

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

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## TRINITY SUNDAY

*Service for the Lord's Day*

May 30, 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 "Fugue in E flat Major, Op. 99, No. 3" Camille Saint-Saëns

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

INTROIT *Tibi, Christie, splendor, Patris; plainsong, 12th cent.*  
Alleluia, song of gladness, voice of joy that cannot die; alleluia is the anthem ever raised by choirs on high; in the house of God abiding thus they sing eternally. Therefore in our hymns we pray thee, grant us, blessed Trinity, at the last to keep thine Easter with thy faithful saints on high; there to thee forever singing alleluia joyfully. Amen.  
-Latin, 11th cent; John Mason Neale, alt.

WELCOME

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**The blessing of Father, Spirit, Son;  
Holy Trinity, Three in One,  
be in our meeting and our greeting,  
in the worship we share and the words of our prayer.**

**The blessing of Father, Spirit, Son;  
Holy Trinity, Three in One,  
be in our living and our breathing,  
that through our hearts and our words  
your truth may be heard. Amen.**

1 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!  
 2 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! all the saints a - dore thee,  
 3 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! though the dark - ness hide thee,  
 4 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! Lord God Al - might - y!

Ear - ly in the morn - ing our song shall rise to thee.  
 cast - ing down their gold - en crowns a - round the glass - y sea;  
 though the eye of sin - ful - ness thy glo - ry may not see,  
 All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!  
 cher - u - bim and ser - a - phim fall - ing down be - fore thee,  
 on - ly thou art ho - ly; there is none be - side thee,  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly! mer - ci - ful and might - y!

God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!  
 who wert, and art, and ev - er - more shalt be.  
 per - fect in power, in love and pu - ri - ty.  
 God in three per - sons, bless - ed Trin - i - ty!

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of grace, love, and communion,  
 we confess that we have failed to love you with all our heart, soul, and mind;  
 to love our neighbor as ourselves.**

**We ignore your commandments,  
 stray from your way, and follow other gods.**

**Jesus Christ, the face of God to us,  
 in you we see God's love reflected:  
 Lord, have mercy.**

**Jesus Christ, peace from God to us,  
you bring reconciliation to the whole world:  
Christ, have mercy.**

**Jesus Christ, our life and unity  
through the Spirit poured out on us:  
Lord, have mercy.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord,  
lead us to the joys of everlasting life. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### CHORAL ACCLAMATION

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.

GELOBT SEI GOTT, arr. Michael Shake

-Traditional liturgical text

### 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.**

## HEARING THE WORD

### ANTHEM

*Cantate Domino canticum novum;  
laus ejus in ecclesia sanctorum.  
Laetetur Israël in eo qui fecit eum,  
et filii Sion exsultent in rege suo.*

Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni

Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song,  
his praise in the assembly of the faithful.  
Let Israel be glad in its Maker;  
let the children of Zion rejoice in their King.  
-Psalm 149:1-2; sung in Latin

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 8:12-17

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh—or if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

“About God”

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**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.**

### OFFERTORY

Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy

*Heilig, heilig, heilig, ist Gott, der Herr Zebaoth!*

*Alle Lande sind seiner Ehre voll.*

*Hosianna in der Höh'!*

*Gelobt sei, der da kommt im Namen des Herrn!*

*Hosianna in der Höh'!*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

-Liturgy for Holy Communion; sung in German

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### SENDING

### HYMN 839

"Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!"

ASSURANCE

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

1 Bless - ed as - sur - ance, Je - sus is mine! O what a  
2 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, per - fect de - light, vi - sions of  
3 Per - fect sub - mis - sion, all is at rest; I in my

fore - taste of glo - ry di - vine! Heir of sal - va - tion,  
rap - ture now burst on my sight; an - gels de - scend - ing,  
Sav - ior am hap - py and blest, watch - ing and wait - ing,

pur - chase of God, born of his Spir - it, washed in his blood.  
 bring from a - bove ech - oes of mer - cy, whis - pers of love.  
 look - ing a - bove, filled with his good - ness, lost in his love.

*Refrain*

This is my sto - ry; this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior

all the day long; this is my sto - ry; this is my

song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Sortie”

Richard Webster

*The congregation is invited to continue worshiping through the postlude,  
 which is offered as a thanksgiving to God.  
 Remain seated until the end of the postlude. Join us on the lawn to greet one another.*

## SERMON NOTES

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## LEADING THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*  
Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, *Pastor/Head of Staff*  
Audrey Webber, M.Div., *Associate for Hospitality and Visual Arts*

The First Church Choir  
Michael Shake, *Director of Music*

### STAFF CONTACTS

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

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