

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

TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Service for the Lord's Day

February 19th, 2023 | 11 a.m.



Transform/Transformed by God, Anne Cameron Cutri.

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!

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.

Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York. Over 800 members call this place our spiritual home and we are grateful you are worshiping with us today. We believe First Church is a community of people called to stand on the intersection of faith and life as we witness to the love, grace and justice of God for all people.

Wherever you are in your journey of faith, I pray today's service will be a blessing for you. If this is your first time here, a member of the pastoral staff would love to greet you at the door and answer any questions you may have about the life and ministries of this church.

We are glad you are here. May you experience God's welcome in this place today!

Greg Stovell
Senior Pastor

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

GET INVOLVED



GIVE



**INTERESTED IN
MEMBERSHIP?**



GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Fantasy on ST. DENIO”

Gerre Hancock

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

CALL TO WORSHIP

from Philippians 4:4-6

Please stand in body or spirit.

Let your gentleness be known to everyone.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything,
but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving
let your requests be made known to God.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

HYMN 12

“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

ST. DENIO

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of compassion, you continually reveal your presence to us,
but we are often too distracted to realize you are near.**

**We confess that we speak when we should listen,
and act when we should wait.**

Forgive our aimless enthusiasms.

Give us wisdom to live in kindness, confident of your presence.

Hear us now as we pray silently...

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE

JACQUES BERTHIER

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE AND SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Children are invited to come forward to the steps for the prayer. Following the prayer, all children are invited to the Parlor for Church School and should be picked up there by their parents at the end of the worship service.

**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,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

HEARING THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Exodus 24:12-18

pew Bible, Old Testament page 70/large print, Old Testament page 87

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Leo Sowerby

Eternal Light, shine into our hearts. Eternal Goodness, deliver us from evil. Eternal Power, be our support. Eternal Wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal Pity, have mercy upon us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

-St. Alcuin

SECOND LESSON

Matthew 17:1-9

pew Bible, New Testament page 18/large print, New Testament page 22

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“What Changes Us?”

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 817

“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

DUNLAP'S CREEK

Please stand in body or spirit.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Romans 8:35, 37-39

**Who will separate us from the love of Christ?
Will affliction or distress or persecution
or famine or nakedness or peril or sword?
No, in all these things we are more than victorious
through him who loved us. For we are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation
will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

OFFERTORY

T. Frederick H. Candlyn

The text may be found in *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*, 662.

DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

Please stand in body or spirit.



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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SENDING

HYMN 673

“Jesus, Light of Joy”

LAUDA ANIMA

Please stand in body or spirit.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Sun Dance”

Bob Chilcott

*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*

Rev. Emily Brewer, *Interim Associate Pastor of Mission and Social Justice*

Emma Gritsch, *Seminary Intern*

The First Church Choir

Michael Shake, *Organist and Director of Music*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The fourth installment in our five-part Earth Care series will be held today, February 19th at 12:30 p.m. *What is Divesting and Why?* is a presentation and panel discussion about what divestment is, what our denomination and church have done, and why it is important to consider. Part Five will take place on April 16th and will feature a guest preacher, Bill McKibben, followed by a Q&A panel discussion with industry experts.

Coffee and Theology will continue Sunday, February 26th with the *Jesus and Social Justice* series – Matthew 25. All are welcome before Sunday worship on Zoom and in the library at 9:30 a.m. For more information, contact Rev. Barbara Davis at bdavis@fpcnyc.org.

Church School continues *Honor God's Diversity* series today in the Parlor during worship. Child-care is available on the third floor for children under three years old.

Join Qigong at First for their last session of the season online tomorrow from 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m. This meditative practice generates and circulates energy while connecting one to all things, both animate and inanimate. Sitting or standing, one quiets the mind and feels the light of the heavens and the earth, as well as the mysterious gift of breath. For more information, contact Meg Harper at harpermeg718@gmail.com.

Join us on February 22nd at 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary for our Ash Wednesday services. Ashes will be imposed, and we will celebrate the sacrament of communion. Services will be livestreamed on the church's YouTube, Facebook, and BoxCast accounts, which can be found in our First Matters newsletter.

Bible Study returns Wednesday, March 1st at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom and in the library with the Gospel of John. For more information, please contact Rev. Barbara Davis at bdavis@fpcnyc.org.

Prayer Writing continues Wednesday, February 22nd at 8:30 a.m. Readings will be used from *Rooted: Life at the Crossroads of Science, Nature, and Spirit*. All are welcome to this time of quiet prompts for meditation and prayer, no writing experience necessary! For more information, contact Rev. Barbara Davis at bdavis@fpcnyc.org.

Sermon Talks are back during Lent. Everyone is invited to the parlor on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. **starting February 26th** to discuss the sermon, hear what did not make it into the final manuscript, and have a brief discussion on the text for the following week.

The For the Spiritual Travelers exhibition in The Great Hall Gallery will close on February 26th. Please join us from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the closing reception. If you have not seen the exhibit yet, it will be open from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Sundays and by appointment until it closes.

Calling all K-5th Students - come sing with us! All K-5th grade students are invited to join for a special opportunity to lead music in worship! Join us 10:30 - 10:50 a.m. in the Parlor every Sunday in preparation to sing in 11:00 a.m. worship on Palm Sunday, April 2nd. Want to know more or sign up? Contact Jon (jharris@fpcnyc.org).

The next Senior Luncheon titled *What's New in Legal Matters* will be held on March 9th in the Parlor. Matthew Raphan, an elder lawyer who is known to many at First Church, will be discussing Health Proxies, Power of Attorney and Wills. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. and the program will begin at 1:15 p.m. If you want to register for the luncheon, go to the front desk and ask for the sign-up sheet or call (212) 675-6150.

The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee at First Church is looking for candidates to fill the Social Justice and Mission pastoral role, and they want to hear from you! They are seeking a leader with at least two years of experience who is an energetic motivator with a heart for mission to galvanize our congregation by broadening and deepening member involvement in opportunities to serve. If you want to refer someone, please email apnc@fpcnyc.org.

Lent 2023 Worship and Programs

Be sure to put these worship services & programs on your calendar.

Ash Wednesday Worship

February 22nd at 12 & 7 p.m.

Coffee & Theology

Every Sunday from February 26th through March 26th at 9:30 a.m.

Sunday Worship + Sermon Talks

Every Sunday from February 26th through April 2nd at 11 a.m. & 12:30 p.m.

Love Lives Beyond: A Vespers Service of Music for Lent

March 19th at 4 p.m.

Midweek Music Meditation & Worship

Every Wednesday from March 1st through March 29th at 11:45 a.m.

Midweek Bible Study

Every Wednesday from March 1st through March 22nd at 12:30 p.m.

Prayer Writing

Wednesday, February 22nd at 8:30 a.m. & every Thursday from March 2nd through April 6th at 8:30 a.m.

Read the Lenten Devotional throughout the season - you can pick up a copy in the lobby.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Today

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Theology
11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
11:15 a.m. Church School
12:00 p.m. Coffee Fellowship
12:30 p.m. Earth Care - Seminar Series #4
2:00 p.m. Make It Meaningful

Monday

5:30 p.m. Qigong

Wednesday

8:30 a.m. Prayer Writing
12:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Service
5:30 p.m. Conversational Spanish
7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Worship Service

Friday

7:00 p.m. Current Events

Saturday

10:15 a.m. St. Joe's Soup Kitchen

Next Sunday

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Theology
11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
11:15 a.m. Church School
12:00 p.m. Coffee Fellowship
12:00 p.m. Art at First - For the Spiritual Traveler
Closing Reception
12:30 p.m. Sermon Talks
1:30 p.m. Literary Group
2:00 p.m. Make It Meaningful

“

God of mercy, we join in prayer for our siblings in Syria and Turkey, and all other regions affected. In the face of the terrible images that come to us, we ask that your Spirit, O God, once again move in the midst of chaos and destruction. May your Spirit be with the first responders, neighbors putting their lives at risk to help those around them, and anyone assisting during this time of emergency. May you provide protection, energy and strength through your presence. Be with them as they search for loved ones, guide them during the long hours and allow them to find hope through your Spirit



Use the QR code above to donate for disaster relief through PDA.

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