

March 15, 2020 9 & 11:30 am

Guest Preacher: Dr. Andrew Root, Luther Seminary

Scripture: John 4:4-42 (New Testament pp. 89-90)

Title: Moving Beyond the Culture War: Jesus and the Gift of Mercy

March 22, 2020 9 & 11:30 am

Preacher: Rev. Raymond Hylton

Scripture: John 9:1-41 (New Testament pp. 97-98)

Title: Jesus and Spiritual Blindness

Listen to Sunday Sermons on the FPCE website or via the "First Presbyterian Church of Evanston" iTunes podcast. Sermons are usually uploaded by Tuesday evenings.

First Presbyterian Evanston

1427 Chicago Avenue
Evanston, IL 60201
847-864-1472

www.firstpresevanston.org

Highlights

As part of our COVID-19 response, we are canceling this morning's Fellowship Hour.

Our All-Church Adult Education Class will start earlier than normal this morning (at approximately 10:20 am), and will take place in Roy Hall. Our teacher will be Dr. Andrew Root from Luther Seminary. There will not be any other adult education classes this morning.

The third in our Lenten series of Taizé Worship Services of Contemplative Sung Prayer will take place this Wednesday, March 18, at 7 pm in Walker Chapel. Subsequent services will be held March 25, April 1 and 8. Child care for children 5 and under is available for any Taizé service when reserved by the Sunday before (contact Pastor Amanda at agolbek@firstpresevanston.org); worship supplies will be available for children 5 and up. Appropriate precautions are being taken regarding the distribution of communion at these services in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Book Sale and Barn Dance have been postponed due to the ongoing health concerns regarding the COVID-19 coronavirus. We will announce the make-up dates once it is prudent to do so.

Donations for the book sale can still be dropped off in the Choir Room (no CDs, DVDs, VHS, encyclopedias or textbooks, please). Proceeds from the book sale will go towards supporting future book acquisitions for the library and enabling the children and youth to participate in summer camp and trips.

The next New Members Class led by Pastor Ray Hylton and current members will be held Saturday, March 21 from 9 am to 1 pm for all interested in membership at First Pres. Childcare available by reservation. For more info or to sign up, please contact Janice at 847-864-1472, jdocschuetz@firstpresevanston.org.

Worth Noting

We offer our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to the friends and family of Betty Ann Cratty, who passed away on March 4.

We offer our heartfelt sympathy and prayers to Robert Hogg, Anne-Marie Andreasson-Hogg, and Mathilde Hogg, for the passing of Anne-Marie's father, Pastor Stig Andreasson on March 11.

Our guest preacher this morning is Dr. Andrew Root, professor and Carrie Olson Baalson Chair of Youth and Family Ministry at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, MN. A prolific writer, Dr. Root has authored 16 books, including his most recent: *The Pastor in a Secular Age: Ministry to People Who No Longer Need a God*, *Exploding Stars*, *Dead Dinosaurs*, and *Zombies: Youth Ministry in an Age of Science*, and *Faith Formation in a Secular Age*. During his visit here this weekend, Dr. Root was the keynote presenter at our all-church retreat. Audio of his presentations will be available on the FPCE website early next week.

Consider attending Family Life's "Weekend to Remember" marriage conference endorsed by Pastor Ray and Judith Hylton. They happen throughout the year at various locations throughout the country. There is one happening in Lincolnshire April 24-26. The cost is \$175 per person with a \$75 discount per couple for early bird registration. For more info, or to register, go to <https://www.familylife.com/weekend-to-remember/weekend-overview/>.

Julie and Greg Lewis would like to thank all who have helped and supported them through the recent loss of their daughter, Inga.

To stay informed about FPCE's COVID-19 response, visit <https://firstpresevanston.org/covid19>



Missions

cweinberg@firstpresevanston.org

Mission Prayer

Please pray for Pray for Kathleen Johnson of SIM, as she continues to minister to Muslim women and children, specifically three women who have high risk pregnancies. Pray for extra substitute teachers as vacation times are coming near and they still have kids who will be preparing for state exams. Finally, pray that she can faithfully fast during Lent (this started February 26). This is a great witness to Muslim friends letting them know she is serious about faith. Learn more about SIM at <https://www.simusa.org/>.

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/missions/>
<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/serving/>

Prayer in the Parlor

The Parlor on the second floor is open each Wednesday for prayer and meditation from 9 am to 9 pm. All are welcome to come and spend time in prayer and praise in the space set aside for a holy time with God.

Men's Breakfast

Men's Breakfast group - Weekly, Saturday morning gatherings from 8-9 am for Scripture, prayer, and speakers, with coffee, tea, donuts and bananas. Please join us!

March 21 - Ray Koenig - "Lessons Learned? #2 - The Holocaust and the 'Church' ". The 75th anniversary of the end of the Holocaust.

Children, Youth and Families

agolbek@firstpresevanston.org

Family Lenten Devotional

A interactive Lenten devotional for families is available on the children's table near the Front Desk. This wonderful devotional—that is easy to use at dinner or bed time—connects with our “40 Offerings of Mercy” challenge by helping families reflect on the act of giving throughout Lent.

Family Open Gym - *Thursdays, 4-7 pm, Roy Hall*

Open for parents and their children to come run around, shoot some baskets, play some games. No need to RSVP; just show up and have a great time!

High School Youth Group (PYGS) normally meets each Sunday afternoon. This Sunday, March 15, there will NOT be Youth Group due to the Church Retreat.

Middle School Youth Group (NUBS) meets each Friday, from 7-9 pm, on the top floor in the Middle School lounge. Friday, March 20, we will enjoy snacks, games and have a trivia extravaganza competition!

CHILDREN - <http://www.firstpresevanston.org/children/>
YOUTH - <http://www.firstpresevanston.org/youth/>

Family Small Group

If you've got kids at home and are looking for a way to connect with other families and study scripture together, consider joining a Family Small Group for the rest of the school year. We meet one Sunday a month, 4-6:30 pm at the church for Bible study, prayer and fellowship. Childcare and dinner are provided. Please contact Sally Ivaska at sallyivaska1@gmail.com for questions and to sign up.

Young Adults

hcoates@firstpresevanston.org

The 20s/30s Small Group will be meeting every second and fourth Sunday of the month. Reach out to Pastor Henry for details.

A women's basketball pick-up game is held at 7:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month in Roy Hall. All skill levels and abilities are welcome! Reach out to Kathy Grant, kgrant@depaul.edu with any questions.

<http://www.firstpresevanston.org/young-adults/>

Join a Small Group at FPCE

Join others and grow spiritually together in a small group. There are many kinds of groups available, meeting at various times throughout the week. To get connected, find a list of the current open small groups in the literature rack near the front desk or contact Pastor Henry Coates at hcoates@firstpresevanston.org.

Employment Opportunities

We are currently seeking to hire a full-time facilities manager who will serve FPCE by supervising and assisting directly in the operation, care, maintenance and necessary renovation of the church building and grounds. The FM will also oversee the efficient, safe and secure preparation of facilities in order to accommodate the varied programs and functions conducted in the church buildings and grounds. Visit the church website at <https://firstpresevanston.org/employment/> for more information.

A part-time receptionist position is available at FPCE. The person hired must be able to work Saturdays from 7:30 am to 3 pm as well as “as needed” weekday and evening shifts upon mutual agreement. This person must have good communication and people skills as well as basic computer skills. To apply, please contact Janice at the church office or e-mail jdobschuetz@firstpresevanston.org.

Ways to Give at FPCE

Online giving—one-time or recurring—is made easy through our website. Once set up, it's quick to make a one-time gift or set up recurring gifts to support the general ministry or specific needs of the church. Click on “Give” at the top of our homepage or visit <https://firstpresevanston.org/giving> to get to the giving portal. You can also set-up a monthly credit card contribution through the church office.

Automatic monthly withdrawal is a convenient and faith-filled way to support ministry at First Pres. You designate the amount, and your gift is made hassle free straight from your checking account on the 18th of the month. Best of all, when automatic withdrawal is set up through the church office, there are no bank transfer fees, which makes it more cost effective than other online options.

Traditional offering envelopes are available for cash and check contributions only upon request.

TAX-ADVANTAGED GIVING

Qualified Charitable Distributions (QCD): If you were 71.5 years old or older before or during 2019 or are turning 72 years old during 2020, you may be interested in IRA QCD as a way to support ministry while saving on taxes. Find out more by contacting the church office or talk with your financial planner.

GIVING YOUR TIME

There are many opportunities to give of your time and talents at FPCE. If you're looking to get pugged in to one or more ministry areas, contact one of the program staff to express your interest.

Children, Youth & Families:

Rev. Amanda Golbek

agolbek@firstpresevanston.org

Mission and Outreach:

Mission Director Caryl Weinberg

cweinberg@firstpresevanston.org

Prayer & Leadership:

Rev. Raymond Hylton

rhylton@firstpresevanston.org

Worship and Music:

Worship & Music Director Hannah McConnell

hmccconnell@firstpresevanston.org

Young Adults and Adult Education:

Rev. Henry Coates

hcoates@firstpresevanston.org

Pastoral Care:

Julie Ruchniewicz

jruchniewicz@firstpresevanston.org