

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

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

Service for the Lord's Day

April 11, 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

"Chorale Prelude on LLANFAIR"

McNeil Robinson

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Micah 6:8

**God has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you:
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God.**

HYMN 245

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!"

LLANFAIR


PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of the journey, your invitation is to all,
to walk with you without fear of stumbling,
Your arm enough to steady the feeblest soul,
Your grace to rescue us should we fall.
Grant us faith enough to take you at your word,
To know that when our hearts are heavy,
and the destination seems so distant,
that you are there with us along the road.
Forgive us those times when we doubt your Word,
when we awake and feel alone.
Draw us ever closer into your family,
that we might know your presence,
and sing your praises,
all the days of our lives. 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

William H. Harris

Most glorious Lord of life, that on this day didst make thy triumph over death and sin;
and having harrowed hell didst bring away captivity thence captive, us to win:

This joyous day, dear Lord, with joy begin, and grant that we for whom thou diddest
die being with thy dear blood clean washed from sin, may live for ever in felicity.

And that thy love we weighing worthily, may likewise love thee for the same again; and
for thy sake that all like dear didst buy, with love may one another entertain.

So let us love, dear love, like as we ought. Love is the lesson which the Lord us taught.

-Edmund Spenser

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Psalm 131 and 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

O LORD, my heart is not lifted up,
my eyes are not raised too high;
I do not occupy myself with things
too great and too marvelous for me.
But I have calmed and quieted my soul,
like a weaned child with its mother;
my soul is like the weaned child that is with me.
O Israel, hope in the LORD
from this time on and forevermore.

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

SERMON

“Embracing the 'In-Between'” Rev. Dr. Mark D. Hostetter

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 817

“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

DUNLAP’S CREEK

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

**The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

David's Psalmen; harm. Charles Wood

This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow! My Love, the Crucified, hath sprung to life this morn. *Had Christ, that once was slain, ne'er burst his three-day prison, our faith had been in vain: but now hath Christ arisen.*

My flesh in hope shall rest, and for a season slumber: Till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number. *Had Christ, that once was slain...*

Death's flood hath lost his chill, since Jesus crossed the river lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver. *Had Christ, that once was slain...* –George Ratcliffe Woodward

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN 239

“Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing!”

GELOBT SEI GOTT

SENDING

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Chorale Prelude on GELOBT SEI GOTT"

Healey Willan

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

LEADING THIS MORNING

Audrey Webber, *Associate for Hospitality and Visual Arts*

Rev. Dr. Mark Hostetter, *Associate Pastor for Stewardship & Mission to the Corporate World*

Christina Angelopoulos, Hannah Nacheman,
Brandon Hynum, and Andrew Martens, *Choral Quartet*
Michael Shake, *Director of Music*

STAFF CONTACTS

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The Rev. Dr. J. Barrie Shepherd, Pastor Emeritus

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