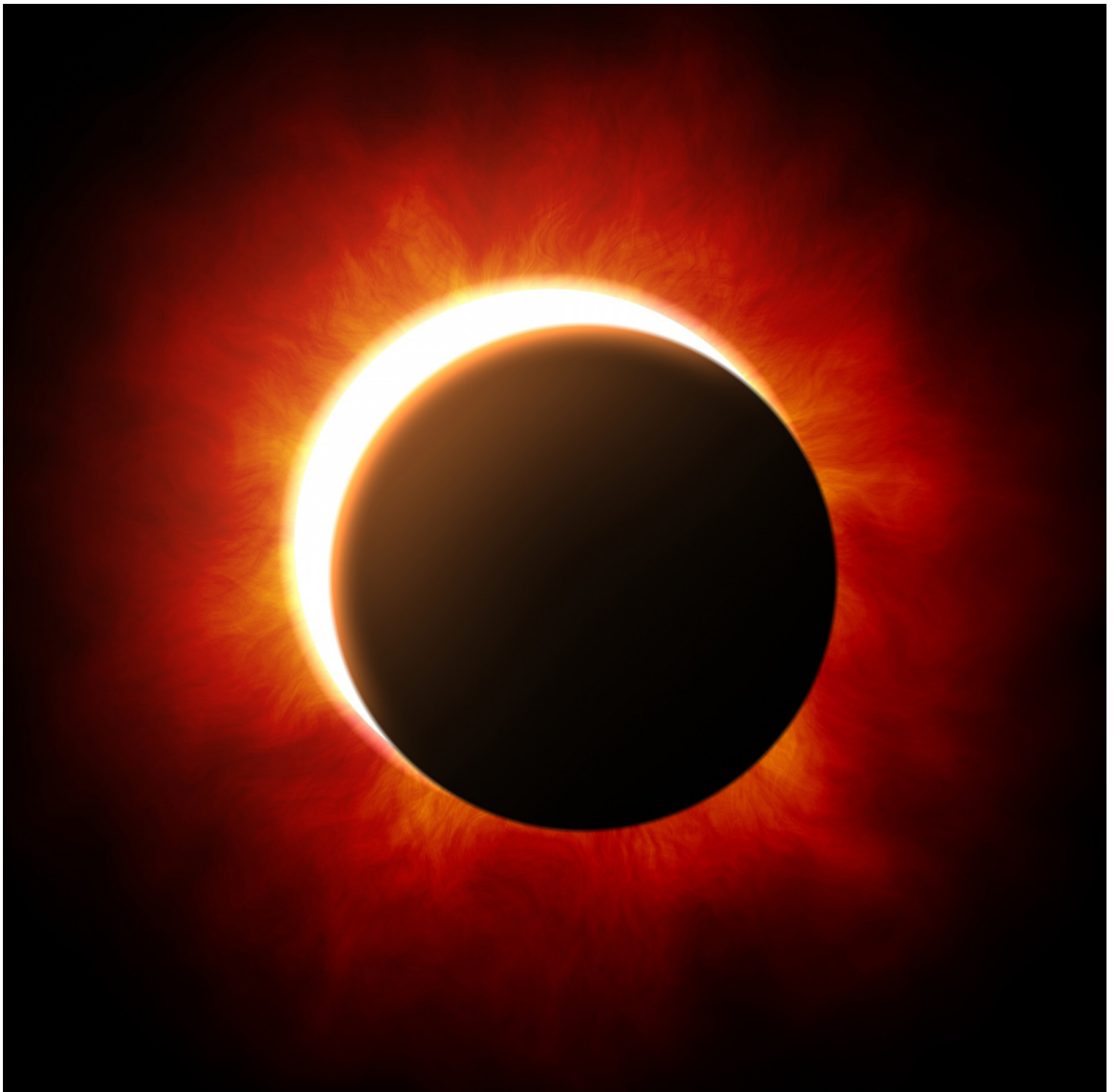


The First Presbyterian Church *in the City of New York*

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
Service for the Lord's Day
April 14, 2024 | 11 a.m.



Corona Solar Eclipse, Andrea Stöckel.

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, 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.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Chorale Prelude on LLANFAIR”

McNeil Robinson

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

INTROIT

Edward C. Bairstow

Jesu, the very thought of thee with sweetness fills my breast; but sweeter far thy face to see, and in thy presence rest.

-St. Bernard of Clairvaux; Edward Caswall, trans.

HYMN 245

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!”

LLANFAIR

Please stand in body or spirit.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and righteous one, we are stunned by the miracles of new life and forgiveness you offer. When our awe turns to disbelief, renew us with your joy. When our fear turns to rejection, lead us into your presence. When our stumbling leads to sin, forgive us by your grace, and direct our steps in your paths of righteousness. Hear now, in the silence of our prayers, our soul's deepest groanings, our heart's deepest regrets....

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE

MFURAHINI, HALELUYA

Christ has a - ris - en to set us free.
Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;

Al - le - lu - ia, to him prais - es be.
he reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

Let us sing praise to him with end - less joy. Death's fear - ful
sting he has come to de - stroy. Our sin for - giv - ing,
al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is liv - ing, 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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Children are invited to come forward to the steps for the prayers. Following the Lord's Prayer, all children are invited to Church School and should be picked up 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

Austin C. Lovelace

Beloved, let us love: for love is of God; in God alone love has its true abode. Beloved, let us love: for those who love, they only, are their children from above. Beloved, let us love: for love is light, and those who do not love still live in night. Beloved, let us love: for only thus shall we see God, the Lord who first loved us.

—Horatius Bonar, based on 1 John 4:7

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 John 3:1-7

pew Bible, New Testament page 240/large print, New Testament page 291

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Righteous Sinning”

Rev. Dr. Mark Hosetter

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 450

“Be Thou My Vision”

SLANE

Please stand in body or spirit.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from the *Belhar Confession*

We believe that God has entrusted the church with the message of reconciliation in and through Jesus Christ; that the church is called to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world, that the church is called blessed because it is a peacemaker, that the church is witness both by word and by deed to the new heaven and the new earth in which righteousness dwells; that God's life-giving Word and Spirit has conquered the powers of sin and death, and therefore also of irreconciliation and hatred, bitterness and enmity, that God's life-giving Word and Spirit will enable the church to live in a new obedience which can open new possibilities of life for society and the world.

OFFERTORY

Dutch melody, 17th cent.; harm. Alice Parker

The text can be found in *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*, 249.

DOXOLOGY WITH ALLELUIAS

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SENDING

HYMN 239

“Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing”

GELOBT SEI GOTT

Please stand in body or spirit.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Chorale Prelude on GELOBT SEI GOTT”

Healey Willan

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

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Rohan Gosnell Mody

Son of Ashley Gosnell Mody & Darshan Sanir Mody

Stella Emilia Marinescu-Shah

Daughter of Kishan Shah & Irina Marinescu

LEADING THIS MORNING

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

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

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Today

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Theology (hybrid)
10:15 a.m. Club 34
11 a.m. Sunday Worship
11:15 a.m. Church School
12 p.m. Coffee Fellowship
12:15 p.m. Student Choristers
12:20 p.m. Bibles & Bagels
12:45 p.m. Confirmation

Monday

6:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting

Tuesday

6 p.m. PRISM
6:30 p.m. Facing Racism Action Group (virtual)
6:30 p.m. Earth Care (hybrid)

Wednesday

12:30 p.m. Bible Study (hybrid)
5:30 p.m. Conversation Spanish (virtual)
6 p.m. Blessing of the Animals Worship

Friday

7 p.m. Current Events (virtual)

Saturday

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

Next Sunday

9:30 a.m. Baby & Toddler Worship
11 a.m. Sunday Worship
11:15 a.m. Church School
12 p.m. Coffee & Fellowship
12:15 p.m. Student Choristers
1 p.m. Earth Day Clean-Up

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us for the Facing Racism Action Group meeting on April 16th at 6:30 p.m. (virtual) Together, we acknowledge the systemic nature of racism and commit to dismantling it within our community. Let's listen, educate ourselves, and take action towards building a more just and equitable society. We'll meet to discuss our ongoing efforts and plan for future actions. All are welcome to join us in this important work. Please contact Ashley Bair at abair@fpcnyc.org for more information.

Adult Education Look forward to our regular programs including our hybrid **Wednesday Bible Study** continues on Wednesday, April 17th at 12:30 p.m. with a study of 1 & 2 Peter. The next session of **Coffee & Theology** after today will meet on April 28th in person and online. Please email Barbara at bdavis@fpcnyc.org to learn more about our programming!

Family ministries offerings this Sunday! Children ages 3 - 6th grade are invited to join us for Church School after the Children's prayer. We'll start with music all together in the Parlor, then split into two groups. Directly after worship, 1st-6th graders can be picked up from the Rooftop Classroom, and 3-5 year olds can be picked up from the Parlor. After worship, 1st - 6th graders are invited to join Student Choristers in the Parlor from 12:15 - 12:40 p.m. If you would like to be involved or learn more, please reach out to Rachel, our Family Music Ministries Coordinator, at rbarkerasto@fpcnyc.org.

A service of Blessing of the Animals will take place on Wednesday, April 17th at 6 p.m., beginning on the North Lawn. After a short prayer service, individual pet blessings will be offered. Bring your furry, scaly, and feathered friends! If your beloved companion is not able to come in person, we will bless photos and offer a prayer for them. For more information please email the Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis bdavis@fpcnyc.org

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!

The Elder Care Committee is sponsoring a request for First Spanish for toiletries. We are going to request contributions from the congregation to be brought to the Church from **April 21st to May 5th**. Joe has placed a box in the Mellin-Macnab building, near the reception desk, for the collection. Toiletries requested are: shampoo, lotion for children and adults, disposable razors, deodorant (men and women), bars of soap, toothpaste, lip balm, small packages of wipes, tooth brushes (children and adults) and hair brushes for children. Seniors will put toiletry bags together at our luncheon on May 11th.

Vespers Festival of Music: *Ein Deutsches Requiem* by Johannes Brahms Sunday, May 5th, at 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." A reception, sponsored by Art at First, follows in the Great Hall. For live stream access, please contact Aileen Caba: acaba@fpcnyc.org.

AIDS Walk NYC 2024 First Church is participating in the AIDS Walk to raise awareness and funds for HIV/AIDS research and treatment on **Sunday, May 19th at 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. We will meet on the East side of Central Park.** We do the walking and fundraising together as a team. If you would like to join the First Church Team, contact Ashley at abair@fpcnyc.org and Barron at Barron.Flood@gmail.com. You can also register or donate directly through the AIDS Walk Website.

Stewardship 2024! We appreciate your participation in stewardship of 2024! We continue with a followup campaign if you have yet to contribute. You may fill out a pledge card in the pews in front of you and drop them in the box in the narthex or scan the QR code on the second page of this bulletin.



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.



Blessing of the Animals

Wednesday, April 17th

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

Join us for a brief Worship
Service at 6 p.m., gathering on
the North Lawn, followed by
individual pet blessings

12 West 12th Street
New York, NY 10011

fpcnyc.org

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