

The First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD/EASTER

March 31, 2024



Mourning Light (Mark 16:1-8), Lisle Gywnn Garrity

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, weather permitting, or the Morrow Room 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?



STEWARDSHIP 2024



If you are in need of care, such as prayer or a call from a pastor, a ride to the church, etc., please contact our church office at (212) 675-6150.

Our staff will connect you with one of our pastors or a deacon from our caring ministry who can assist with your needs.

SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Prelude, Op. 93”

Alexander Glazunov
arr. Daniel Ficarri

“Menuet Gothique, from *Suite Gothique, Op. 25*”
“Flourishes”

Léon Böellmann
Carlyle Sharpe

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...**

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 our prayer. Children then return to the pews with their families. During the 11 am service, children who are 3-5 years old are invited to the Parlor after our prayer for a special Easter 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.**

ANTHEM

Today I rise, I soar in splendor as the day keeps unveiling all her grandeur. Let the chains of yesterday
break away! Today is here, I will not cling to yesterday!

Lucy Walker

-Ozioma Ogbaji

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 16:1-8
pew Bible, New Testament page 54/large print, New Testament page 66

SERMON

"It's over. Now what?"

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 246

Please stand in body or spirit.

“Christ Is Alive”

TRURO

arr. Richard Webster

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

Horatio Parker

arr. Stephen Buzard

Light's glittering morn bedecks the sky; heav'n thunders forth its victor cry; the glad earth shouts her triumph high, and groaning hell makes wild reply, while He the King, the mighty King, despoiling death of all its sting, and trampling down the powers of might, brings forth His ransomed Saints to light.

That Eastertide with joy was bright, the sun shone out with fairer light, when to their longing eyes restored the Apostles saw their risen Lord: He bade them see His hands, His side, where yet the glorious wounds abide; these tokens true which made it plain their Lord indeed was risen again.

O Jesu, King of gentleness do Thou Thyself our hearts possess; that we may give Thee all our days, the tribute of our grateful praise.

The strife is o'er, the battle done, the victory of life is won, the song of triumph has begun.

O Lord of all with us abide, in this our joyful Eastertide; from every weapon death can wield, Thine own redeemed for ever shield.

Alleluia. Amen.

All praise be Thine, O risen Lord, from death to endless life restored, all praise to God, the Father be, and Holy Ghost eternally. Alleluia. Amen.

-5th century Latin hymn; trans. John Mason Neale

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

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.

George Frederic Handel
–Revelation 19:6; 11:15; 19:16

POSTLUDE

“Toccatà, from *Symphonie V, Op. 42, No. 1*” Charles-Marie Widor
arr. Sterling Procter

*The congregation is invited to continue worshipping 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 Steven White (9 a.m.) and Nadine Stewart (11 a.m.)

LEADING THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, *Senior Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*
Rev. Ashley Bair, *Associate Pastor*
Jenny Bennett, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*

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*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Today

8 a.m. Easter Communion Service
8:30 a.m. Easter Breakfast
9 a.m. Easter Festival Service
11:15 a.m. Church School
11 a.m. Easter Festival Service
12 p.m. Coffee Fellowship (hybrid)
Easter Egg Hunt

Monday
(Building Closed)

Tuesday
6 p.m. PRISM
6 p.m. Personnel (virtual)

Wednesday
12:30 p.m. Bible Study (hybrid)
5:30 p.m. Conversational Spanish (virtual)

Thursday

8 p.m. Elder Committee Meeting (virtual)

Saturday

10:15 a.m. First Saturdays with
St. Joe's Soup Kitchen
12 p.m. RIF Asylum Support

Next Sunday

9:30 a.m. Baby & Toddler Worship
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Theology
11 a.m. Church School
11 a.m. Communion
11 a.m. Sunday Worship
12 p.m. Coffee Fellowship
12 p.m. Teen Tech Squad
12:15 p.m. Student Choristers
12:20 p.m. Bibles & Bagels
12:30 p.m. Presbyterian Women
12:30 p.m. Earth Care Seminar
12:45 p.m. Confirmation

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us today for a joyous Easter celebration! Easter Breakfast will be served from 8:30 to 11 a.m. on the South Lawn (weather permitting) or in the Morrow Room. After the 11 a.m. service, you are welcome to attend the **Family Easter Egg Hunt** and **Coffee Fellowship**. We look forward to celebrating with you!

Family ministries offerings this Sunday! During 11 a.m. Easter Sunday Worship, children ages 3 - 5 years old are invited to join us for Church School after the Children's prayer. Directly after the service, children can be picked up from the Parlor, and all are welcome to join us on the North Lawn for our Easter Egg Hunt!

Adult Education Look forward to our regular programs including our hybrid **Wednesday Bible Study** will return on Wednesday, April 3rd at 12:30 p.m. with a study of Zechariah & Malachi. **Coffee & Theology** will return on April 7th in person and online. **Prayer Writing** will return on May 2nd at 8:30 a.m. in person and online. Please email Barbara at bdavis@fpcnyc.org to learn more about our programming!

Join us Sunday, April 7th at 12:30 p.m. for "Divesting for the Individual" presented by Rev. Sue Smith in the Esther Morrow Room, preceded by a light lunch. The Rev. Sue Smith, co-chaired the Advisory Committee on Social Witness Policy, and co-authored Investing in a Green Future: A Vision for a Renewed Creation, which commissioners approved by a vote of 325-27. Among other things, the study directs the Presbyterian Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Responsibility to engage with insurance companies and banks to cease insuring or lending to new fossil fuel projects.

The Elder Care luncheon will be held on Thursday, April 11th at 12:30 p.m. Barbara Sherman will speak on Lightning and Inspiration. In this discussion she will speak on her practice and how ideas come to her. Also, there will be a special project for all of us to participate in - join us to find out what it is!

We welcome you to participate in Earth Week this April! On Sunday, April 21st, join us for our Annual Neighborhood Cleanup at 1 p.m. from 14th Street - Washington Sq. Park and University to 6th! Then on Saturday, April 27th from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. you are invited to the **Community Tree Bed Planting Party & Cook-out!** All are welcome!

Vespers Festival of Music: Ein Deutsches Requiem by Johannes Brahms Sunday, May 5th, 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Free admission. The First Church Choir, soloists, and chamber ensemble offer one of the most powerful works of the Romantic era. Brahms' deeply personal testament is a human requiem, addressing the universal experience of grief and healing. Sung in the original German, hear this masterpiece with Iain Farrington's chamber orchestration that draws upon the intimacy and personal expression of the work, "creating a rich and satisfying experience." For live stream access, please contact Aileen Caba: acaba@fpcnyc.org.

Teen Tech Squad is available after services on the first Sunday of the month during coffee fellowship for any questions you might have about your electronic devices. Home visits from the Teen Tech Squad are also available. Please contact Jonathan at JonathanPMetzler@gmail.com for more information.

LGBTQ+ & Allies Brunch on the first Sundays of each month. Following worship next Sunday, we will be hosting an LGBTQ+ brunch for those in the community and allies! Please RSVP with Ashley Bair at abair@fpcnyc.org to join us. Those attending the brunch will meet with at coffee hour!

Join us for First Saturday's at St. Joe's Soup Kitchen! Volunteers are invited to sign up with Aileen Caba at acaba@fpcnyc.org to serve at St. Joe's on the first Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. Don't miss this chance to make a difference in the community by giving back through service.



Looking for more?

Sign up for our weekly newsletter, First Matters, to be informed about upcoming events and learn about the initiatives that define us.

PRIDE SUNDAY AT FIRST CHURCH

SUNDAY, JUNE 30TH

Volunteer at First Church
this June and distribute
water to pride marchers
as we stand together in
solidarity and celebration!

VOLUNTEER AT ST. JOE'S SOUP KITCHEN!

Join St. Joe's Soup Kitchen
every first Saturday of the
month by dedicating your time
for a moment of service

*"I'm glad the guests who came got to eat.
It was fun meeting people."*

*"I liked feeding people because it gets me
out of thinking about myself and I get a
sexy hairnet."*

- St. Joe's Volunteers



Interested in volunteering at First Church? Contact our church
office by emailing Aileen Caba at acaba@fpcnyc.org

PERMISSIONS All public domain except: *Prelude, Op. 93*. © 2021 Daniel James Ficarra. *Flourishes*. © 2016 E. C. Schrimmer Music Company. Used under ONE LICENSE #73497-A. *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today*. Music arr. © 2008 Richard R. Webster. Published by Advent Press, Inc. *Doxology with Alleluias*. Music arr. © 2014 Highland Music Press. Used by permission. Words © 1989 Hope Publishing Company. Used under ONE LICENSE #73497-A. *Today*. © 2022 JH Music. *Christ Is Alive!* Words © 1975, rev. 1995 Hope Publishing Company. Used under ONE LICENSE #73497-A. Music arr. © 2008 Richard R. Webster. Published by Advent Press, Inc. *Light's Glittering Morn Bedecks the Skies*. Music arr. © Stephen Buzard. *Thine Is the Glory*. Music arr. © 1994 MorningStar Music Publishers. Used under ONE LICENSE #73497-A. *Toccata, from Symphonie V, Op. 42, No. 1*. Music arr. © 2001 Highland Music Press. Used by permission. Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



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

Neenah Paper is certified by Preferred by Nature for FSC® standards and Green Seal Certified. 3-05077-F