

ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION SERVICE

of

Mr. Edson T. Lewis, Jr.

Monsey Christian Reformed Church

Monsey, N. Y.



Thursday, September 20, 1956

SERVICE

PRELUDE - - - - - Miss Janice Slump
Fair Lawn, N. J.

SALUTATION AND BLESSING - - - Rev. C. Vos, Counsellor
Congregation's response: "Amen" Paterson, N. J.

PSALM OF PRAISE - - - - Psalm 22 Psalter Hymnal #40:1-3

CONFESSION OF FAITH
Apostles Creed, Page 66 in Liturgy

HYMN OF FAITH - - - - - Psalter Hymnal #468

SCRIPTURE LESSON - - - - - Dr. Dick L. Van Halsema
1 Timothy 6:3-21 Miami, Florida

SERMON — "Paul's Prayer for Timothy" - Dr. Dick L. Van Halsema

PSALM OF FAITH - - - - Psalm 25 Psalter Hymnal #50:1-4

PRAYER FOR THE INDWELLING
OF GOD'S SPIRIT - - - - - Dr. Dick L. Van Halsema
Congregation's response: "Amen"

SONG OF CONSECRATION - - - - Psalter Hymnal #386:1-5

THE ORDINATION

Reading of the Form - - - - - Rev. C. Vos
Page 99 in Liturgy

Questions to the Candidate - - - - - Rev. C. Vos

Laying on of Hands - - - - - All Ministers Present

Charge to the Minister - - - - - Dr. J. Meeter
Englewood, N. J.

Charge to the Congregation - - - - - Rev. C. Vos

Psalm of Prayer - - - - Psalm 134 Psalter Hymnal #295:3

Prayer of Thanksgiving, with the Lord's Prayer
in unison

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY PRAYER - - - - - Rev. C. Vos
Congregation rises as deacons present gifts

SONG OF THANKSGIVING - - - - Psalter Hymnal #332:1-3

BENEDICTION - - - - - Rev. Edson D. Lewis, Jr.
Congregation's response: "Amen"

POSTLUDE

All Persons at this Service are invited to Fellowship Hall For refreshments.

HISTORY

of the

Monsey Christian Reformed Church

The church at Monsey, one hundred and thirty one years old and one of the two oldest in the Christian Reformed Church, has a long history. Originally known as one of the group of "seceders" from the Dutch Reformed Church in 1822, the Monsey group suffered gradual decline after slight growth in its first century of existence. It withdrew from the Christian Reformed Church in which it and fifteen other eastern churches had been affiliated from 1890 to 1908. During this period the following ministers served in Monsey: J. Demarest, 1825-52; A. Van Houten, 1852-55; J. Y. De Baun, 1855-60; J. R. Cooper, 1865-86; C. De Mott, 1891-92; W. D. Vander Werp, 1897-99; K. Poppen, 1902-04; J. C. Vorhis, 1906-09. During the height of its growth in this period, the Monsey congregation numbered sixty souls.

The group dwindled and ceased to meet. The church was unused for more than ten years. By local initiative, a Sunday School was begun in 1920. Student Peter Steen spent a summer vacation working in Monsey, and in 1925 Candidate John Beebe accepted the call to become home missionary in the east, working in Monsey. Rev. Meindert Botbyl succeeded him in 1928 and resided in Monsey until his passing in 1940.

Thereafter little attention was given to Monsey. A single weekly preaching service was supplied, a home missionary gave fleeting attention, but no full-time effort was expended until 1948 when the Eastern Home Missionary Board, supported only by Classis Hackensack, decided to place Seminarian Dick L. Van Halsema in Monsey for a trial period of twelve weeks. That summer marks the beginning of the Monsey congregation's revival.

In 1949 Candidate Dick L. Van Halsema was Ordained and Installed at Monsey as Home Missionary for the East. A new parsonage was erected by the people in 1950, and on September 26, 1952, the Monsey Christian Reformed Church was organized, having been blessed in its growth from one member in 1948 to a membership of fourteen families. On April 1, 1954, after having served as Home Missionary in Monsey, Rev. Dick L. Van Halsema was installed as minister of the Monsey Christian Reformed Church. He and his family remained in Monsey until July 23, 1956 when he left us after having accepted a call to the Miami, Florida group. Word was received that same week that Candidate Edson T. Lewis Jr. had accepted our call to become our next minister. Truly, God has blessed our church richly and today it numbers 139 souls. Praise Him for He hath done wondrous things!