

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

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD/EASTER

April 9th, 2023



Wei Chao, 2020, photograph.

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 worshipping 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.

Gender-neutral restrooms are located at the back of the sanctuary as well as through the wooden doors at the front of the sanctuary on the south side. More restrooms can be found in the lobby on the north side of the sanctuary.

GET INVOLVED



GIVE



INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Prelude, Op. 93"

Alexander Glazunov

arr. Daniel Ficarri

"Adagio, from Symphonie V, Op. 42, No. 1" Charles-Marie Widor

"Festival Intrada"

Richard Strauss

arr. Jack Levick and Warren Shaffer

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Please stand in body or spirit.

Glory to you, O God:

**on this day you won victory over death,
raising Jesus from the grave
and giving us eternal life.**

Glory to you, O Christ:

**for us and for our salvation you overcame death
and opened the gate to everlasting life.**

Glory to you, O Holy Spirit: you lead us into the truth.

**Glory to you, O Blessed Trinity,
now and forever.**

HYMN 232

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

EASTER HYMN

arr. Richard R. Webster

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God,

**in raising Jesus from the grave,
you shattered the power of sin and death.**

**We confess that we remain captive to doubt and fear,
bound by the ways that lead to death.**

**We overlook the poor and the hungry,
and pass by those who mourn;**

**we are deaf to the cries of the oppressed,
and indifferent to calls for peace;**

**we despise the weak,
and abuse the earth you made.**

Forgive us, God of mercy.

**Help us to trust your power
to change our lives and make us new,
that we may know the joy of life abundant
given in Jesus Christ, the risen Lord.**

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

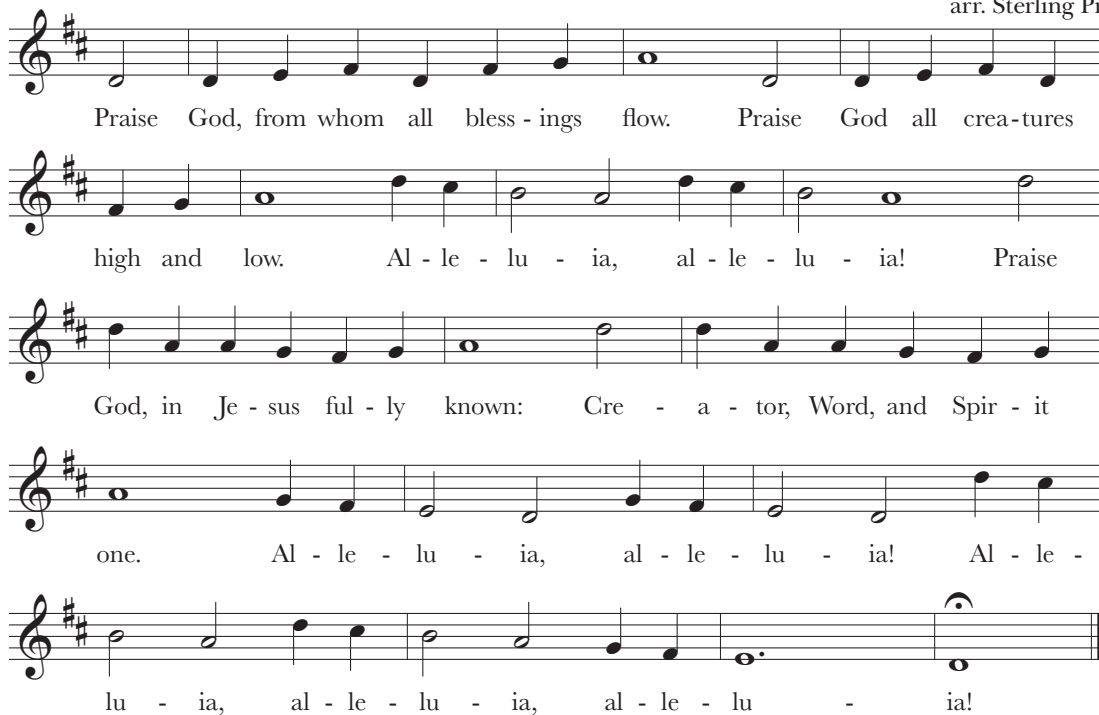
SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE: DOXOLOGY WITH ALLELUIAS

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

arr. Sterling Procter



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God all crea - tures
high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise
God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it
one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia, 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

Children are invited to come forward to the steps for prayer. Children then return to the pews with their families. At 11a.m. children who are 3-5 years old are invited to the Parlor for a special program.

**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.**

CHORAL ACCLAMATION

Gerald Near

This is the day that the Lord hath made. Let us rejoice and be glad therein. O give thanks to the Lord for he is gracious: and his mercy endureth forever.
-Gradual for Easter Day

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 28:1-10
pew Bible, New Testament page 90/large print, New Testament page 109

SERMON

“Not Yet Happily Forever After”

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 236

Please stand in body or spirit.

“The Strife is O’er”

VICTORY

arr. Sterling Procter

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

Charles Villiers Stanford

Ye choirs of new Jerusalem, your sweetest notes employ, the Paschal victory to hymn in strains of holy joy. For Judah’s Lion bursts His chains, crushing the serpent’s head; and cries aloud through death’s domains to wake the imprisoned dead. Devouring depths of hell their prey at His command restore; His ransomed hosts pursue their way where Jesus goes before. Triumphant in His glory now to Him all power is given; to Him in one communion bow all saints in earth and heaven. While we, His soldiers, praise our King, His mercy we implore, within His palace bright to bring and keep us evermore. All glory to the Father be, all glory to the Son, all glory, Holy Ghost, to Thee, while endless ages run. Alleluia! Amen.

—Robert Campbell

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SENDING

HYMN 238

Please stand in body or spirit.

“Thine Is the Glory”

JUDAS MACCABEUS

arr. Robert Hobby

BLESSING

CHORAL BENEDICTION

George Frederic Handel

Hallelujah: for the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth. The kingdom of this world is become the kingdom of our Lord, and of His Christ; and He shall reign for ever and ever. King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

—Revelation 19:6; 11:15; 19:16

POSTLUDE

“Toccata, from Symphonie V, Op. 42, No. 1” Charles-Marie Widor

arr. Sterling Procter

*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-bearers today are Meg Harper (9:00 a.m.) and Nadine Stewart (11:00 a.m.).

LEADING THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, *Pastor/Head of Staff*

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*

Rev. Emily Brewer, *Interim Associate Pastor*

Emma Gritsch, *Seminary Intern*

The First Church Choir

Michael Shake, *Organist and Director of Music*

David Krauss and Matthew Muckey, *Trumpet*

Jeffrey Scott, *French Horn*

Julia Dombroski, *Trombone*

Taylor Peterson, *Bass Trombone*

Sean Ritenauer, *Timpani*

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THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Today

8:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Chapel Worship
8:00 a.m. Easter Breakfast
9:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Worship
11:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Worship
11:15 a.m. Church School
12:00 p.m. Coffee Fellowship
Easter Egg Hunt

Monday

Church office closed

Wednesday

5:30 p.m. Conversational Spanish

Thursday

12:30 p.m. Elder Care Luncheon

Friday

7:00 p.m. Current Events

Saturday

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

Next Sunday

11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
11:15 a.m. Church School
12:00 p.m. Coffee Fellowship
12:30 p.m. Bill McKibben Panel Discussion

ANNOUNCEMENTS

During worship on Earth Care Sunday, April 16th, we will take up the One Great Hour of Sharing offering with Presbyterians across the US. This offering supports Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and Self Development of People, all programs that are working to empower people around the globe to address critical issues in their lives and communities such as food security, access to clean drinking water, and recovery from natural disasters.

Interested in learning more about our church or becoming a member of our congregation? Join us for an Inquirers Class on April 29th. For more information email Aileen Caba (acaba@fpcnyc.org).

Beginning on May 7th, a group of FPCNYC teens will be offering tech support to seniors on the first Sunday of each month during coffee hour. Seniors who need help with technology can bring their phones, laptops, iPads, and other devices to church, and the teen tech squad will work with them one-on-one. No need to sign up in advance - just show up! Members who are unable to attend church or require immediate assistance may request a home visit. Please email Jonathan Metzler (jonathanpmetzler@gmail.com) if you are a senior interested in these services or a teen interested in volunteering with tech support.

Join us in worship on May 7th when we welcome Dr. Thomas G. Long to the pulpit. Dr. Long is Professor Emeritus of Preaching at Candler School of Theology in Atlanta. He is a Presbyterian minister and sought out preacher and keynote speaker. His introductory book on preaching is recognized as one of the most influential works in the field in the last 25 years. A recipient of numerous awards, Dr. Long was named by Baylor University as one of the twelve most effective preachers in the English-speaking world. Tom will preach at First Church on May 7th and lead a sermon-talk discussion and presentation on his new book following worship.

Join us in the sanctuary on June 25th at 11 a.m. for our Pride Sunday service. It's a day to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community and show our support. After the service, we will pass out water to participants in the march. If you're interested in volunteering, please send an email to Emily Brewer (ebrewer@fpcnyc.org).

Join

Join us
April 16TH • 11AM

Bill McKibben

Guest preacher
Founder of Third Act
Co-founder 350.org

› All are Welcome!



› Also Join Us at 12:30 PM for
a Moderated Panel Discussion
followed by Q&A

Complimentary Admission
RSVP: Eventbrite

Photo Credit
Storyworkz



› SAVING THE PLANET An Ethical Imperative

In addition to
Bill McKibben
panelists include:

Miranda Massie
Founder and Director
of the Climate Museum

Erik Bottcher
Environmentalist,
and NYC Council
Representative,
District 3

**Rev. Lindley
Degarmo**
Vice Chair PCUSA
Mission Responsibility
Through Investment

**Rev. Gregory
Simpson**
Theologian, Scientist,
and Co-founder Hudson
Valley Environmental
Justice Coalition.



This paper contains 100% post-consumer waste content, is made with windpower and made carbon neutral.

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