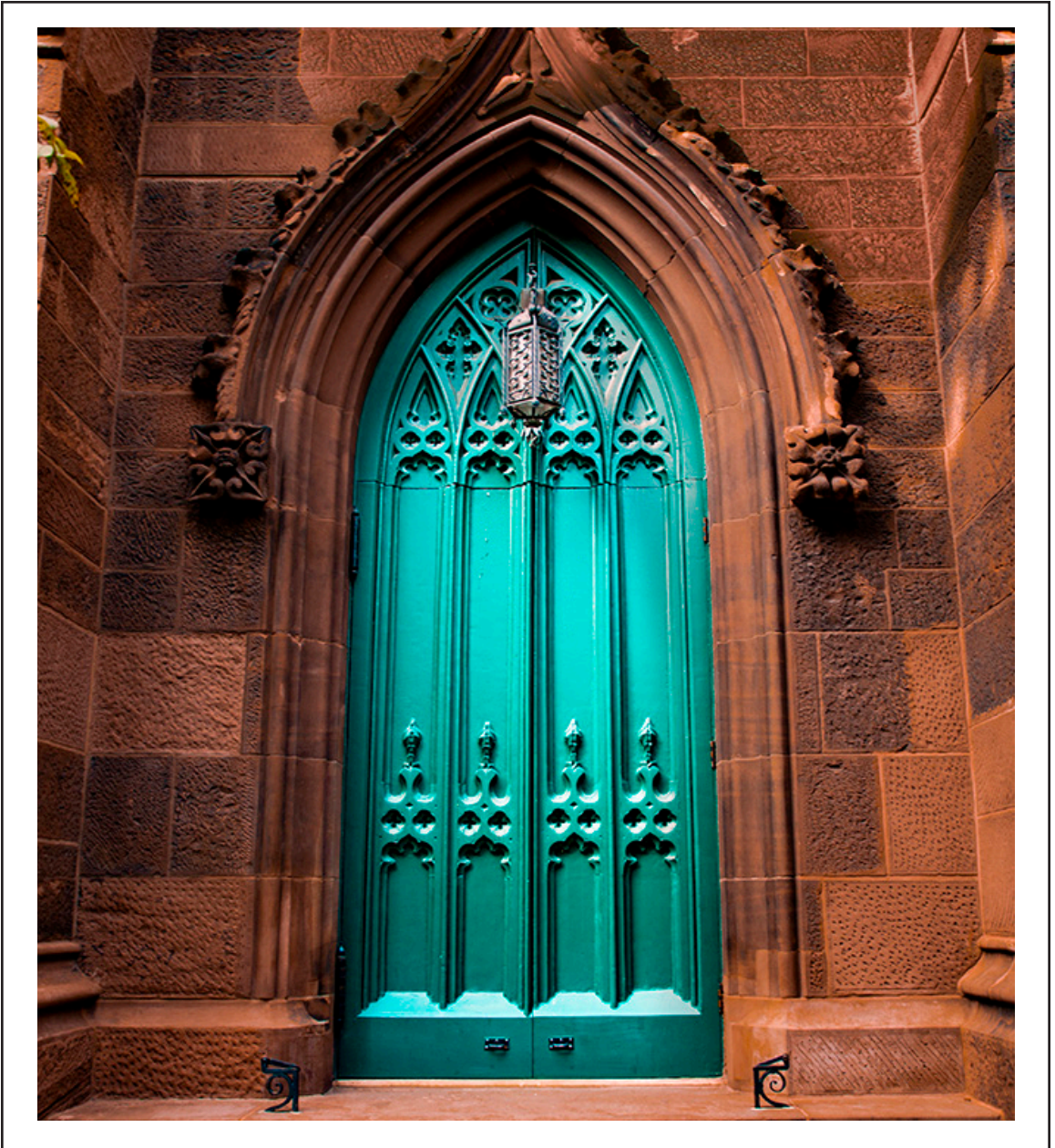


The First Presbyterian Church *in the City of New York*

2ND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Service for the Lord's Day

January 15th, 2023 | 11 a.m.



Sophia Yacca, 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 worshiping 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



PLEDGE



INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?



GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Reverie, from *Suite Sebastiene*”

Thomas H. Kerr

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

INTROIT

Louis Moreau Gottschalk; Edwin P. Parker, arr.

Holy Spirit, light divine, shine upon this heart of mine; chase the shades of night away, turn the darkness into day.

Holy Spirit, power divine, cleanse this guilty heart of mine; in your mercy pity me, from sin's bondage set me free.

Holy Spirit, joy divine, cheer this saddened heart of mine; yield a sacred, settled peace, let it grow and still increase.

Holy Spirit, all divine, dwell within this heart of mine; cast down every idol throne, reign supreme, and reign alone. -Andrew Reed

HYMN 612

“We Praise You, O God”

KREMSER

Please stand in body or spirit.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord Jesus Christ,
we remember with gratitude those people
who generously sowed the seeds of faith in our lives.**

**Above all, we recognize how you have blessed our lives
with the gift of the Holy Spirit
so that our faith has miraculously grown.**

**We confess the times we fail to involve ourselves
in planting any seeds of faith in the lives of others;
the times when our personal agendas become more important than yours;
the times when our lives become so entangled with the values of the world
that we forget what you have said and done and promised.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, we have sinned.
Bless and renew our lives, we pray,
so that we turn to you at all times and in all places,
strengthening our faith,
to bear the fruit of your mercy, your love, your undying life...**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE

JACQUES BERTHIER



Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in — the high - est!
Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE AND SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Children are invited to come forward to the steps for the prayer. Following the prayer, all children are invited to the Parlor for Church School and should be picked up there by their parents at the end of the worship service.

**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.**

ANTHEM

H. Walford Davies

God be in my head, and in my understanding;
God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;
God be in my heart, and in my thinking;
God be at mine end, and at my departing.

—Sarum Primer

HEARING THE WORD

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Nicky Moody Ordway

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 6:19-24

pew Bible, New Testament page 6/large print, New Testament page 7

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“First Church Matters to Me”

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 450

“Be Thou My Vision”

SLANE

Please stand in body or spirit.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in God,
Creator of the all,
Giver of every good gift,
Author of life.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ,
who reminded us of the coming of God’s kingdom,
who commanded us to care for those in need,
who taught us to store up treasures in heaven, not on earth,
and who gave us the example of self-giving love.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who inspires us to faithful stewardship of God’s gifts,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
by whom all things are possible.**

**We acknowledge that we are merely stewards of all that is God’s,
caretakers of God’s home.
All praise and thanks to God, now and forever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY

Mark A. Miller

God’s got the whole world in God’s hands. God has you and me, God’s got you and me in those hands.
-African American spiritual; adapt. Mark A. Miller

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

SENDING

HYMN 718

“Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”

BOURBON

Please stand in body or spirit.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Fanfare and Chorale”

Calvin Fuller

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

RECEIVING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM TODAY

Evelyn Campbell Simon
Daughter of Katie and Tim Simon

LEADING THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, *Senior Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*
Rev. Dr. Mark Hostetter, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. Emily Brewer, *Interim Associate Pastor of Mission and Social Justice*
Emma Gritsch, *Seminary Intern*

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

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Today

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Theology
11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship & Baptism
11:15 p.m. Church School
12:00 p.m. Coffee Fellowship
12:30 p.m. Earth Care Seminar Series: Best Practices

Wednesday

12:30 p.m. Bible Study
5:30 p.m. Conversational Spanish

Friday

7:00 p.m. Current Events

Saturday

10:00 a.m. Inquirer's Class
10:15 a.m. St. Joe's Soup Kitchen

Next Sunday

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Theology
11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
11:15 p.m. Church School
12:00 p.m. Coffee Fellowship
12:00 p.m. Art at First: Spiritual Travelers
Opening Day Exhibit
12:30 p.m. My Grandmother's Hands & Facing Racism
1:30 p.m. Literary Group

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coffee and Theology continues the *Down by the Riverside: Crossings, Stillness and Sacrament* series today. Using a variety of scripture stories each week, we will explore the significance of water in the biblical narrative and what those crossings mean for us today. The topic of the day for next Sunday will be Jacob, Joshua & Miriam. All are welcome before Sunday worship on Zoom and in the library at 9:30 a.m.

Church School continues *Sing a New Song* series today in the Parlor during worship. Childcare is available on the third floor for children under three years old.

Join us for the third installment of the Earth Care Action Group's four-part seminar series, "Best Practices" today at 12:30 p.m. in the Parlor. Come learn about what the church has done and will do to combat global warming and meet New York's infrastructure needs by 2030. Also, discover how church actions can affect your personal life. Trustees, Session members, and staff members will speak. A light lunch will be served.

All K-5th grade students are invited to join Martha Allen, our interim Family Music Coordinator, for another special opportunity to lead music in worship! Join us 10:30-10:55 a.m. in the Parlor today and January 22nd in preparation to sing in 11:00 a.m. worship on January 29th. Want to know more or sign up? Contact Martha at marthasueallen@outlook.com.

Bible Study continues Wednesday, January 18th at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom and in the library with the book of 1 Kings. For more information, please contact Rev. Barbara Davis at bdavis@fpcnyc.org.

Interested in becoming a member or just learning more about our church? Join us for our Inquirers Class on January 21st from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Parlor.

The Associate Pastor Nominating Committee at First Church is looking for candidates to fill the Social Justice and Mission pastoral role, and they want to hear from you! They are seeking a leader with at least two years of experience who is an energetic motivator with a heart for mission to galvanize our congregation by broadening and deepening member involvement in opportunities to serve. If you want to refer someone, please email apnc@fpcnyc.org.

2023 CALL FOR ANNUAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Corporate and Congregational Meeting of the First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York, on Fifth Avenue between 11th and 12th Streets, New York, New York, will be held on Sunday, January 29, 2023, in the sanctuary immediately following the 11:00 a.m. worship service. This meeting is for the purpose of electing elders and deacons to replace those whose terms expire and for electing successors to the following trustees: Richard Korchak, John McGinn, and Janet Shin and to transact such other business as may properly come before it. Nominees for election to the Trustee Class of 2026 are Alyssa Brown, Ingrid Figueiredo, and Tim Warmouth. This meeting is open to all members of First Church.

READ & STUDY THE BIBLE IN THREE YEARS (YEAR 2, PART 1)

Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. in-person/virtual

JAN	MAR	MAY
4 1 Samuel 11 2 Samuel 18 1 Kings	1 Gospel of John 8 1 John 15 2 John 22 3 John	7 Psalms 14 Proverbs 21 Ecclesiastes
FEB	APR	JUN
1 2 Kings 8 Ezra 15 Nehemiah	19 1 Thessalonians 26 2 Thessalonians	10 Daniel 17 Joel 24 Revelation

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

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