

# *The Pastoral Staff Letter*

## **Sunday Worship—4th Sunday in Lent March 11, 2018**

**Daylight Savings Time Begins**

**Remember to Set Your Clocks Ahead One Hour!**



**Madison  
Avenue  
Presbyterian  
Church**

**Issue #21**

**March 8, 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 **“Just Looking”** will be based on the texts: Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; and John 3:14-21. 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, 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**

**Church Choir Rehearsal, 10:20 am, Choir Room**

**Farewell Eric Springsted Reception, 12:30 pm, Parish Hall**

**ESL Classes, 1 pm, 5th Floor**

**Confirmation Class, 1 pm, Youth Lounge**

**Shelter Orientation, 1 pm, Shelter Space (*see details inside*)**

**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*

---

### **Inside this issue:**

*What’s Happening on  
Friday and Sunday* 2  
& 3

*Other Events and  
Announcements* 3  
& 5

*Christian Education  
at MAPC* 6  
& 7

*Bible Study Groups* 7

*Hands-on Ministries* 8

# Friday

## Pizza and Game Night, This 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](mailto:cac@mapc.com).

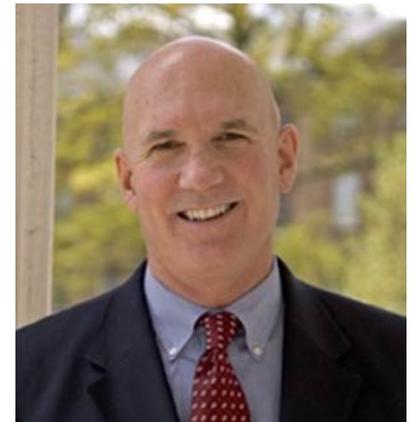
# This Sunday

## Adult Education, 10:10 am, Dana Chapel

This Sunday, Dr. James “Jim” Kay, Academic Dean of Princeton Theological Seminary will continue his discussion on Presbyterian Worship as he presents, *“Sundays in New York: Whither Presbyterian Worship?”*

Last Sunday, we focused 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.

This week, we look forward to discovering how set liturgical texts can be celebrated flexibly to embrace “American expressions” from “puritan,” “evangelical,” and “frontier” traditions. We do not have to be stuck with the separation of “classic” versus “contemporary” worship that is dividing many congregations. Examples will be shared as “discussion starters”.



## Farewell Luncheon for Eric Springsted, This Sunday, 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 this Sunday. 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!

## Shelter Orientation, 1 pm, Shelter Space in the Basement

The days have been sunny, but the nights quite cold. Come learn more about our overnight Men's Shelter this Sunday!

The MAPC/St. James' overnight shelter is one of the few in New York City that operates year-round six days a week. We offer shelter from the winter cold, and the summer heat. There is always a need for more volunteers. There are a variety of capacities to serve during the day, early evening, or overnight. If you are interested in learning more about this ministry and how you can be involved, stop by this Sunday. If you cannot make this Sunday, please reach out to Christina Cosby at [cac@mapc.com](mailto:cac@mapc.com) or by calling the church office.



## Other Events & Announcements

### Welcome to the World!



Liliana June was born on Monday, March 6 to our octet soprano Katie Wessinger-Bozic and her husband Rich Bozic. Congratulations to Katie, Rich and big brother Miles!

### 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](#).



### 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”



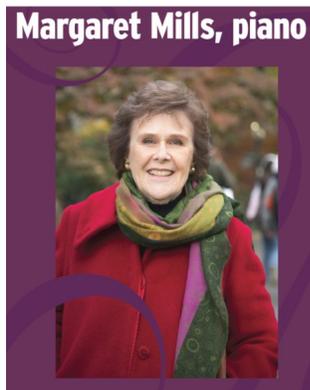
We hear arguments for and against Christian faith. But arguments, at best, test our faith. At its real heart is the ability for us to imagine, to see the world as being God's creation, including seeing a sacrifice at its core. In these five sessions, we will look at what role the religious imagination 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 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.*

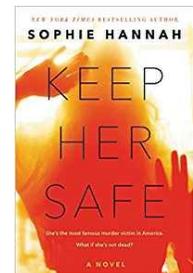
## Music on Madison: Margaret Mills, Piano



The next concert on our series on **Sunday, March 18 at 3 pm** features pianist—and MAPC member—Margaret Mills, who will celebrate two composer anniversaries: the 100th anniversary of Claude Debussy's death, and the 185th anniversary of Brahms's birth. Her program includes the *Six Pieces*, Op. 118 & *Four Pieces*, Op. 119, Debussy's three-movement suite, *Pour Le Piano*, along with works by Clara Schumann and Amy Beach. Admission is \$25 (\$20—Students/Seniors); Children 12 and under: free. Will Call tickets are available in advance [online](#).

## MAPC Book Club, Tuesday, March 20, 4 pm in the Hood Library

The MAPC Book Club would love to have you join them! They meet in the Hood Library at 4 pm on the third Tuesday of each month. On March 20th, they will be discussing *Keep Her Safe* by Sophie Hannah. The selection for April 17 is *Exposure* by Helen Dunmore.



## Highlights of the February Session Meeting

The Session met in regular session on February 27, 2018. For more information click [here](#).

**Easter Flowers 2018**

I wish to contribute to the Sanctuary Easter Decorations in memory of (or honor) (please print or fill in):

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

(To include more names, please contact the sacristan. Please print or e-mail.)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone or E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

My donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed. (Please send a check payable to Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church, "Easter Flowers" on the memo line.)

Please return this form with your donation using the white offering envelopes located on the pew racks and placing it in the offering plate or sending it to the Church Office (11th Avenue, 1st Floor) by **Friday, March 23, 2018, 12:00 PM**.

Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church  
 11 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10017  
 Tel: 212/200-6000 or www.ama.org

## Donations for Easter Flowers

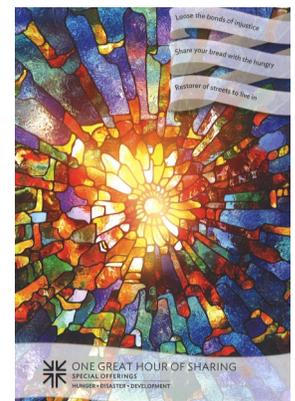
We are now accepting donations for the flowers that will beautify the sanctuary on Easter Sunday. Gifts may be made in memory or in honor of loved ones. To make a donation, please use the special envelopes inserted into the bulletins for the next few Sundays, or download a [form](#) and return it to the church. The suggested donation for each name is \$40. In order to include the names of loved ones in the bulletin on Easter, **we must receive your donation by Monday morning, March 26.**

## 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>.



## Bach's St. Matthew Passion: Palm Sunday, March 25

Our resident choral ensembles, the Saint Andrew Chorale and New York City Children's Chorus, have been busy preparing this masterwork of the sacred choral literature! **On Sunday, March 25 at 3 pm**, the Chorale will be joined by the professional Saint Andrew Orchestra and soloists in a performance of Bach's monumental St. Matthew Passion. The account of Christ's passion and death from Matthew's gospel is presented through dramatically conceived recitatives and choruses, with moments of lyrical and poignant reflection in the solo arias and chorales. Tickets and will call reservations can be made in advance, or may be purchased at the door.

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](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:cac@mapc.com).

Please note that there will not be Kids Club on March 21 and April 4. We hope that you enjoy the Easter holiday and



spring break season. The last day of Kids Club this year is May 16th.

### 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](#).

Please note that there will not be T(w)een Club on March 21 and April 4. We hope that you enjoy the Easter holiday and spring break season. The last day of T(w)een Club this year is May 16th.

### 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 inter-generational 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 14, we will pick up with Psalm 111.

### **20s/30s Group: (Next Meeting, Today, 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](mailto: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](mailto:lgp@mapc.com) or 212-288-8920. The cost for Sunday flowers is \$110.

## Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church

921 Madison Avenue  
New York, NY 10021  
Phone: 212-288-8920  
Fax: 212-249-1466

**We're on the  
web  
[www.mapc.com](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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!"