

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

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Service for the Lord's Day

September 5, 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

"Benedictus"

Alec Rowley

I bring refreshment,--I bring ease and calm. --Christina Rossetti

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand in body or spirit.

Psalm 146:6-9; 1 adapted CEB

God: the maker of heaven and earth,

the sea, and all that is in them,

God: who is faithful forever,

who gives justice to people who are oppressed,

who gives bread to people who are starving!

The LORD: who frees prisoners.

The LORD: who makes the blind see.

The LORD: who straightens up those who are bent low.

The LORD: who loves the righteous.

The LORD: who protects immigrants,

who helps orphans and widows,

but who makes the way of the wicked twist and turn!

Let my whole being praise the LORD!

I will praise the LORD with all my life;

I will sing praises to my God as long as I live.

HYMN 766

"The Church of Christ Cannot Be Bound"

MC KEE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Eternal God, we fall short in ways that are so familiar
and yet we are still surprised.**

Forgive us when we make the same mistakes over and over.

Forgive us when we are short-sighted.

**Forgive us when we know we should act with compassion
but we are too tired, complacent, or uninterested to do so.**

Forgive us when our bodily concerns overwhelm us.

Forgive us when we are demanding.

Forgive us when we are slow to act.

Help us pick ourselves up over and over with enough hope to try again...

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.

SOLO

arr. Tom Trenney

The words may be found in Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal, 769 – stanzas 1, 3, and 5.

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 7:24-37

pew Bible, New Testament page 42/large print, New Testament page 52

SERMON

“Preparations, Perspectives,
and All The People”

Audrey Webber, MDiv

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Please stand in body or spirit.

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

Frances Allitsen

The Lord is my light and my salvation. Whom, then shall I fear? The Lord is the strength of my life. Of whom then shall I be afraid?

Though a host of men were laid against me, yet shall not my heart be afraid; and tho' there rose up war against me, yet will I put my trust in Him.

For in the time of trouble, He shall hide me in His tabernacle. Yea, in the secret places of His dwelling shall He hide me, and set me up upon a rock of stone. -based on Psalm 27

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 377

Please stand in body or spirit.

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

HOUSTON

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

"Paean"

Philip Moore

*The congregation is invited to continue worshipping 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*

Ryan Bauer Walsh, *tenor*

Michael Shake, *Organist and Director of Music*

Welcome to First Church!

We are so glad you are here.

Scan to give your tithe or offering.



Join us for Coffee Fellowship on the North Lawn after the Postlude to meet one another, say hello to new faces, and enjoy refreshments.

MUSIC NOTES Born in Minnesota and graduate of The Hartt School, Ryan Bauer Walsh (he/they) is a New York based actor who has appeared in *Billy Elliott* (Chicago and First National Tour), *Most Happy Fella* (City Center Encores) and *Broadway: Three Generations* at The Kennedy Center. Other credits include: *Les Misérables*, *Miss Saigon*, *LMNOP*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *HOMO The Musical*, *Death For Five Voices* and many others. They can be heard on numerous recordings including *Tess The Musical*, *Believe*, and *Brother Russia*. In addition to performing, Ryan is also a writer, composer, artist, and community activist. His most recent children's books include: *Rusty The Rescue* and *Three Men in a Boat*. He is currently producing and composing the world's first LGBTQ+ Lullaby album for Broadway Records with a team of over 50 involved. Ryan's gender neutral clothing line for children will be available in September on TinPin.com.

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