

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

RESURRECTION OF THE LORD/EASTER

Service for the Lord's Day

April 4, 2021 | 11:00 a.m.



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.

GATHERING

The peace candle represents our prayers for peace in a broken world. The congregation is asked to offer prayers of intercession for one another and for those who lead in these times of remote worship.

PRELUDE

"Be Thou My Vision"

SLANE

arr. Sterling Procter

"Festival Intrada"

Richard Strauss

arr. Jack Levick and Warren Shaffer

WELCOME

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**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. Amen.**

HYMN 232

"Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

EASTER HYMN

arr. John Rutter

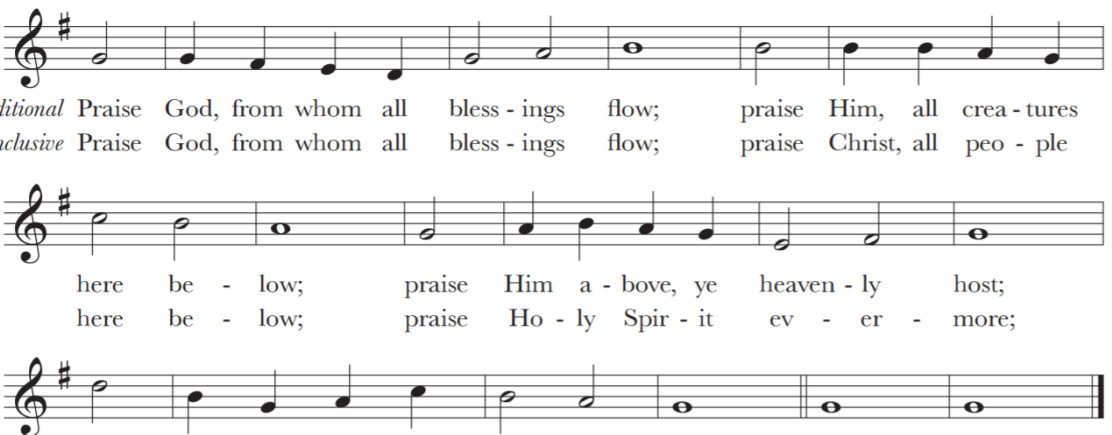
PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**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. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH



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.

SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

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

HEARING THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say,
“His steadfast love endures forever.”

The Lord is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:
“The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;
the right hand of the Lord is exalted;
the right hand of the Lord does valiantly.”

I shall not die, but I shall live,
and recount the deeds of the Lord.
The Lord has punished me severely,
but he did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them
and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord;
the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me
and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord’s doing;
it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.

ANTHEM

Traditional Spanish, arr. Clarence Dickinson

In Joseph’s lovely garden the Lord Christ’s tomb was made. And there His broken body
to rest was gently laid. A great rock strongly sealed it, that Death might have full sway;
but God sent down His angel, to roll the stone away.

When dawn was faintly breaking across the garden fair, three women entered weeping,
and bearing spices rare. Then spake the guardian angel, in shining raiment bright, He
whom ye seek is risen, and Death is vanquished quite.

O Jesus, blest Redeemer, all praise to thee we bring, no power of death could hold thee,
our Savior, Lord and King! As Thou hast risen all glorious, may we one day arise, o’er
sin and death victorious, in Thy blest Paradise. -Helen A. Dickinson

SECOND LESSON

Luke 23:44-46, 24:1-12

It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the
afternoon, while the sun’s light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in
two. Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, “Father, into your hands I com-
mend my spirit.” Having said this, he breathed his last.

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the
spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb,
but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed
about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women
were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them,
“Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen.
Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man
must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise

again.” Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

SERMON

“It’s Time”

Rev. Greg Stovell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 238

“The Strife is O’er”

VICTORY
arr. Sterling Procter

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of the saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

John Rutter

Christ the Lord is risen again; Christ hath broken every chain! Hark, the angels shout for joy, singing evermore on high: Alleluia. He who gave for us his life, who for us endured the strife, is our Paschal Lamb today! We, too, sing for joy and say: Alleluia. Christ who bore all pain and loss comfortless upon the cross, lives in glory now on high, pleads for us and hears our cry: Alleluia. Now he bids us tell abroad how the lost may be restored, how the penitent forgiven, how we, too, may enter heaven. Alleluia. Thou, our Paschal Lamb indeed, Christ, today thy people feed, take our sins and guilt away, that we all may sing for joy: Alleluia.

–Michael Weisse; trans. Catherine Winkworth

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

HYMN 236

“Thine Is the Glory”

JUDAS MACCABEUS
arr. Robert Hobby

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

BENEDICTION

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.*

*We wish to express our gratitude to the following for their memorial gifts
as we recall those in whose names the gifts are given.*

Sally Collins in loving memory of her parents, Rev. Ray and Willie Mae Collins and her sister-in-law,
Dawn Timmer Sterken

Amy Cooper in memory of Pedro Flores and Herman Lowenhar

The Rev. Dr. Barbara E. Davis in celebration of her daughters, Hannah and Emma, and in memory of
her father, Robert Livingston Davis, and her brothers, Robert Livingston Davis, Jr. and David E. Davis

Irene Gilman in memory of Jane and Charles Gilman and Margaret Checkur

Marian Helms Hewitt in memory of Gates and Alberta Helms

Lesley B. Hoopes in memory of George and Georgina Bissell, Zissimos Frangopoulos, Joseph and Elizabeth Hoopes and Michael and Beverly Sullivan

Donna and Jim Hurley in memory of Carol Clark Tatkun

Irenka Jakubiak in memory of Tadeusz and Rozalia Jakubiak

Betty C. Jones in memory of all those family members and friends who have joined the Church Triumphant

Kathryn Ketcham in memory of Karen Crane Hasiotis and The Rev. John B. Ketcham

Ruby Taylor MacBride in memory of Ruby and William Taylor, Douglas Alberts, Helen Shanks,
Warren MacBride and Arthur Nellis

Suzanne Mecs in memory of Bela Mecs, Jean Marion Howell and COVID-19 victims everywhere

Allison Morrow in loving memory of her sister, Seth Jane Morrow

Mary O'Hara Smith in memory of her husband Charles J. Smith, Charles A. Smith, Charles K. and Mary
W. Smith, the Rev. Frank and Joyce O'Hara and Caroline O'Hara

Mary Steinbauer in honor of Catherine Youatt, Elizabeth Gorning, Pearl Lee Youatt and Glenn Youatt

LEADING TODAY

Hannah Faye Allred, *Staff Associate for Congregational Care*

Audrey Webber, *Associate for Hospitality and Visual Arts*

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*

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

The First Church Choir

Christina Angelopoulos, Samantha Noonan, Hannah Nacheman, Elizabeth Picker,
Lee Compton, Brandon Hynum, Anicet Castel, and Andrew Martens, *Choral Octet*

David Krauss and Joshua Frank, *Trumpet*

Jeffrey Scott, *French Horn*

Michael Powell, *Trombone*

Christopher Olness, *Bass Trombone*

Barry Centanni, *Timpani*

Michael Shake, *Director of Music*

STAFF CONTACTS

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The Rev. Dr. J. Barrie Shepherd, Pastor Emeritus

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