# The Jirst Presbyterian Church in the City of New York

# REFORMATION SUNDAY

Service for the Lord's Day October 31st, 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.

### **G**ATHERING

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 worship.

PRELUDE

"Ein' Feste Burg ist unser Gott," from Cantata 80

J.S.Bach

trans. Gerald Near

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

INTROIT Heinrich Schütz

O praise God's name together, you servants of the Lord. Within your holy temple, before your sacred throne, the chosen heirs of Jacob proclaim you God alone! Your name, O God Almighty endures for endless days; and newborn generations unite to sing your praise.

-Psalm 135, selected verses; Michael Morgan, para.

Hymn 275

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

EIN' FESTE BURG

Please stand in body or spirit.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy and truth,

we have strayed from you in thought, word and deed.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have disregarded what is holy, trying to satisfy ourselves by our own means.

Christ have mercy.

We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We feel helpless against those

who seek to frustrate the hopes of the poor.

Lord have mercy.

Who is like you,
a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness?
Be our refuge and our deliverance.
By the presence and power of your Spirit,
change us so that we may delight in your desire to do justice,
through Jesus Christ our Lord...

## SILENT CONFESSION

## Assurance of Pardon



## SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

## CHILDREN'S PRAYER AND 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,

the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

## HEARING THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

pew Bible, Old Testament page 163/large print, Old Testament page 204

ANTHEM Maurice Duruflé

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est. Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor. Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur. Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum. Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero. Amen.

Where charity and love are, God is there. Christ's love has gathered us into one. Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him. Let us fear, and let us love the living God. And may we love each other with a sincere heart. Amen.

—Liturgy for Maundy Thursday; sung in Latin

SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 9:11-14

pew Bible, New Testament page 223/large print, New Testament page 271

THIRD LESSON

Mark 12:28-34

pew Bible, New Testament page 49/large print, New Testament page 60

**SERMON** 

"Of Luther, Lennon, and McCartney" Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

#### RESPONDING TO THE WORD

#### Affirmation of Faith

from A Brief Statement of Faith, PC (USA) 1983

Please stand in body or spirit.

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. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks, and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

OFFERTORY John Ireland

Many waters cannot quench love, neither can the floods drown it. Love is strong as death. Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness. Ye are washed, ye are sanctified, ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus; Ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. I beseech you, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

-Song of Solomon 8:7,6; John 15:13; 1 Peter 2:24; 1 Corinthians 6:11; 1 Peter 2:9; Romans 12:1

#### RESPONSE

OLD HUNDERETH

Please stand in body or spirit.



#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

#### SENDING

Hymn 828

"More Love to Thee, O Christ"

MORE LOVE TO THEE

Please stand in body or spirit.

BLESSING

**POSTLUDE** 

"Wir glauben all' an einen Gott, BWV 680"

J.S. Bach

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

#### LEADING THIS MORNING

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

The First Church Choir Christina Angelopoulos, soprano Dominic Inferrera, bass-baritone Michael Shake, Organist and Director of Music

## **Welcome to First Church!**

We are so glad you are here.

Scan to give your tithe or offering.



Join us for Coffee Fellowship on the North Lawn after the Postlude to meet one another, say hello to new faces, and enjoy refreshments.

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