

The First Presbyterian Church *in the City of New York*

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

Service for the Lord's Day

February 28, 2021 | 11:00 a.m.

The Session and members of First Church extend a sincere welcome to all persons regardless of race, nationality, gender, or sexual orientation. This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, marriage, funerals, memorial services, and service as an officer of the church.

GATHERING

The peace candle represents our prayers for peace in a broken world. The congregation is asked to offer prayers of intercession for one another and for those who lead in these times of remote worship.

PRELUDE

"Prayer"

George Walker

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

**I give you thanks, O Lord, with my whole heart;
before the gods I sing your praise;**

**I bow down toward your holy temple
and give thanks to your name for your steadfast love and your faithfulness;
for you have exalted your name and your word above everything.**

**On the day I called, you answered me,
you increased my strength of soul.**

- Psalm 138:1-3

HYMN 299

"You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"

HANOVER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, you send Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.

**We confess that we have strayed from you
and turned aside from your way.**

**We are misled by pride, and we see ourselves as great when we are small.
We have failed in loving others, neglected justice,
and ignored your call to kindness.**

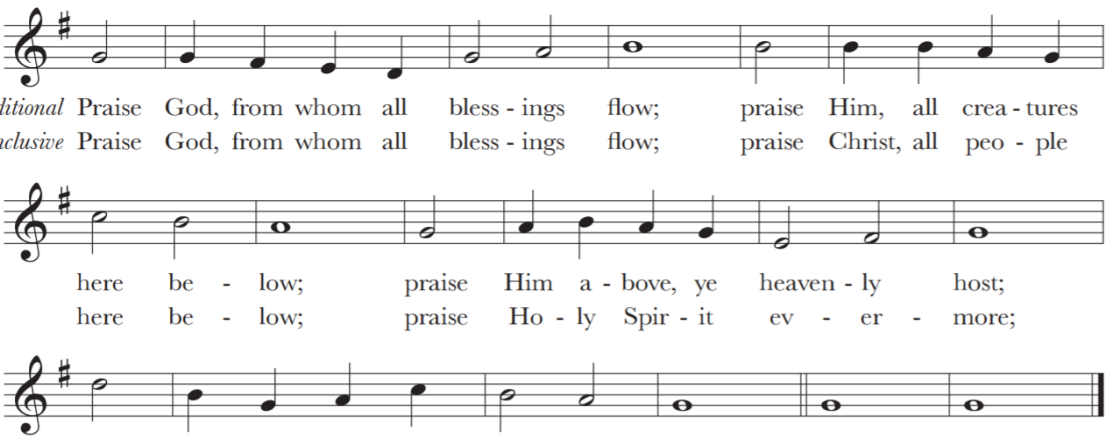
Have mercy on us, O God, and forgive our sin.

**Return us to paths of righteousness through Jesus Christ,
our teacher and Savior. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH



Traditional Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Him, all crea - tures
Inclusive Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple

here be - low; praise Him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host;
here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;

praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.
praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER AND 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,
the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

ANTHEM

Orlando Gibbons

Come, Holy Ghost, the maker, come, take in the souls of thine thy place; thou whom our hearts had being from, oh fill them with thy heavenly grace. Thou art that comfort from above, the highest doth by gift impart; thou spring of life, a fire of love, and the anointing spirit art.
- George Wither

Christina Angelopoulos, Hannah Nacheman,
Arri Lawton Simon, and Andrew Martens

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 5:1-11

Once while Jesus was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch."

Simon answered, “Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.” When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!” For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.” When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

SERMON

“Catching Dinner With Jesus”

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 170

“You Walk along Our Shoreline”

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from The Belhar Confession

The Belhar Confession has its roots in the struggle against apartheid in southern Africa. Formally adopted by the Dutch Reformed Mission Church in 1986, it was one of the “standards of unity” for the new Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa (URCSA). Belhar’s theological confrontation of the sin of racism has made possible reconciliation among Reformed churches in southern Africa and has aided the process of reconciliation within the nation of South Africa. The Presbyterian Church (USA) added Belhar to the Book of Confessions at the 2016 General Assembly.

**We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation
is made manifest in the church
as the community of believers
who have been reconciled with God
and with one another.**

**We believe that unity is, therefore,
both a gift and an obligation
for the church of Jesus Christ.**

**We believe that,
through the working of God’s Spirit,
it is a binding force,
yet simultaneously a reality
which must be earnestly pursued and sought:
one which the people of God
must continually be built up to attain.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

Thomas Tallis

Hear the voice and prayer of thy servants, that they make before thee this day. That thine eyes may be open toward this house night and day, ever toward this place of which thou hast said, “My name shall be there.” And when thou hearest have mercy on them.

– 2 Chronicles 6:19-21

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

HYMN 463

“How Firm a Foundation”

FOUNDATION

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Toccatà in D minor (Dorian), BWV 538”

J.S. Bach

*The congregation is invited to continue worshipping through the postlude,
which is offered as a thanksgiving to God.*

MUSIC NOTES. The grandson of slaves, George Walker (1922-2018) was the first African-American graduate of the Curtis Institute of Music, and the first African-American to win the Pulitzer Prize for Music (1996). Many of his over 100 works were commissions from top American orchestras and ensembles. Walker taught at Smith College and Rutgers University. “Prayer,” composed in 1996, in an introspective work, written in memory of his grandmother. • Composed during Bach’s years in Weimar, 1708-1717, the *Dorian* “Toccatà in D minor” BWV 538, is a vibrant work, with a propulsive motive present throughout. An interesting element not usually found in the organ music of Bach, are indications for which keyboards to use. Bach provided these explicitly. Not provided by Bach is the *Dorian* clarifier in the title. This was provided later by editors to distinguish it from the more (in)famous “Toccatà in D minor” BWV 565.

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