

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

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FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT  
*Service for the Lord's Day*  
February 26th, 2023 | 11 a.m.

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*Lazarus and the Rich Man*, Nigel Lawrence, acrylic on canvas.

# 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*

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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

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

Calvin Taylor

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

As darkness gives way to light  
and winter sleep to fresh beginnings,  
**we come today to be reminded of God’s love.**

Like the green shoots of renewed life,  
stirring beneath the soil,  
**we welcome an awakening of God’s word in our lives.**

In this holy season of reflection and repentance,  
**we affirm our identity  
and rejoice in our security as children of God.  
Let us worship God!**

HYMN 816

“If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee”

WER NUR DEN  
LIEBEN GOTT

CALL TO CONFESSION

KYRIE *sung by the choir*

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Ukrainian traditional chant

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God we easily set our sight on ourselves,  
our opinions, our emotions, our needs, our entitlements,  
that we fail to notice our effect on others.**

**We confess we do not always make connections between our limitless wants  
and the resources left for others.**

**We do this without knowing it.**

**Bring our awareness to justice for all,  
to the common good,  
to your universality of blessings.**

**Remind us you love all.**

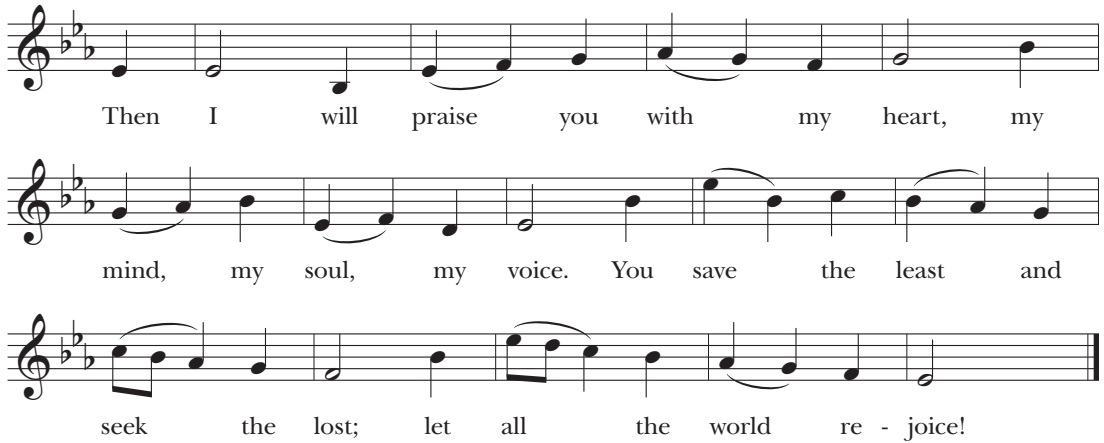
**Hear us now as we open our hearts to you in silence...**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## RESPONSE

IRISH



Then I will praise you with my heart, my  
mind, my soul, my voice. You save the least and  
seek the lost; let all the world re-joice!

## 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.**

## ANTHEM

Give alms of thy goods, and turn never thy face from any poor one, and then the face of the Lord shall not be turned away from thee.

Christopher Tye  
-Book of Common Prayer, from Tobit 4:7

## HEARING THE WORD

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 16:19-31

*pew Bible, New Testament page 79/large print, New Testament page 97*

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SERMON

“Parable Living: What’s in a Name?”

Emma Gritsch

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 727

“Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”

THE SERVANT SONG

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

**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

Orlando Gibbons

Almighty and everlasting God, mercifully look upon our infirmities, and in all our dangers and necessities stretch forth thy right hand to help and defend us, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

—Collect for the Third Sunday after Epiphany, 1549 *Book of Common Prayer*

### 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 775

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

“I Want Jesus to Walk with Me”

WALK WITH ME

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Fugue sur le thème du Carillon  
des Heures de la Cathédrale de Soissons, Op. 12”

Maurice Duruflé

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

The cross which leads the procession today is dedicated  
“In memory of all those who died from AIDS in our church and community.”  
Our cross-bearer today is Sorrel Ann Alburger.

## LEADING THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, *Senior Pastor*  
Emma Gritsch, *Seminary Intern*

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

## 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  
12:00 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

### Monday

5:30 p.m. Qigong

### Wednesday

11:45 a.m. Midweek Music Meditation & Worship  
12:30 p.m. Wednesday Bible Study  
5:30 p.m. Conversational Spanish

### Thursday

8:30 a.m. Thursday Prayer Writing

### 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  
12:30 p.m. Presbyterian Women Bible Study  
12:30 p.m. Sermon Talks  
2:00 p.m. Make It Meaningful

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**The *For the Spiritual Travelers* exhibition in The Great Hall Gallery closes today.** Please join us from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for the closing reception. Max Kornfield and other artists will speak about their work and the inspiration for the exhibit starting at 12:30 p.m.

**Sermon Talks are back during Lent.** Everyone is invited to the parlor on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. **starting today** 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.

**Make it Meaningful. Join us Sunday afternoons, in the South Wing Brick Room,** any time between 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to help make crafts for our A Tartan Christmas Fair (craft projects are provided, but you are welcome to bring your own). At the same time, enjoy meaningful conversation about the morning's sermon, current events, and other topics. All are welcome!

**Coffee and Theology will continue Sunday, March 5th with the *Jesus and Social Justice* series – Feast of the 5000.** 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](mailto: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.

**Everyone is welcome to Qigong at First, which takes place online on Mondays from 5:30 p.m. to 6:15 p.m.** Qigong at First is pleased to welcome Anne Gaines Wines to our sessions of movement meditation. Anne will take over leading the sessions beginning **February 27 through March 27th**, offering a gentle vinyasa practice of yoga, sitting or standing. For details and to join, please contact Anne Wines at [annegaineswines@gmail.com](mailto:annegaineswines@gmail.com).

**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](mailto:bdavis@fpcnyc.org).

**Prayer Writing Thursday, March 2nd 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](mailto:bdavis@fpcnyc.org).

**Join us for our Midweek Music Meditation and Worship on Wednesdays throughout Lent.** Music Meditation begins at 11:45 a.m. followed by worship. Services will be livestreamed on the church's YouTube, Facebook, and BoxCast accounts, which can be found in our First Matters newsletter.

**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.

**Join us for *Love Lives Beyond: A Vespers Service of Music for Lent* on Sunday, March 19th at 4:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary** The First Church Choir explores where and how "love lives beyond" through three stunning pieces: Johann Sebastian Bach's arresting cantata of spiritual reflection, *Jesu, der du meine Seele*; *The Best Beloved: Four Motets on Jacobean Poems*, a dynamic expression of sweeping emotion by Chris DeBlasio, whose life was tragically ended by HIV/AIDS in 1993; and, the U.S. premiere of Cecilia McDowall's *On Angel's Wing*, described as an "exquisite and exotic work....that juxtaposes sensitive lyricism....with choral passages of great passion and joy."

# 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.**

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