the honor of His most holy name. I ask you now to arise, and before the Lord to unite in this act of dedication.

Leader: Holy, blessed and glorious Trinity, three Persons in one God,

**People: To You we dedicate this house.**

Leader: Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, our Father who is in heaven,

**People: To You we dedicate this house.**

Leader: Son of God, the only begotten of the Father, Head of the Body, which is the Church; Head over all things to the Church; Prophet, Priest, and King of Thy people,

**People: To You we dedicate this house.**

Leader: God the Holy Spirit, proceeding from the Father and the Son; given to be our abiding Teacher, Sanctifier, and Comforter; Lord and Giver of Life,

**ALL: To You we dedicate this house.**

Remarks by Congressman Freylinghausen

Acknowledgement of previous Pastors, Students and Descendants

Prayer of Dedication

*Ken Iselin, Chair of Phases I & II*  
by The Rev. Dr. Hughes Oliphant Old from  
Worship the Lord: The Liturgy of the Reformed Church in America

The 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**

The Church's One Foundation

Samuel John Stone, 1866

MUSICAL NUMBER 7474D

S. S. Wesley, 1864



1. The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord,  
 2. B - liss from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,  
 3. Though each a mem - ber was - der we see her now ap - pear'd,  
 4. Mid - toil and trib - u - la - tion, and in - trib - u - lion of her we,



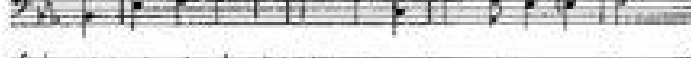
1. she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the Word,  
 2. her char - ter of ad - ven - tion, "One Lord, one faith, one bap - tism"  
 3. by which we now a - ven - der, by her a - rous - ing dis - tress'd,  
 4. she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more,



1. from heav'n he came and sought her so he his ho - ly bride,  
 2. One ho - ly name she bore - as, pur - rifies our ho - ly food,  
 3. yet waits their work are keep - ing, their cry goes on, "How long!"  
 4. till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,



1. with his own blood he bought her, and for her he be - died,  
 2. and no one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace re - deem'd,  
 3. And soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song,  
 4. and the pain - death vic - ti - rious shall be the church at rest.



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\*5. Yet she on earth hath union with God, she Tri - ni - ty - One,  
 and mystic union with those whose rest is won;  
 O happy ones and holy, Lord give us grace that we,  
 like them, the weak and lowly, on high may dwell with them.

Musical number 7474D

1 Cor. 12:13, Eph. 1:26-27

THE CHURCH'S FOUNDATION

Benediction

Benediction Response "The Church's One Foundation," Verse 5

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Today's free will offering will be divided evenly between Starfish and Interfaith Hospitality Network of Hunterdon County.

Please join us for refreshments downstairs in Fellowship Hall following today's service as we continue our celebration.

Childcare is available in the nursery downstairs.