

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

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## PENTECOST SUNDAY

*Service for the Lord's Day*

May 23, 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

"Gabriel's Oboe"

Ennio Morricone

arr. Mark McGurty, adapt. Wilma Jensen

"Festival Prelude on THAXTED"

Gustav Holst

arr. David Howard Pettit

### PEALING OF THE CARILLON

### INTROIT

### WELCOME

### CALL TO WORSHIP

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

I was glad when they said to me,

"Let us go to the house of the living God."

**This is the day when we rejoice in God's act of creation.**

**We rejoice in Christ's resurrection.**

We give thanks that once more,

God has brought us together!

**Peace to all who enter here,**

**blessing to all who go from here on their way,**

**in the name of Jesus the Christ.**

**Let us worship God!**

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple  
 2 Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -  
 3 Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
 4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry; bring its  
 sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us free our  
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in  
 we de - plore. Let the gift of thy sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
 lest we miss thy king - dom's goal, lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.  
 serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Almighty God,  
you poured your Spirit upon gathered disciples  
creating bold tongues, open ears,  
and a new community of faith.**

**We confess that we hold back the force of your Spirit among us.  
We do not listen for your word of grace,  
speak the good news of your love,  
or live as a people made one in Christ.**

**Have mercy on us, O God.**

**Transform our timid lives by the power of your Spirit,  
and fill us with a flaming desire to be your faithful people,  
doing your will for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.**

## SILENT CONFESSION

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

## CHORAL ACCLAMATION

GELOBT SEI GOTT, arr. Michael Shake

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

-Traditional liturgical text

## 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

## ANTHEM

Craig Phillips

Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew, that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do. Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure, until with thee I will one will, to do and to endure. Breathe on me, breath of God, till I am wholly thine, till all this earthly part of me glows with Thy fire divine. Breathe on me, breath of God, so shall I never die, but live with thee the perfect life of thine eternity.

-Edwin Hatch, alt.

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 2:1-13

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem.

And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

"What Kind of Church?"

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERTORY

Victor Pilgrim, arr. Patrick Prescod

*sung in Spanish*

Let all the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. O God be gracious and bless us, and let your face shed its light upon us. So will your ways be known on earth and all the nations learn your saving help. The earth has yielded its fruit, for God, our God, has blessed us. May God still give us a blessing, till all of the earth revere the Lord. Let all the nations be glad and exult, for you rule the world with justice. With fairness you rule the peoples. You guide all the nations upon the earth.

—Psalm 67, Spanish trans. Luis Olivieri

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

# SENDING

HYMN 321

“The Church’s One Foundation”  
stanzas 1, 2, and 5

AURELIA

*Please stand in body or spirit.*



**All** 1 The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.  
*Choir only* 2 Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,  
**All** 5 Yet she on earth has union with God, the Three in One,  
She is his new creation by water and the word.  
her character of salvation: one Lord, one faith, one birth.  
and mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:  
From heaven he came and sought her to be his holy bride.  
One holy name she blesses, partakes one holy food,  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,  
With his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.  
and to one hope she presses, with every grace endowed.  
like them, the meek and lowly, may live eternal-ly.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Hymn Improvisation on *God of Grace and God of Glory*”

Paul Manz

arr. Jonathan Crutchfield

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

*Remain seated until you are directed to leave your pew. Join us on the lawn to greet one another.*

## LEADING THIS MORNING

Hannah Faye Allred, M.Div., *Staff Associate for Congregational Care*  
Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*  
Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, *Pastor/Head of Staff*  
Audrey Webber, M.Div., *Associate for Hospitality and Visual Arts*

The First Church Choir  
David Krauss, *Trumpet*  
Michael Shake, *Director of Music*

### STAFF CONTACTS

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## SERMON NOTES

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