

The Pastoral Staff Letter

Sunday Worship March 4, 2018 3rd Sunday in Lent



**Madison
Avenue
Presbyterian
Church**

Issue #20

March 1, 2018

Worship Schedule

9 am and 11:15 am service

Infant Nursery—4th Fl. Phillips Building, 8:30 am—1 pm

Toddler Nursery—4th Fl. Church House, 8:30 am—1 pm

This Sunday The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted will be preaching. His sermon entitled ***“God’s Only Power is Love”*** will be based on the texts: Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1;18-25; and John 2:13-22. This being the first Sunday of the month, prayers for Healing and Wholeness will be offered during communion. Preview the latest Sunday bulletin, or listen to sermons and service highlights from previous Sundays on MAPC’s website.

Children’s Worship, 9:15 am & 11:30 am, Phillips Lounge

Youth Worship, 9:15 am & 11:30 am, Dana Chapel

Fellowship Hour, 10 am & 12:30 pm, Lobby

Adult Education, 10:10 am, Dana Chapel (*see details inside*)

Church School, 10:10 am, 5th Floor

Youth Hour, 10:10 am, Youth Lounge

MAPC Children’s and T(w)een Choir Rehearsal, 10:15 am, Sanctuary

Church Choir Rehearsal, 10:20 am, Choir Room

ESL Classes, 1 pm, 5th Floor

Confirmation Class, 1 pm, Youth Lounge

***Music on Madison:* Amuse Singers, 3 pm, Sanctuary**

Overnight Shelter, 6:30 pm, Shelter Space

**To Check out the
Church’s Calendar:**

Go to the website at
[http://www.mapc.com/
calendar/calendar/](http://www.mapc.com/calendar/calendar/)

**MAPC is on Facebook
and Instagram!**

See you in church!
The Pastoral Staff

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Friday

Church Family Night, This Friday, March 2 at 6 pm, Parish Hall



Come join the fun on Friday, March 2 for dinner, a craft activity, movie, gym play and conversation. RSVP to Wendy De Los Santos in the church offices wlds@mapc.com. Suggested donation of \$20 for adults and a donation of your choice for children 12 and under.

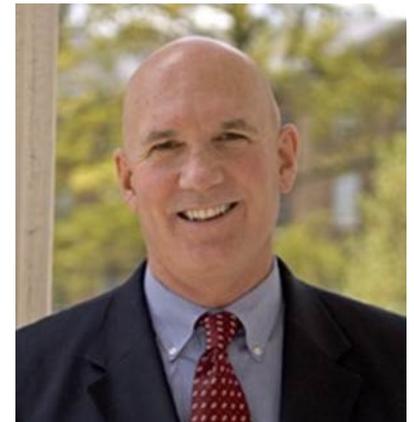
This Sunday

Adult Education, 10:10 am, Dana Chapel

This Sunday, Dr. James “Jim” Kay, Academic Dean of Princeton Theological Seminary will present, *“Sundays in New York: Worship at MAPC.”*

Our talk and follow-up discussion will focus on the 1991 Presbyterian *Book of Common Worship* Service for the Lord’s Day; including, the development of set liturgies in American Presbyterianism, the impact of Vatican II on Presbyterian worship, and the resulting ecumenical convergence on the recurring features of Christian worship on the Lord’s Day.

His discussion of Presbyterian Worship will continue next Sunday with, *“Sundays in New York: Whither Presbyterian Worship?”* As we discover, how can set liturgical texts also be celebrated flexibly to embrace “American expressions” from “puritan,” “evangelical,” and “frontier” traditions? Do we really have to remain stuck with the separation of “classic” versus “contemporary” worship that is dividing many congregations? Some examples will be shared, not as prescriptions, but as “discussion starters”.



Music on Madison: Amuse Singers



This Sunday at 3 pm, we welcome Amuse — an acclaimed small vocal ensemble founded in 2003 to bring music written for women’s voices to New York audiences. In their inventive program entitled “Weather Reports,” you will take a walk through fog, wind, rain and snow, all from the comfort of your seat! Miklos Kocsar’s setting of Carl Sandberg poems sets the atmosphere, along with three commissioned pieces and works of Esenvalds, Chilcott, Holst, Britten and more. Admission is \$25 (\$20—Students/Seniors); Children 12 and under: free. Will Call tickets are available in advance [online](#).

Other Events & Announcements

The Rev. Jenny McDevitt Elected Pastor/Head of Staff



On January 21, 2018, the Rev. Jenny McDevitt was elected the new Pastor/Head of Staff of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church. For information on Jenny, go to the MAPC website or click [here](#).

Farewell Luncheon for Eric Springsted, March 11, 1 pm in the Parish Hall



Eric's last Sunday with us will be Easter. We will have a luncheon to say farewell and thank you for his 2 1/2 years of service, leading us through this time of transition, after the 11:15 service on Sunday, March 11. Please come celebrate Eric's time with us and wish him and Brenda well as they move into retirement. Children are welcome and we will have a craft table for them. The suggested donation for lunch is whatever you would like to give!

Lenten Series Led by Dr. Eric Springsted Wednesdays Through March 21, 6:30-8:30 pm, Parish Hall “Living Life Sacramentally: Faith and the Importance of the Imagination”



We hear arguments for and against Christian faith. But arguments, at best, test our faith. At its real heart is the ability for us to imagine, to see the world as being God's creation, including seeing a sacrifice at its core. In these five sessions, we will look at what role the religious imagination plays in our living faith, especially in living life sacramentally, that is, as a way of partaking in God's own life by engaging God's presence in the world. This will also consider how important the arts—poetry, music, painting and sculpture are to religious faith. They are not just window dressing, but expressions of what can be seen in God's world.

Session III: March 7—Presbyterianism: Sacramental or Revivalist?

Session IV: March 14—The Mystical Presence

Session V: March 21—The World as Sacrament

Come at 6:30 with a sandwich. We provide beverages. The program begins at 7 pm.

Moms' Night Out—Monday, March 5 at 7 pm



MAPC Moms—let's go to dinner! It's been a while since we have gotten together. All moms are welcome to a relaxed evening out at an Upper Eastside Restaurant. We'll choose the restaurant when we have an idea of how many are coming. RSVP at Wendy De Los Santos in the church offices, wds@mapc.com.

Pizza and Game Night, Friday, March 9, Teens and Tweens

Where is What? You may be familiar with the popular search-and-find books of "Where is Waldo", but did you know that MAPC is full of hidden treasures? Let's look and search together as we discover the mysteries of our church building.

At this Pizza and Game night, we will have pizza to enjoy, a scavenger hunt through the building, and we will enjoy our favorite games! We look forward to seeing you there. To sign up, please email Christina Cosby, cac@mapc.com.



Highlights of the February Session Meeting

The Session met in regular session on February 27, 2018. In light meeting, the session discussed what its expectations were once the new pastor arrives, and how they can support her and work with her best. Additionally, the Session moved that Rutgers Church be the recipient of the Easter offering to help it settle two Afghan families they are sponsoring, and that the offering from Ash Wednesday and Holy Week Services go into the Charles Amstein Pastoral Care Fund.

One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering, Throughout Lent



This Lent we will continue the tradition at MAPC of collecting the *One Great Hour of Sharing Offering* on Palm Sunday. On select Sundays during Lent, you will find an envelope for this offering in your bulletin. Please return the envelope with your contribution to the church anytime during the Lent and Easter seasons.

The PC (U.S.A.) uses this offering as a means to connect with the global church. It is through this special collection that the church shares God's love with our neighbors in need around the world. It provides relief to those recently affected by natural disasters, provides food to the hungry, and opportunities to empower the poor and oppressed.

You can find an interactive map of the span of recipients from this offering here: <http://specialofferings.pcusa.org/oghs.html>.

Please Join us for Holy Week and Easter — Come to Our Services

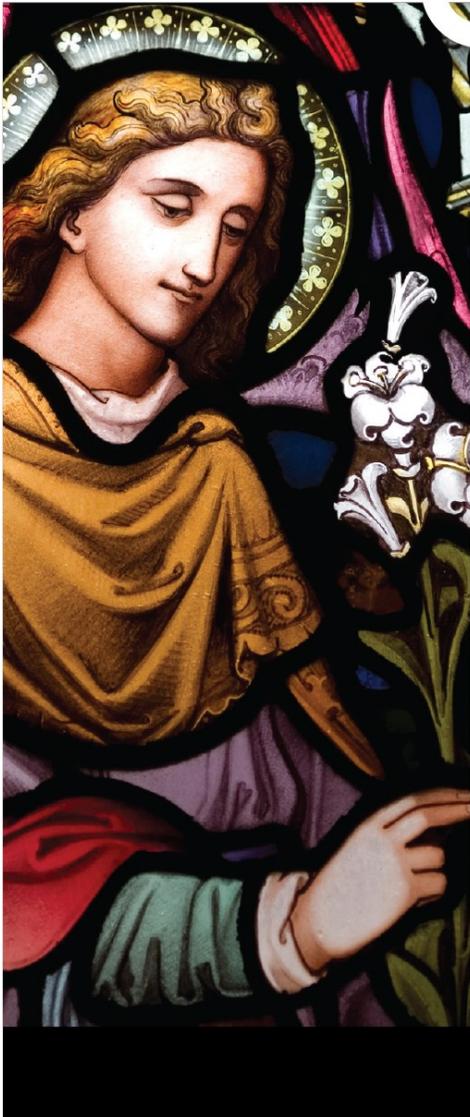
**HOLY WEEK
& EASTER
WORSHIP
SCHEDULE**

**All Are
Welcome!**

PALM SUNDAY - MARCH 25
9 & 11:15 am: Services of Word & Sacrament
 The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted preaching
 Choral Music at 11:15 am by Handel & Leighton

3 pm: Bach: St. Matthew Passion
 Saint Andrew Chorale & Orchestra
 Andrew Henderson, conductor

MAUNDY THURSDAY - MARCH 29
**7 pm: Service of Word & Sacrament
with Foot Washing**
 The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted preaching
 Choral Music by Ola Gjeilo



GOOD FRIDAY - MARCH 30
**12 to 3 pm: Meditations on the Passion
According to Matthew**

Gethsemane - The Rev. Beverly A. Bartlett
 Peter's Denial - The Rev. Denise C. Welsh
 The Trials & Sentencing - Christina A. Cosby
 Crucifixion - The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted
 Death - The Rev. Robert Foltz-Morrison
 Burial - The Rev. Beverly Dempsey

Choral Music by J. S. Bach, Pablo Casals, Bob Chilcott,
 Ken Dake, Herbert Howells & Stephanie Martin

4:30 pm: Good Friday Family Service
 An interactive, family-friendly service especially
 for children

7:30 pm: Service of Tenebrae
 Choral Music by Chilcott, Sanders & Stainer

EASTER DAY - APRIL 1
**9 & 11:15 am: Festival Services of Word
& Sacrament**
 The Rev. Dr. Eric O. Springsted preaching
 Choral Music by Paul Halley, G. F. Handel & Vaughan
 Williams & works for Trumpets, Timpani & Organ

Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church
212-288-8920 • www.mapc.com



Christian Education at MAPC

Volunteers Needed for Children's Worship

Children's Worship is in need of your help! If you can help assist in Children's Worship in the New Year, please sign up for the [9 am worship service](#), or the [11:15 am worship service](#) here. This ministry is a success thanks to your willingness to volunteer. If you have questions or need assistance signing up, please contact Christina Cosby at (212) 288-8920 x8480, or by email at cac@mapc.com.

Children and Family Ministries

Children's Worship

Children's worship takes place during both Sunday services (9 am and 11:15 am), and is an interactive worship service designed specifically for children 3rd grade and under.

Youth Worship

This interactive worship service takes place at both of our regularly scheduled worship services (9 am and 11:15 am) and is designed

to teach youth about the elements of Presbyterian Liturgy while offering leadership opportunities in worship each Sunday.

Kids Club

Wednesday afternoons from 3:45-6 pm

Families are invited to join Kids Club at any time! For more information, please visit our [website](#), or contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.



Church School

10:10 am on the 5th Floor
Come ready to sing hymns, engage in a Bible story and activity! We look forward to seeing you!

Middle and High School Ministries

T(w)een Club

Wednesday afternoons from 4 pm to 6 pm

T(w)eens are invited to join Tween Club at any time during the year! For more information please visit our [website](#).

Sunday Youth Hour

Sunday Morning at 10:10 am
The core Youth Hour class has decided that, in the weeks ahead, they want to study the books of the Bible as we learn where to find those stories and

the uniqueness of each book in the Bible!

James Lenox House, March 19, 4 pm

James Lenox House is a residential community for seniors 55 years of age and older. Each month we help with technology needs, reading mail, and engage in intergenerational community. Our next service date is March 19, we hope that you can make it!



Please stay tuned for more service opportunities coming up, or go to the MAPC [website](#) for a complete list or click here to find an [easy-to-print calendar](#).

Bible Studies at MAPC

Looking for a place to read Scripture together and get to know people at MAPC? Come to one of our Bible Studies; newcomers are always welcome! For more information, go to <http://www.mapc.com/christian-ed/adultclasses/>.

Reading Through the Bible:

Wednesdays, 12:30 pm-1:30 pm, Phillips Lounge

On March 7, we will pick up with Psalm 108.

20s/30s Group: (Next Meeting, Thursday, March 8)

Thursday, March 8, 5:30-7:30 pm, Youth Lounge

Join us as we explore the people Jesus encountered on his way to Jerusalem this Lent! As we journey with Jesus together, we will enjoy food and fellowship. If you are interested in learning more, reach out to Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com.

Women's Bible Study: (Next Meeting is Monday, March 12)

2nd and 4th Mondays, 6:30 pm, Phillips Lounge

We continue to read Paul's letters. Currently, we are in the middle of Ephesians! All are welcome to join anytime.

Men's Bible Study:

The Men's Bible Study is currently on hiatus.

Stay Connected to Worship at MAPC

Did you know that even if you're away or unable to make it to church that you can listen to Sunday worship services at MAPC? Sermons and service highlights (including scripture

lessons, hymns and anthems) are uploaded afterwards, and are permanently accessible. They can be downloaded to your electronic device or listened to directly on MAPC's website: [peruse](#) this val-

uable online resource today! Once ready for print, our Sunday bulletins are also uploaded to our website on Thursday afternoons and are made permanently available for download.

Flowers for the Sanctuary

Is there someone you would like to honor or remember through a gift of flowers for Sunday worship? If so, please contact Lissette Perez-Eraza at lgp@mapc.com or 212-288-8920. The cost for Sunday flowers is \$110.

Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

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Fax: 212-249-1466

**We're on the
web
www.mapc.com**

Thank You for Filling the New York Common Pantry Grocery Carts

The New York Common Pantry, the city's largest private food pantry and long-time MAPC Outreach partner, is asking for your continued support: canned or dried beans, canned chicken/salmon/tuna, rice, dried pasta, fresh or canned vegetables, and peanut butter. Please—no glass containers. You can drop off items in the grocery carts in the Church House Lobby or the Sanctuary Narthex, or you could even order groceries to be delivered through one of your grocers. (8 East 109th Street, New York, NY 10029, Phone: 917-720-9700). Thank you for taking seriously Christ's command to "feed my sheep!"

Clothing Donations Needed for Women and Men

The Homeless Outreach Program at Jan Hus Presbyterian Church, one of MAPC's long-term outreach partners, continues to see a dramatic increase of homeless persons seeking assistance. Both casual and business clothing for men and women, as well as new undergarments, are among their most urgent needs. If you have clothing items in clean and neat condition, we encourage you to take them to the Jan Hus Clothes Pantry at 351 East 74th Street at 1st Avenue. The clothes pantry is available to take donations Monday through Saturday from 8 am-8pm and on Sunday from 9 am-3:30 pm. NOTE: Please bring all clothing to Jan Hus **directly**—clothing may no longer be left in the coatroom off of the MAPC Church House Lobby.

Hands-on Ministries

Ways to get involved at MAPC with hands and hearts!

"Faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead." The following opportunities to participate in hands-on ministries are provided by the Outreach Committee. If you are interested in exploring any of these opportunities, e-mail Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com. Let's put our faith into action!

The Thursday Open Table Needs YOU!

Can you spare 2 hours on a Thursday evening from 6-8 pm? If so, then you can help feed 120 hungry neighbors a hot meal, offering them Christian hospitality. Please contact Kathy Hoffman at

kfhoffman@earthlink.net to volunteer for this opportunity (formerly known as Shelter Dinner)

Host at the Shelter

Hosts are needed for the Shelter! The Shelter is comfortable and the experience of helping these men get their lives back on track is one that will change your heart. Two shifts are offered each evening. Early evening hosts volunteer from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm; overnight hosts volunteer from 8:30 pm to 7 am. Contact Christina Cosby at cac@mapc.com for more information.

Search and Care

Can you spend an afternoon with

an elderly person on the Upper Eastside to walk their pet, go with them to a doctor's appointment, help them shop, balance their checkbook or even just offer them the gift of companionship? If so, contact Robin Strashun at SandC@searchandcare.org.

New York Common Pantry

The New York Common Pantry offers opportunities for volunteers to help pack and distribute food to the working poor on Saturday mornings and other times each week. MAPC has supported this very well-organized and effective organization since its inception 30 years ago. This is a wonderful way to follow Christ's command to "feed my sheep!"