

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

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## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Service for the Lord's Day*

June 6, 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 "Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty, BWV 650" J.S. Bach

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

INTROIT Samuel McFarland; Michael Shake, arr.  
We walk by faith and not by sight; with gracious words draw near, O Christ, who spoke as none e'er spoke: "My peace be with you here." Help then, O Lord, our unbelief; and may our faith abound to call on you when you are near and seek where you are found.  
-Henry Alford

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 100:1, 2, 5

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.**

**Worship the Lord with gladness.**

**Come into God's presence with singing!**

**For the Lord is a gracious God,**

**whose mercy is everlasting;**

**and whose faithfulness endures to all generations.**

HYMN 35

"Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty"

LOBE DEN HERREN

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, in your gracious presence  
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.  
Although Christ is among us as our peace,  
we are a people divided against ourselves  
as we cling to the values of a broken world.**

**The profit and pleasures we pursue  
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.  
The fears and jealousies that we harbor  
set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation.  
We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,  
of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression.**

**Lord, have mercy upon us;  
heal and forgive us.  
Set us free to serve you in the world  
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.**

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

### RESPONSE

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

Giuseppe Ottavio Pitoni

O come, you servants of the Lord, and praise God's holy name; from early morn to setting sun God's might on earth proclaim.

The laws of God are just and right, they make the heart rejoice: O praise the Lord, with heart, and soul, and voice.  
-paraphrase of Psalm 113:1, 3

## HEARING THE WORD

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

2 Corinthians 4:13-5:1

But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—"I believed, and so I spoke"—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### SERMON

"Divine Blueprints" Hannah Faye Allred, M.Div.

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**In sovereign love God created the world good  
and makes everyone equally in God's image, to live as one community.  
But we rebel against God; we hide from our Creator.  
We violate the image of God in others and ourselves.  
Yet God acts with justice and mercy to redeem creation.  
In everlasting love, God makes us heirs with Christ of the covenant.  
Like a mother who will not forsake her nursing child,  
like a father who runs to welcome the prodigal home, God is faithful still.  
We trust in God the Holy Spirit, who justifies us by grace through faith,  
sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor,  
in the one body of Christ, the Church.**

### OFFERTORY

Anton Bruckner

*Locus iste a Deo factus est,  
inaestimabile sacramentum;  
irreprehensibilis est.*

This place was made by God,  
a priceless sacrament;  
it is without fault.

-liturgical text for the dedication or  
anniversary of a church; sung in Latin

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

## SENDING

HYMN 700

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

I’M GONNA LIVE

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

## BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Fantasia: TON-Y-BOTEL”

Richard Purvis

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

## LEADING THIS MORNING

Hannah Faye Allred, M.Div., *Staff Associate for Congregational Care*

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*

Audrey Webber, M.Div., *Associate for Hospitality and Visual Arts*

The First Church Choir

Michael Shake, *Director of Music*

**MUSIC NOTES** Bach composed some 200 cantatas – multi-movement compositions, generally for soloists, choir, and orchestra – over the course of 40 years, beginning around 1707. Approximately three-quarters of the cantatas were composed for worship; 50 of these are based exclusively on chorales (hymns). Cantata 137, first presented at St. Thomas Church, Leipzig on August 19, 1725, is based on Joachim Neander’s chorale, “Lobe den Herren, den mächtigen König,” which we continue to sing 300 years later, “Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty.” The second movement, an aria for alto, is based on the stanza: *Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth, shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth! Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?* Bach’s cantatas were not published during his lifetime. However, movements from six cantatas, including the movement from Cantata 137, were arranged by Bach for organ and published around 1747. The accompaniment – originally solo violin and continuo – is played by the hands. The alto solo – the chorale melody – is deftly played by the feet. Even in this transcription, a feeling of being suspended with lightness and joy pervades. • Richard Purvis’ (1913-1994) teen years of improvising music in movie theaters and on the radio, plus study at the Curtis Institute of Music and abroad, contributed to the dynamic breadth he commanded as a church and cathedral organist, and as a composer. The fantasia on the Welsh hymn tune TON-Y-BOTEL (literally, “tune in a bottle”) is a wonderful example of balancing theatrical flair in a sacred musical vein, further influenced by the resonant space and colorful organ of Grace Cathedral, San Francisco, where Purvis served from 1947 to 1971. –Michael Shake

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12 W 12th Street  
New York, NY 10011

212.675.6150  
fpcnyc.org