

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

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Service for the Lord's Day

August 14th, 2022 | 11 a.m.



Wei Chao, 2020, photograph.

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

from “Partita” (based on GROSSER GOTT)
Theme, Prelude, Sarabande, Allemande, Courante, and Aria

Grayston Ives

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand in body or spirit.

With voices united, we call out;

may God’s hand be upon us, bringing us strength.

With voices united, we ask;

may God give us life. We will call on God’s name!

With voices united, we plead;

may God’s face shine on us. Let us worship God!

HYMN 4

“Holy God, We Praise Your Name”

GROSSER GOTT

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, hear our prayer:

for the mending of our hearts, torn apart by our unkindness;

for the healing of our souls, wasting away from the despair around us;

for the forgiveness we seek for the sin we have allowed to persist;

for the reconciliation of the world, whose division condemns us;

we pray for the courage to admit our fault,

the strength to amend our actions,

and the hope that your grace awaits us.

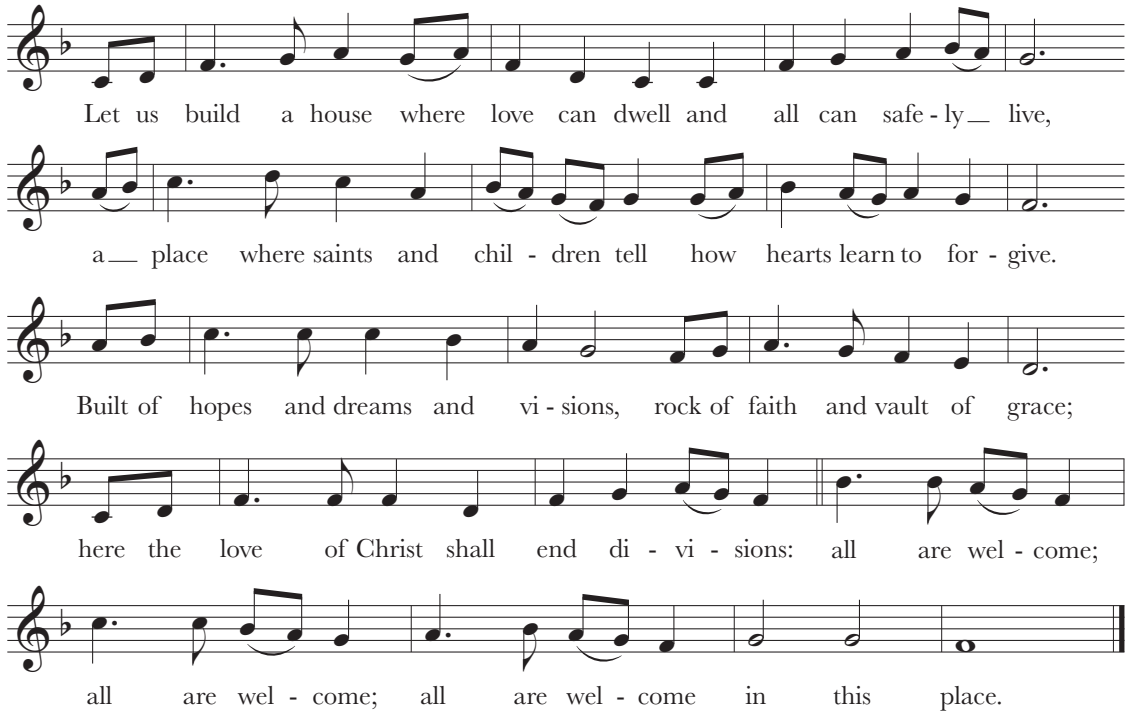
Hear us as we lift up our hearts in silence...

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

arr. Brenda Portman

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation! All ye who hear; now to his temple draw near, join me in glad adoration. Praise to the Lord, who over all things so wondrously reigneth; shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth! Hast thou not seen all thy desires have been granted in what he ordaineth? Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee; surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend thee. Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, who with his love doth befriend thee. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him. Let the amen sound from his people again; gladly forever adore him.

-Joachim Neander; trans. Catherine Winkworth, alt.

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Hebrews 11:29-12:2

pew Bible, New Testament page 226/large print, New Testament page 274

SERMON

“Our Calling Is Not to the Bleachers” 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

George Frideric Handel

But who may abide the day of his coming, and who shall stand when he appeareth? For he is like a refiner's fire.

-Malachi 3:2

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 377

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

HOUSTON

Please stand in body or spirit.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Fanfare-Processional”

David Bednall

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

LEADING THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, *Senior Pastor*
Esther Gowrie, *Deacon*

Shanelle Valerie Woods, *soprano*
Michael Shake, *Organist and Director of Music*

WORSHIP NOTE We welcome staff singer Shanelle Valerie Woods as our soloist for worship today. Shanelle was previously on the voice faculties of both Charleston Southern and Claflin Universities. Currently, she further fulfills her passion for arts education in the role of Education Coordinator for the Young People's Chorus of New York City, and continues to provide voice lessons to several of YPC's Matisse Fellows. She is also pursuing a graduate degree in vocal pedagogy at NYU. Shanelle joined the First Church Choir in September 2021.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Today

11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
12:00 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. Mary Smith's Farewell and Coffee Fellowship

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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!

Donations welcomed for the Tartan Fair Yard Sale, Saturday, October 1. The excitement for the Tartan Fair grows, and we are still in need of household items for our October yard sale. Items of greater value are now being accepted for the December silent auction. Drop off yard sale items at the front desk during the week or on Sundays until September 18, and help sort and price on Tuesdays from 1-3 p.m. Please contact Jane Ritter (jmr719@aol.com), Joan Ryan (joanryan@aol.com), or leave a note at the front desk for more information.

Join us for the fall movie series hosted by the Young Adults Action Group. We will show the classic romantic-comedy musical Grease on September 16th! Make plans to attend this family-friendly event because this is the perfect film to end the summer.

We will show the critically acclaimed comedy Ghostbusters on October 28th, just before Halloween. A favorite of New Yorkers, and some regard it as the quintessential New York City film.

Both events begin at 7:30 p.m. on the north lawn and doors open at 7:00 p.m.. Popcorn, drinks, and blankets will be provided. We hope you will be able to attend both events.

Honoring Elder Mary Smith During our coffee fellowship on August 21st, we will honor longtime church member and Elder Mary Smith for her service and commitment to First Church. Mary still wishes to be a part of First Church, but her presence will greatly be missed. In September, she will relocate to the Baltimore area to be closer to family. Mary has been the Tartan Fair's backbone, a member of the Fighting Racism Action Group, and a member of the "counting group," to name a few of her contributions.

If you want to send her a letter, mail it to the church, or send an email to Sam Ogundare (sogundare@fpcnyc.org) who will forward it to her.



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