

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

FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Service for the Lord's Day

March 21, 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

"Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound"

Albert L. Travis

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

**Come, let us worship the God who came to seek and save the lost!
Let us worship the God who came to redeem the world!
Let us welcome God into our lives.
Let us give of ourselves in this worship time that we may know God.
We wish to see Jesus.
Let us worship God!**

HYMN 182

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

KINGSFOLD

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**We confess and cry out to you O God,
that we are powerless
and often take our eyes off your Word,
that we have not allowed your Word to work in our lives,
yet we continue to cry out to you in times of trouble and need.
Grant understanding and wisdom
that we may see your vision and live into it.
Hear our prayer, O God,
and call us back to you. 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.**

ANTHEM

Tomas Luis de Victoria

*Jesu dulcis memoria
 Dans vera cordis gaudia:
 Sed super mel et omnia
 Ejus dulcis praesentia.*

Jesu! the very thought is sweet;
 In that dear name all heart-joys meet;
 But O, than honey sweeter far
 The glimpses of his presence are.

- St. Bernard of Clairvaux

Samantha Noonan, Hannah Nacheman,
 Brandon Hynum, and Andrew Martens

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 19:1-10

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said,

“He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.” Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

SERMON

“Hiding from God”

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 718

“Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”

BOURBON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from The Belhar Confession

The Belhar Confession has its roots in the struggle against apartheid in southern Africa. Formally adopted by the Dutch Reformed Mission Church in 1986, it was one of the “standards of unity” for the new Uniting Reformed Church in Southern Africa (URCSA). Belhar’s theological confrontation of the sin of racism has made possible reconciliation among Reformed churches in southern Africa and has aided the process of reconciliation within the nation of South Africa. The Presbyterian Church (USA) added Belhar to the Book of Confessions at the 2016 General Assembly.

**We believe that Christ’s work of reconciliation
is made manifest in the church
as the community of believers
who have been reconciled with God
and with one another.**

**We believe that unity is, therefore,
both a gift and an obligation
for the church of Jesus Christ.**

**We believe that,
through the working of God’s Spirit,
it is a binding force,
yet simultaneously a reality
which must be earnestly pursued and sought:
one which the people of God
must continually be built up to attain.**

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Lauren McGill

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

African-American Spiritual

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart. Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart. Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SENDING

HYMN 649

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

AMAZING GRACE

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Prelude and Fugue in C minor, BWV 549”

J.S. Bach

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

MUSIC NOTES. Dr. Albert L. Travis is Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Organ at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. He served on the faculty of the School of Church Music from 1977-2008. For over forty years, Dr. Travis has been Organist at Broadway Baptist Church in Fort Worth, Texas. Broadway is committed to the inclusion of all people and equality of all members – including the inclusion and full equality of women, people of color, and LGBTQIA persons in all facets of congregational life – including leadership. Dr. Travis’ setting of the American hymn “Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound” is tender and introspective, with the pedals – played by the feet – functioning as another pair of hands, adding a second, and sometimes even a third layer to the accompaniment of this beloved hymn. • The BWV 549 Prelude and Fugue, composed in the early years of the 18th century, was originally written in D minor, transposed down a whole step by Bach. The reason for the transposition is not known. The prelude begins with a dramatic pedal solo before moving to the hands. The fugue develops in three voices by the hands, setting up an awaited reentry of the pedals with musical material that loosely echoes the opening of the prelude.

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