

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

DAY OF PENTECOST

May 28th, 2023 | 11:00 a.m.



Pentecost, Jennifer Allison, 2018, acrylic.

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.

Gender-neutral restrooms are located at the back of the sanctuary as well as through the wooden doors at the front of the sanctuary on the south side.

More restrooms can be found in the lobby on the north side of the sanctuary.

GET INVOLVED



GIVE



**INTERESTED IN
MEMBERSHIP?**



**PENTECOST
OFFERING**



GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Come, Holy Ghost, Our Souls Inspire”

David Briggs

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Please stand in body or spirit.

**God the Holy Spirit,
You are the restless breath of love.
You move where you will, breaking down barriers,
Stirring hearts to change, making all things possible.
Inspire each one of us to hunger and thirst for justice!
Come, Spirit of God.
Receive our worship.**

HYMN 289

“On Pentecost They Gathered”

CORONATION

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

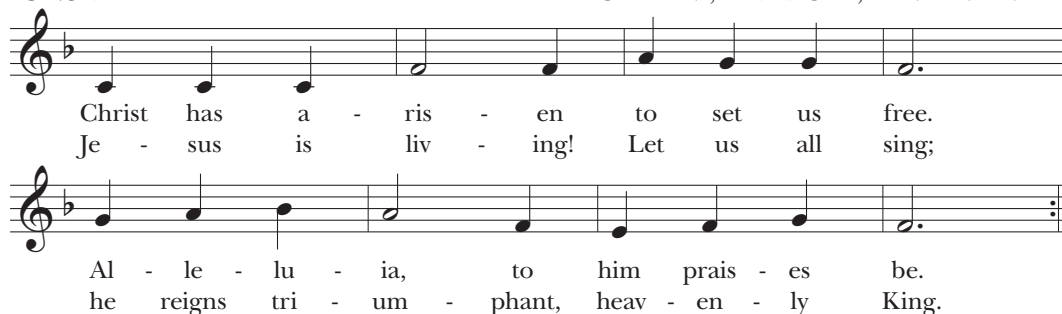
**We confess to you, renewing Spirit,
that we confuse unity with uniformity,
and diversity with divisiveness.
We speak and behave as if being a part of your family
means assimilating others to our way of living.
We deny and destroy the beauty you created in each person.
We long to change these patterns, O Creator.
Teach us to value challenge.
Help us to see strength in difference.
And empower us to build your kingdom in creativity and love...**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE

MFURAHINI, HALELUYA; TANZANIAN MELODY



Christ has a - ris - en to set us free.
Je - sus is liv - ing! Let us all sing;

Al - le - lu - ia, to him prais - es be.
he reigns tri - um - phant, heav - en - ly King.

continues on following page

Let us sing praise to him with end-less joy. Death's fear-ful
 sting he has come to de-destroy. Our sin for-giv-ing,
 al-le-lu-ia! Je-sus is liv-ing, 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.

ANTHEM

Morten Lauridsen

Veni, Sancte Spiritus et emitte caelitus lucis tuae radium. Veni, pater pauperum, veni, dator munerum, veni, lumen cordium.

Come, Holy Spirit, and send from heaven your ray of light. Come, Father of the poor; come, giver of gifts; come, light of hearts.

Consolator optime, dulcis hospes animae, dulce refrigerium. In labore requies, in aestu temperies, in fletu solatium.
 The best of Consolers; sweet guest of the soul; sweet refreshment. In labor, thou art rest; in heat, thou art the tempering; in grief, thou art the consolation.

O lux beatissima, reple cordis intima tuorum fidelium. Sine tuo numine, nihil est in homine, nihil est innoxium.
 O light most blessed, fill the inmost heart of all thy faithful. Without your grace, there is nothing in us; nothing that is not harmful.

Lava quod est sordidum, riga quod est aridum, sana quod est saucium. Flecte quod est rigidum, fove quod est frigidum, rege quod est devium.

Cleanse what is dirty, moisten what is dry, heal what is hurt. Flex what is rigid, heat what is frigid, correct what goes astray.

Da tuis fidelibus, in te confidentibus, sacrum septenarium. Da virtutis meritum, da salutis exitum, da perenne gaudium.

Grant to thy faithful, those that trust in thee, thy sacred seven-fold gifts. Grant the reward of virtue; grant the deliverance of salvation; grant joy everlasting.

-12th century Latin hymn

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 2:1-21

pew Bible, New Testament page 119/large print, New Testament page 144

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Same Old. Same Old.”

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 282

“Come Down, O Love Divine”

DOWN AMPNEY

Please stand in body or spirit.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We sing of God the Spirit,
**who from the beginning has swept over the face of creation,
animating all energy and matter
and moving in the human heart.**

We sing of God the Spirit,
**faithful and untameable,
who is creatively and redemptively active in the world.**

The Spirit challenges us to celebrate the holy
**not only in what is familiar,
but also in that which seems foreign.**

We sing of the Spirit,
**who speaks our prayers of deepest longing
and enfolds our concerns and confessions,
transforming us and the world.**

We offer worship
**as an outpouring of gratitude and awe
and a practice of opening ourselves
to God's still, small voice of comfort,
to God's rushing whirlwind of challenge.**

Through word, music, art, and sacrament,
**in community and in solitude,
God changes our lives, our relationships, and our world.**

OFFERTORY

I'm gonna sing 'till the Spirit moves in my heart. I'm gonna sing 'till Jesus comes. It was grace that brought me. It was grace that taught me. It was grace that kept me. And it's grace that will lead me home. I'm gonna pray 'till the Spirit moves in my heart. I'm gonna pray 'till my Jesus comes. Can't you feel the spirit moving? I'm gonna shout 'till the Spirit moves in my heart. I'm gonna shout 'till Jesus comes. I'm gonna sing till my Jesus comes.

Moses Hogan

-Moses Hogan

DOXOLOGY WITH ALLELUIAS

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Please stand in body or spirit.

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God all crea - tures
high and low. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Praise
God, in Je - sus ful - ly known: Cre - a - tor, Word, and Spir - it
one. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

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 280

Please stand in body or spirit.

“Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us”

EBENEZER

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Fanfares to the Tongues of Fire”

Larry King

*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*
Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*

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

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Today

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

Monday

Memorial Day - Building Closed

Wednesday

5:30 p.m. Conversational Spanish

Thursday

8:30 a.m. Prayer Writing

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
11:00 a.m. Summer Family Worship Space
12:00 p.m. Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis'
25th Anniversary Celebration
12:30 p.m. Youth Event: Neighborhood
Walk & Lunch
12:30 p.m. PW Bible Study

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Summer Family Worship Space: Starting today, May 28th, while Church School breaks for summer, families with young children are welcome to enjoy the 11:00 a.m. worship service in the Parlor. A screen will display a livestream of the service, and there will be puzzles, games, snacks, and art supplies as you worship in a relaxing and open space! Any children up to 5 years old are welcome, and they must be accompanied by an adult. We hope to see you today!

Creatives Create! Bending the Arc Toward Justice exhibition continues in the Great Hall Gallery from 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. each Sunday. Join us on Sunday June 18th at 2:00 p.m. for the closing of this exhibition and part two of performances. A reception will follow. For more information email (creativescreate@fpcnyc.org).

Bible Study returns Wednesday, June 7th at 12:30 p.m. on Zoom and in the library with a study of the book of Daniel.

Prayer Writing continues Thursday, June 1st at 8:30 a.m. All are welcome to this time of quiet writing for meditation and prayer, no writing experience necessary! We will use the poetry of Mary Oliver as prompts for our writing.

Join us for a fun and educational neighborhood walk and lunch on Sunday, June 4th at 12:30 p.m. in Greenwich Village. This Youth Event will explore the rich history of the area with stops at the Emma Lazarus House, Washington Square Park, and Stonewall. We'll end our walk with a delicious late lunch at Flipsigi! All grade 9 to 12 students are enthusiastically encouraged to attend the walk and are kindly requested to bring \$10 for their lunch contribution. Please RSVP and learn more by emailing Jenny Bennett at (jbennett@fpcnyc.org).

The next Senior Luncheon will be held on June 8th in the Parlor. Podiatrist Paul N. Greenberg will discuss how elders can avoid falls and injuries at home and outdoors. Dr. Greenberg is the only NYC podiatrist who has been certified as an Expert Witness by the judicial system. Lunch will be served at 12:30 p.m. and the program will begin at 1:15 p.m. If you want to register for the luncheon, go to the front desk and ask for the sign-up sheet or call 212-675-6150.

The First Church Choir invites you to join them for The Summer Choir! The Summer Choir will meet every Sunday, June 11th through July 30th, at 9:30 a.m. to prepare music for 11:00 a.m. worship. Participation is flexible – sing one or more Sundays of your choosing. To learn more about this special opportunity, contact Michael Shake today! (mshake@fpcnyc.org).

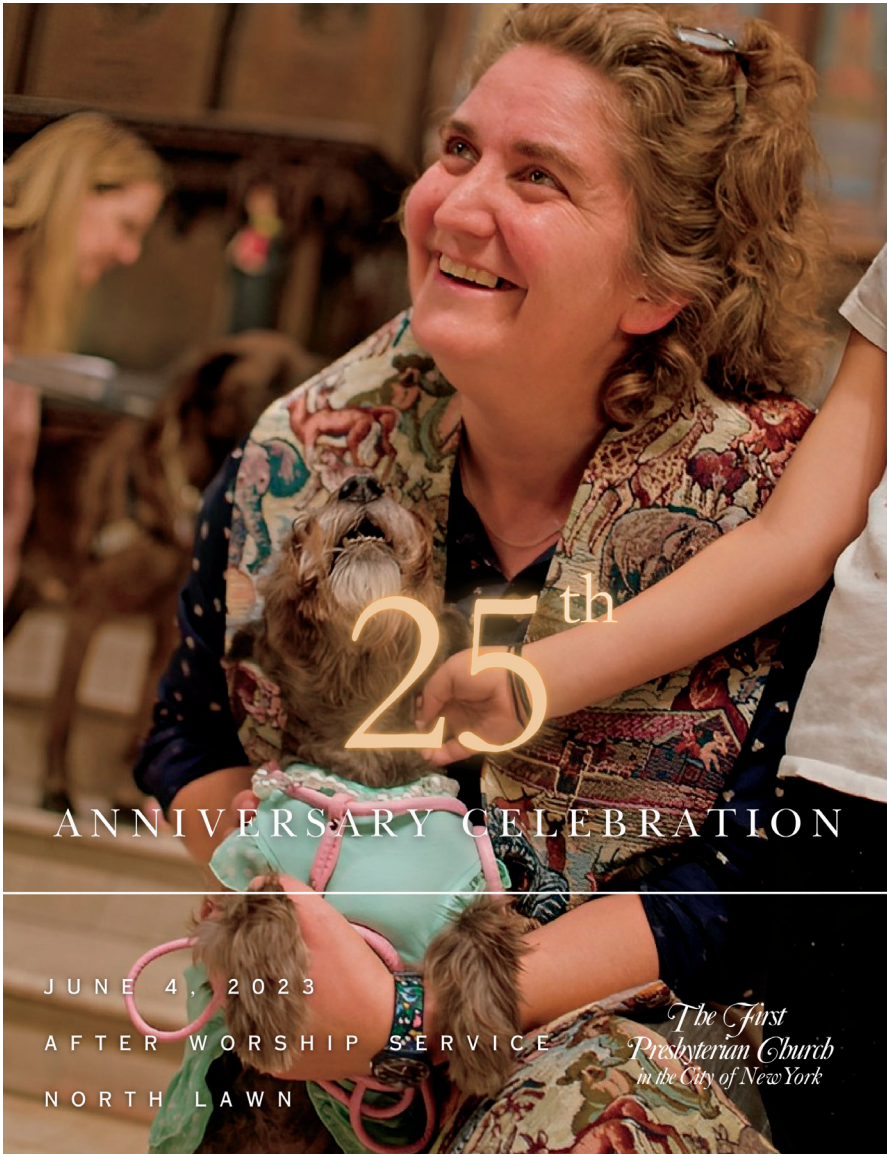
Sunday, June 11th is Graduation Sunday! During worship, we will celebrate all children, youth, and adults ending their school year and transitioning from one grade to the next, paying very special attention to our graduating seniors. All are invited to stay after worship for a party with cake and lawn games! Please sign up to be recognized during worship – all ages welcome! Sign up in the Narthex, or email Jenny Bennett, Director of Youth and Family Ministries, at (jbennett@fpcnyc.org).

Join us on Thursday, June 22th at 6:30 p.m for our Pride Cocktail Party. Meet us in the garden for music, drinks and hor d'oeuvres, and a recognition of our AIDS Walk team. All are welcome and we hope to see you there! For more information email Jeff Nichols at (jqnichols@gmail.com).

Join us in the sanctuary on June 25th at 11 a.m. for our Pride Sunday service. It's a day to celebrate the LGBTQ+ community and show our support. After the service, we will pass out water to participants in the march. If you're interested in volunteering, please send an email to Emily Brewer (ebrewer@fpcnyc.org).

Roll your yard sale donations over to church and drop them at the front desk on Sundays or during the week. The Tartan Fair Yard Sale is on Saturday, September 23, but we gladly accept your donations now of gently used household items (except computer components, furniture and adult clothing). If you would like to help price and sort on Tuesdays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., contact Jane Ritter (jmr719@aol.com) or Joan Ryan (joanryan@aol.com).

Join us in celebrating a milestone as we commemorate Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis' 25 years of dedicated service to First Church. On June 4th, following the worship service, we invite you to join us on the North Lawn for lunch and cake in honor of this momentous occasion.



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