

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

BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Service for the Lord's Day

January 8th, 2023 | 11 a.m.



Baptism of Jesus by James He Qi, China/USA - He Qi © 2021 All rights reserved.

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



GIVE



INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?



GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Christ, Our Lord, Came to the Jordan, BWV 685”
“Plein Jeu: DEO GRACIAS”

J.S. Bach
Mary Beth Bennett

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand in body or spirit.

Let us worship the Triune God.

**Let us worship the One
who spoke in the beginning
and created something out of nothing.**

Let us worship the Triune God.

**Let us worship the One
who took on the clothing of humanity
to set those who were oppressed free.**

Let us worship the Triune God.

**Let us worship the One
whose Spirit rests continually upon us,
calling us from sorrow-filled endings
to bright new beginnings.**

HYMN 618

“O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”

DEO GRACIAS

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

based on Psalm 8

**Great God of all creation,
who are we that you are mindful of us?
You set the stars in motion,
and launched waves crashing against the shore.
You count the hairs on our heads,
and call us each by name.
You give us your wisdom and you uphold us by your Spirit.
You tend to us and care for us.**

**And yet,
we become enmeshed
by our own needs and wants and desires
and we fail to see you at work in this world.**

**Turn us around, O God.
Help us to see as you see,
and to reach out as you reach out.
Remind us once again of the sacredness
of our ordinary, day-to-day lives.
In your mercy, O God,
forgive who we are and bless who we will be...**

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

Ralph Vaughan Williams

The blessed son of God only in a crib full poor did lie; with our poor flesh and our poor blood was clothed that everlasting good. *Kyrie eleison.*

The Lord Christ Jesu, God's son dear, as a guest and a stranger here; us for to bring from misery, that we might live eternally. *Kyrie eleison.*

All this did he for us freely, for to declare his great mercy; all Christendom be merry therefore, and give him thanks for evermore. *Kyrie eleison.* —Miles Coverdale, after Martin Luther

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 3:13-17

pew Bible, New Testament page 3/large print, New Testament page 3

SERMON

“New Year’s Vows”

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

REMEMBRANCE OF BAPTISM

Please stand in body or spirit.

Who is your Lord and Savior?

Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior.

Do you trust him?

I do.

Trusting in their gracious mercy of God, do you renounce evil and affirm your reliance on God's grace?

I do.

Do you intend to be Jesus' disciple?

I do.

Do you intend to obey Jesus' word?

I do.

Do you intend to show Jesus' love?

I do.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

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.

HYMN 694

"Great God of Every Blessing"

AURELIA

OFFERTORY

Giovanni da Palestrina

Come, Holy Ghost, our souls inspire, and lighten with celestial fire; thou the anointing Spirit art, who dost thy seven-fold gifts impart.

Thy blessed unction from above is comfort, life, and fire of love; enable with perpetual light the dullness of our mortal sight.

Anoint and cheer our soiled face, with the abundance of thy grace; keep far our foes; give peace at home; where thou art guide, no ill can come!

Teach us to know the Creator, Son, and thee, of both, to be but One, that through the ages all along this may be our endless song: praise to the Creator, and the Son, and Holy Spirit, three in One.

—attr. Rabanus Maurus; trans. John Cosin

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 295

“Go to the World!”

SINE NOMINE

Please stand in body or spirit.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“In Thee Is Gladness, BWV 615”

J.S. Bach

*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*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Coffee and Theology began a new series this morning – *Down by the Riverside: Crossings, Stillness and Sacrament*. 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 Elijah, Jonah & Ezekiel. All are welcome before Sunday worship on Zoom and in the library at 9:30 a.m.

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

Bible Study continues Wednesday, January 11th at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom and in the library with the book of 2 Samuel. For more information, please contact Rev. Barbara Davis at bdavis@fpcnyc.org.

Please join the Senior Luncheon on January 12th in the Parlor to hear *What's New in Legal Matters*. Matthew Raphan, an elder lawyer who is known to many at First Church, will be discussing Health Proxies, Power of Attorney and Wills. Join us at 12:30 p.m. for lunch and the program which will begin at 1:15 p.m. If you would like to register for the luncheon, go to the front desk, and ask for the sign-up sheet.

Join us for the third installment of the Earth Care Action Group's four-part seminar series, "Best Practices" on Sunday, January 15th at 12:30 p.m. in the Parlor.

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.

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 on Sundays, January 8th through 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.

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
12:30 p.m. PW Bible Study

Wednesday

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

Thursday

12:30 p.m. Elder Care Luncheon

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



NEXT WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11 MARKS THE 177 ANNIVERSARY
OF THE DEDICATION OF THE SANCTUARY.

THIS HOUSE HAS BEEN BUILT FOR THE GLORY OF GOD AND THE
PROCLAMATION OF THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST. BLESS THE
WORK OF OUR HANDS, O GOD, THAT THIS PLACE CONTINUES TO
OFFER YOUR WELCOME TO MANY AND DIVERSE PEOPLE, THAT
ALL WHO SEEK YOU HERE MAY KNOW YOUR PRESENCE IN THEIR
LIVES. IN JESUS' NAME WE PRAY. AMEN.

PERMISSIONS *Christ, Our Lord, Came to the Jordan*, BWV 685. Public Domain. *Plein Jeu: DEO GRACIAS*. © 2014 Oxford University Press. Used under ONE LICENSE #73497-A. *Call to Worship*. from Watch Night Service 2016, written by Rev. J. Lee Hill, Senior Pastor, Christian Fellowship Congregational UCC of San Diego. *O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High*. Music Harm. © 1993 Selah Publishing Co., Inc. Used under ONE LICENSE #73497-A. *Glory to God*. Music © 1979, 1981 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.). Used under ONE LICENSE #73497-A. *The Blessed Son of God*. © 1954 Oxford University Press. Used under ONE LICENSE #73497-A. *Great God of Every Blessing*. Words © 2011 David Gambrell (admin. Presbyterian Publishing Corp.). *Come, Holy Ghost*. Public domain. *Doxology*. Inclusive Words © 1990 Neil Weatherhogg. Used by permission. *Go the World!* Words © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc. Used under ONE LICENSE #73497-A. *In Thee Is Gladness*, BWV 615. Public domain. Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989 by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



This paper contains 100% post-consumer waste content, is made with windpower and made carbon neutral.

Mohawk Loop is certified by Preferred by Nature for FSC® standards. NC-COC-000668

12 W 12th Street, New York, NY 10011
212.675.6150 • fpcnyc.org