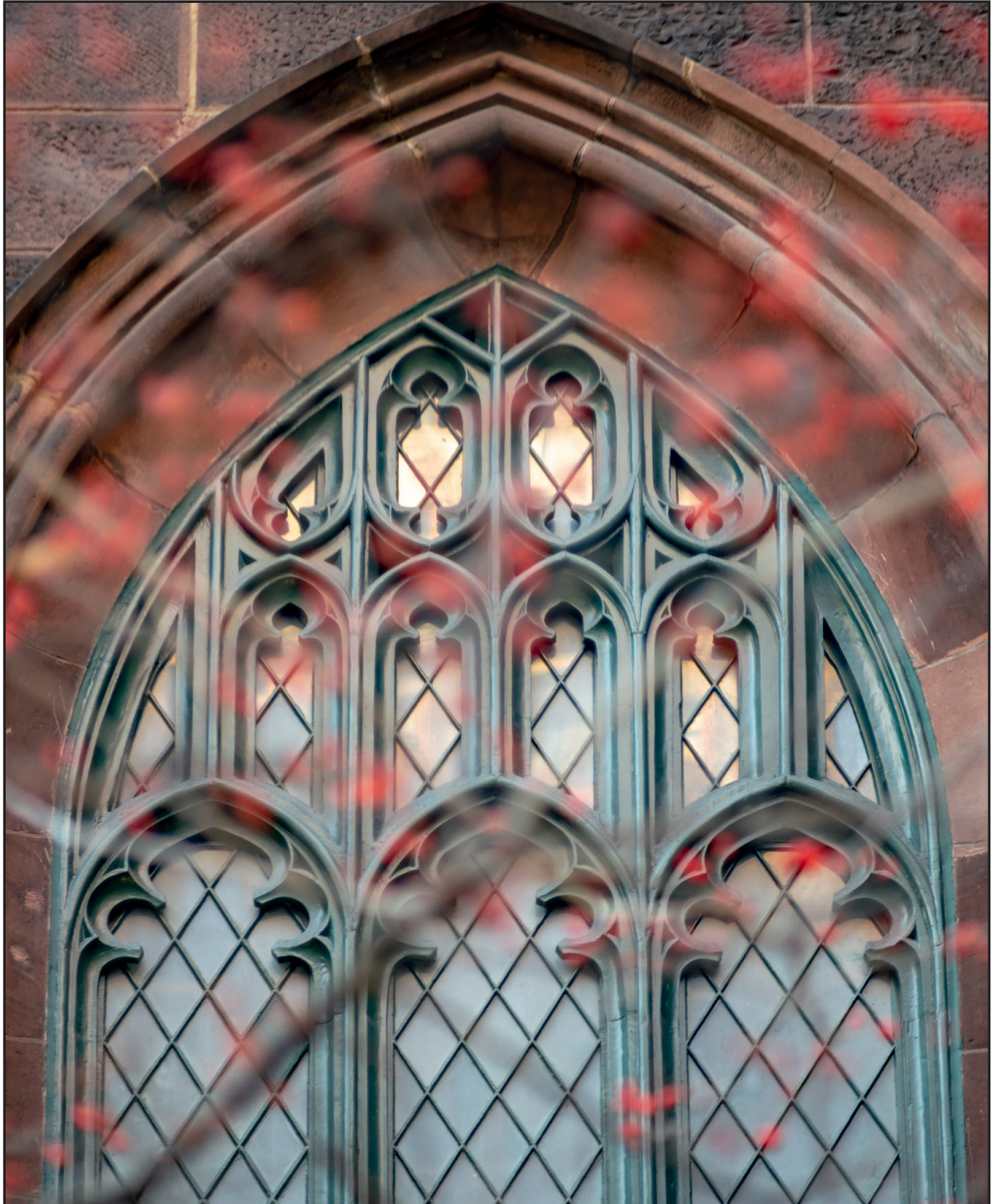


The First Presbyterian Church *in the City of New York*

3RD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Service for the Lord's Day

January 22nd, 2023 | 11 a.m.



Wei Chao, 2021, 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

“Introduction-Choral” and “Menuet gothique,”
from *Suite Gothique*, Op. 25

Léon Boëllmann

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand in body or spirit.

We gather for worship as children of God.

We come to remember who and whose we are.

We gather for worship to be renewed in our faith.

We come with hearts open to receive God's love.

We gather for worship to catch a vision of what might be.

We come ready to change what is.

We gather for worship in gratitude for all we have been given.

With thanksgiving, we lift our voices in songs of praise.

HYMN 307

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

CWM RHONDDA

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy and merciful God,

**in your presence we confess our sinfulness, our shortcomings,
and our offenses against you.**

You alone know how often we have sinned

in wandering from your ways,

in wasting your gifts,

in forgetting your love.

Have mercy on us, O Lord,

for we are ashamed and sorry

for all we have done to displease you.

Forgive our sins,

and help us to live in your light,

and walk in your ways,

for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior...

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE

JACQUES BERTHIER



LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE AND SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

CHILDREN'S PRAYER 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

Sergei Rachmaninoff

To thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. My God, I trust in thee. -A.M. Henderson, ed. and adapt.

HEARING THE WORD

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Cody Bennett and Katie Adams

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 12:16-21

pew Bible, New Testament page 74/large print, New Testament page 90

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"First Church Matters to NYC"

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 351

“All Who Love and Serve Your City”

CHARLESTOWN

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

Benjamin Britten

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands; serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song. Be ye sure that the Lord he is God: it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise. Be thankful unto him and speak good of his name. For the Lord is gracious, His mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth from generation to generation. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

—Psalm 100, and the Lesser Doxology

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 833

“O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go”

ST. MARGARET

Please stand in body or spirit.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Toccata,” from *Suite Gothique*, Op. 25

Boëllmann

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

LEADING THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, *Senior Pastor*

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*

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*

MUSIC NOTE On an Atlantic steamer crossing in 1892 a providential meeting occurred. The Rev. Dr. Howard Duffield, pastor of First Church, met a young music student returning home from study in Paris. That student, William C. Carl, would soon become the first organist of this church, remaining until his death in 1937. Through his tireless ministry to this congregation and teaching at the Guilman Organ School, founded here in 1899, Carl was beloved by the church and widely respected by many of the acclaimed organists and composers of the late-19th and early 20th centuries. Léon Boëllmann’s *Suite Gothique*, composed in 1895, is one of many works dedicated to or written for Carl by composers of the time.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coffee and Theology will host church archivist and historian, David Pultz, in a discussion about the Second Great Awakening as it related to social reform in the early 19th century in New York City. 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 Art at First in the Great Hall Gallery for the opening reception of their Spiritual Travelers exhibit today. This exhibit features work created as a visual expression of the artists' spirituality or reflection on their religious heritage. The gallery will be open until February 26th. For more information email Barbara Sherman at art@fpcnyc.org.

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 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.

There is no Bible Study on January 25th. Bible Study will return Wednesday, February 1st at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom and in the library with the book of 2 Kings. For more information, please contact Rev. Barbara Davis at bdavis@fpcnyc.org.

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.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Today

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

Friday

7:00 p.m. Current Events

Saturday

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

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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