

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

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Service for the Lord's Day

August 15, 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 worship.

PRELUDE “Allegretto” and “On a Theme of Orlando Gibbons” C.V. Stanford

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP adapted from Proverbs 8:1-3, 27-31, Common English Bible

Doesn't Wisdom cry out

and Understanding shout?

Atop the heights along the path,

at the crossroads she takes her stand.

By the gate before the city,

at the entrances she shouts:

I was there when God established the heavens,

when God marked out the horizon on the deep sea,

when God thickened the clouds above,

when God secured the fountains of the deep,

when God set a limit for the sea,

so the water couldn't go beyond God's command,

when God marked out the earth's foundations.

I was beside God as a master of crafts.

I was having fun,

smiling before God all the time, frolicking with the inhabited earth

and delighting in the human race.

HYMN 32

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

ELLACOMBE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, how easy it is for us to forget your wisdom.
Forgive us the simple ways we have not remembered your love.
Forgive us the complicated ways we have not remembered your mercy.
Forgive us for the times we have been unkind,
in what we have done and what have not done.
Forgive us for forgetting the most important things.
Forgive us for remembering the pettiest trespasses.
Forgive us for judgement passed on people we don't even know.
Forgive us, so that reconciled to you and one another we keep trying...

SILENT CONFESSION

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.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

SOLO

Leonard Bernstein

Sing God a simple song: lauda, laudē. Make it up as you go along: lauda, laudē. Sing like you like to sing. God loves all simple things, for God is the simplest of all. I will sing the Lord a new song to praise Him, to bless Him, to bless the Lord. I will sing His praises while I live all of my days. Blessed is the one who loves the Lord, blessed is the one who praises Him. Lauda, laudē. And walks in His ways. I will lift up my eyes to the hills from whence comes my help. I will lift up my voice to the Lord, singing lauda, laudē. For the Lord is my shade, is the shade upon my right hand, and the sun shall not smite me by day, nor the moon by night.

-Stephen Schwartz; Psalm 121

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14

SERMON

"Between a Rock and a Thin Space" Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from Romans 8:1, 28, 38-39, NRSV

**We believe there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus;
for we know that all things work together for good
for those who love God,
who are called according to God's purpose.
We are convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

OFFERTORY

Stanford

I came forth from the mouth of the Most High, and covered the earth like a mist. I dwelt in high places, and my throne is in a pillar of cloud. Alone I compassed the circuit of heaven and walked the depths of the abyss. In the waves of the sea and in all the earth, and over every people and nation I got a possession. With all these I sought rest. And I took root in a people that was glorified, in the portion of the Lord's own inheritance. I was exalted like a cedar in Libanus, and as a cypress on the mountains of Hermon. I was exalted like a palm tree on the sea shore, and as a fair olive tree in the plain. And my branches are branches of glory and grace, and my flowers are the fruit of glory and riches. Come unto me, ye that are desirous of me, and ye be filled with my fruits. For my thoughts are filled from the sea, and my counsels from the great deep. And I came out as a stream from a river I said, I will water my garden and will water abundantly my garden-beds. And lo, my stream became a river, and my river became a sea.

-Ecclesiastes 24:3-7, 12-14, 16-17, 19, 29-31 (King James Version)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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.**

SENDING

HYMN 174

“Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom”

MADELINE

BLESSING

POSTLUDE "Allegro maestoso e vivace," and "Fugue: Allegro moderato," Mendelssohn
from *Sonata, Op. 65, No. 2*

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

Receiving the sacrament of baptism today is Eleanor Alice Duvoisin,
daughter of Erin Hughes Duvoisin and David Charles Duvoisin.

LEADING THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*
Audrey Webber, M.Div., *Associate for Hospitality and Visual Arts*

Alexandra Schleuderer, *mezzo-soprano*
Michael Shake, *Organist and Director of Music*

MUSIC NOTES Vocalist based in the Hudson Valley, Alexandra Schleuderer, leads, performs and teaches actively throughout the region. While holding positions at various houses of worship throughout the Northeast, Alexandra has discovered immense fulfillment in this work. She is in her third year serving as the cantorial soloist for Congregation Emanuel of the Hudson Valley where she fosters their music program and co-leads services weekly.

In response to the uncertainty of our world, Alexandra has enjoyed stretching her musicianship by dipping a toe into folk singing, songwriting, and producing.

Alexandra holds a Master of Music degree in Vocal Performance from Peabody Institute of The Johns Hopkins University, and a Bachelor of Arts in Music, *cum laude*, from the State University of New York at Oneonta.

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