

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

EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Service for the Lord's Day

July 31st, 2022 | 11 a.m.



Paul Abraham in Collaboration with Manish Soni, *Calming the Storm (Triptych)*, 2017–18, Opaque watercolour and natural pigments on hand-made paper.

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH!

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.

Welcome to the First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York. Over 800 members call this place our spiritual home and we are grateful you are worshipping with us today. We believe First Church is a community of people called to stand on the intersection of faith and life as we witness to the love, grace and justice of God for all people.

Wherever you are in your journey of faith, I pray today's service will be a blessing for you. If this is your first time here, a member of the pastoral staff would love to greet you at the door and answer any questions you may have about the life and ministries of this church.

We are glad you are here. May you experience God's welcome in this place today!

Greg Stovell
Senior Pastor

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

GET INVOLVED



GIVE



INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?



GATHERING

PRELUDE

“The Peace may be exchanged”

Dan Locklair

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

adapted from Psalm 107:24-25, 28-31 (NRSV)

Please stand in body or spirit.

**We saw the deeds of the LORD,
God’s wondrous works in the deep.
For God commanded and raised the stormy wind,
which lifted up the waves of the sea.
Then we cried to the LORD in their trouble,
and God brought us out from our distress;
God made the storm be still,
and the waves of the sea were hushed.
Then we were glad because we had quiet,
and God brought us to our desired haven.
Let us thank the LORD for steadfast love,
for God’s wonderful works to humankind!**

HYMN 662

“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

RATISBON

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy God, we confess our desire for certainty and ease;
for predicable timelines and a comfortable future.
Instead, you invite us to serve in a world we cannot and will not control.
Forgive our timid hearts.
Join us to your purpose,
for to know you is to live, and in such life,
hear us in the silence of our hearts as we pray now for courage...**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE

TWO OAKS

Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safe-ly live,
 a place where saints and chil-dren tell how hearts learn to for-give.
 Built of hopes and dreams and vi-sions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
 here the love of Christ shall end di-vi-sions: all are wel-come;
 all are wel-come; all are wel-come in this place.

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE AND SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANTHEM

Dong Hoon Lee

The text may be found in *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*, 185.

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 4:35-41
pew Bible, New Testament page 38/large print, New Testament page 46

SERMON

“Don’t You Care that
 We’re Drowning?”

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

PROSPECT

Please stand in body or spirit.



1. We thank you for the bet - ter_ days when we may
2. In_ ease or_ pain, in life and death, to_ you our



smile to_ greet the sun, to_ do your work with
frag - ile_ lives be - long, and_ so we_ trust_ you_



clear - ing mind, and bless your name when day is done.
in all_ things. You are our hope, our health, our song.

OFFERTORY

Charles F. Waters

Save us, O Lord, waking, guard us sleeping, that awake we may watch with Christ, and asleep we may rest in peace.
-Antiphon for Compline

DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH

Please stand in body or spirit.



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.

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,
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

SENDING

HYMN 688

“Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart”

MORECAMBE

Please stand in body or spirit.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Please join us for a Congregational Meeting at the end of worship today. This hybrid meeting is open to all members of First Church, and is for the purpose of electing members of the Associate Pastor Nominating Committee. Zoom information can be found in Friday's First Matters newsletter.

LEADING THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, *Senior Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*

The First Church Summer Choir
Michael Shake, *Organist and Director of Music*

WORSHIP NOTE Our affirmation of faith for July will be sung by the congregation – two stanzas from the hymn, “When We Must Bear Persistent Pain.” (*Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*, 807). Carl Daw, Jr., in *Glory to God: A Companion* writes, “Some of the most valuable hymn texts are those that rise out of the author’s own experience yet can benefit the singing community to whom they are offered. Such is the case here with a text that emerges from the author’s (Ruth Duck) ongoing suffering from recurring migraine headaches. Because she uses the wider category of “persistent pain,” [Duck] is able to speak to and for a much larger constituency.” Theologian Martha L. Moore-Keish writes, “this hymn wrestles with the realities of suffering in the light of the faithful presence of God.” (from *JAMES: Belief: A Theological Commentary on the Bible*, Westminster John Knox Press, 2019)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Today

11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
12:00 p.m. Congregational Meeting
12:15 p.m. Coffee Fellowship

Friday

7:00 p.m. Current Events

Saturday

10:15 a.m. St. Joe's Soup Kitchen

Next Sunday

11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
12:00 p.m. Coffee Fellowship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2022 Call for Congregational Meeting Notice is hereby given that the Called Congregational Meeting of the First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York, on Fifth Avenue between 11 and 12 Streets, New York, New York, will be held in person and by Zoom video teleconference today immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. This meeting is for the purpose of electing members of an Associate Pastor Nominating Committee and is open to all members of First Church. Please welcome our candidates: Katherine Hope Adams, John Cody Bennett, James Howard Boswell, Eileen Choi, Iberedem Nsikak Ekure, John M. Griem, Jr., and David B. Richardson.

Pasquale Cuppari Art Show Visit the art show in the Great Hall Gallery hosted by the Art at First Action Group.

Summer Choir thank you! Today is the final Sunday for our Summer Choir. We are grateful to these volunteer and staff singers for leading worship beautifully over the last eight weeks. Beginning next Sunday, we will welcome various members of our staff singers to worship leadership while the choir enjoys a summer break. The First Church Choir returns on Sunday, September 11th.

Join the First Church Choir! A strong and integral part of the life of First Church, the First Church Choir is comprised of volunteer and staff singers who come from a diversity of backgrounds and musical experiences. The choir rehearses weekly, providing leadership for worship and special musical services, September through June, offering music drawn from a richness and breadth of musical creativity. The choir is eager to welcome new members to join our choral community! You don't have to be a member of First Church to join. Any interested persons with choral or other musical experience are encouraged to contact Michael Shake (mshake@fpcnyc.org) for more information today!

Movie Night On Monday, August 8, the Earthcare Group invites you to a free cookout and screening of the family favorite film WALL-E. The cookout begins at 6:30 p.m., followed by the movie at 8:00 p.m. The rain date is August 15; make sure to mark your calendar for both dates. For more information, contact earthcare@fpcnyc.org.



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