

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

PRIDE SUNDAY

June 25th, 2023 | 11:00 a.m.



Pride Sunday at 12th St, Sophia Yacca, 2021.

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?**



GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Now Thank We All Our God, from Cantata 79”

J. S. Bach;
Virgil Fox, arr.

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

MINISTRY OF MUSIC

arr. Tom Trenney

Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee! E'en though it be a cross that raiseth me; still all my song shall be nearer, my God to thee. Nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee! Yea, though the vale I tread, thou art with me. When shadows cloud my head, thou annoitest me. Thy rod and staff shall be comfort to shepherd me nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to thee. Though waters foam and roar, though mountains quake, thou art my refuge sure, though the earth should shake. Lord, strengthen and shelter me nearer, my God, to thee.

—Sarah Flower Adams; adapt. Tom Trenney

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

from *Naming, Honouring, Celebrating: Worship Resources for Trans Visibility*

Please stand in body or spirit.

**God, you create us to live together,
united and diverse,
in challenge and transformation.**

For the possibility of unity, even in our diversity, Creator, we praise you.

**Christ, you live amongst us,
noticed and unnoticed,
in power and oppression.**

For the possibility of communities of respect and nurture, Christ, we praise you.

Spirit, you stir within us,

inspiring, enticing, prompting, impossible to pin down.

For the possibility of change, of new life, Spirit, we praise you.

HYMN

“In Your Heart, O God, You Hold Us”

HYFRYDOL



1. In your heart, O God, you hold us— ev - ery-one, from ev - ery land.
2. To be - hold you in each per - son is our first and great - est task;
3. No dis - tinc - tions, no ex - cep - tions, no di - vi - sions, no — more walls.



Ev - ery face — re - flects your im - age; oh! that we would un - der - stand!
Lov - ing all, — as you have loved us, say - ing "yes" to all — you ask.
In your love, O God, you free us - cruel - ty crum - bles, ha - tred falls.



From the dust — you shaped and formed us; by your breath you gave us birth.
Yet, O God, our vis - ion fal - ters - ha - tred dulls and dims our sight.
Free our hearts to love each oth - er though the world may think it odd.



Gra - cious God, your love is bound - less; ev - ery - one has sa - cred worth.
Greed dis - torts and fear dis - fig - ures - pierce these shad - ows by your light.
We — must love God's peo - ple al - ways if we say — that we love God.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Iona Service of Prayers for Healing (A)

You know us, God:
you understand who we are,
you know what troubles and puzzles us,
what makes us smile and what makes us sad.
You listen to our questions and our prayers.

You know the people we love, God,
and the people we struggle with.
Sometimes we hurt others;
sometimes we hurt ourselves.

So we bring our own hurt
asking for your healing;
and we bring the hurt we have caused others
asking for forgiveness.

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE

NETTLETON



Sing no emp - ty al - le - lu - ias. Sing no va - pid songs of praise.



Sing in - stead the song of jus - tice, let it roll through all our days:



God has called us to act just - ly; God has called us to be kind;



God has called us to be hum - ble, lov - ing all - heart, soul, and mind.

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE AND SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANTHEM

Alleluia. -Biblical expression of praise

Calvin Hampton

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

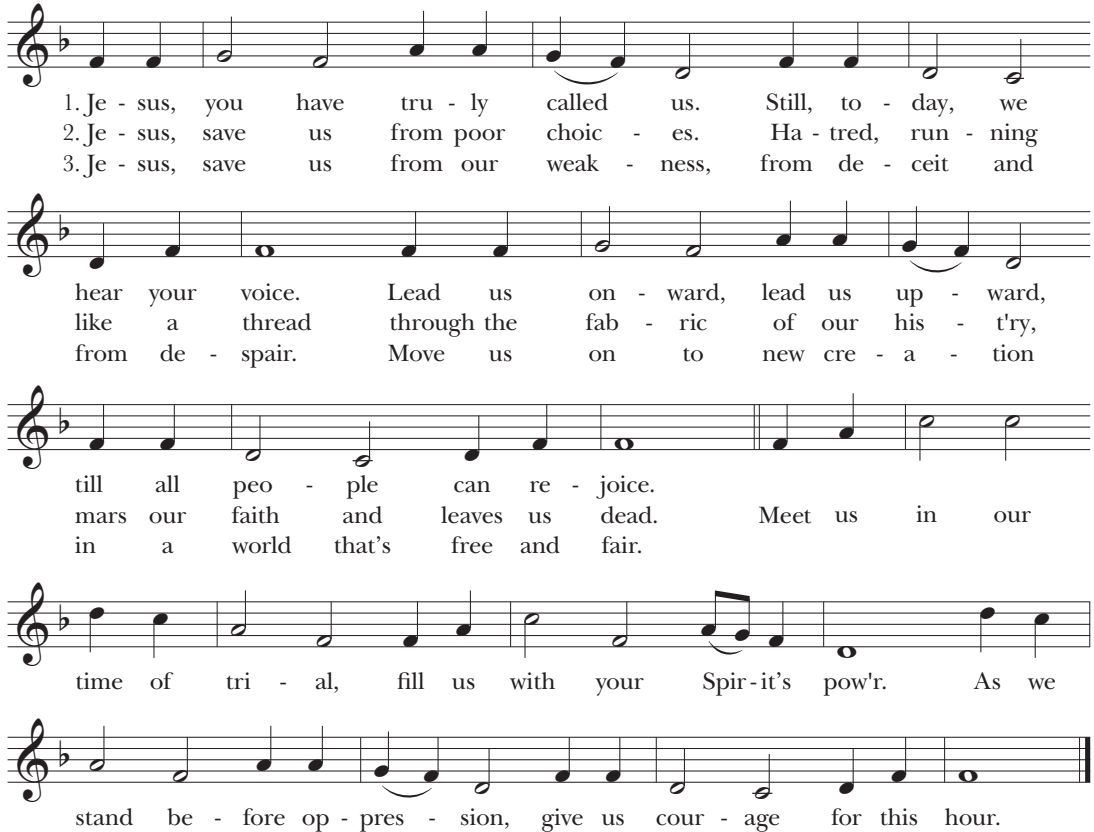
Mark 5:25-34
pew Bible, New Testament page 39/large print, New Testament page 48

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO THE WORD**HYMN**

"Jesus You Have Truly Called Us"

BEACH SPRING

Please stand in body or spirit.


1. Je - sus, you have tru - ly called us. Still, to - day, we
 2. Je - sus, save us from poor choic - es. Ha - tred, run - ning
 3. Je - sus, save us from our weak - ness, from de - ceit and

hear your voice. Lead us on - ward, lead us up - ward,
 like a thread through the fab - ric of our his - t'ry,
 from de - spair. Move us on to new cre - a - tion

till all peo - ple can re - joice.
 mars our faith and leaves us dead. Meet us in our
 in a world that's free and fair.

time of tri - al, fill us with your Spir - it's pow'r. As we

stand be - fore op - pres - sion, give us cour - age for this hour.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITHfrom the *Iona Appendix to Services for Justice and Peace*

**We believe God is present
 in the darkness before the dawn,
 in the waiting and uncertainty
 where fear and courage join hands,
 conflict and caring link arms,
 and the sun rises over the barbed wire.**

**We believe in a with-us God
 who sits down in our midst to share our humanity.**

**We affirm that faith that takes us beyond the safe place
 into action, into vulnerability, and into the streets.**

**We commit ourselves to work for change,
 and put ourselves on the line,
 to bear responsibility, take risks,
 live powerfully and face humiliation;
 to stand with those on the edge,
 to choose life
 and be used by the Spirit
 for God's new community of hope.**

OFFERTORY

Ryan Bauer-Walsh; Mark Hartman, arr.

Across the great valley a dream slept awaiting all people to one day arrive. But only the rainbow that held every color could reach to the other side. *Come across all you people with love in your heart. This dream is a dream we can share. Come across the great valley and help one another to reach the dream waiting there.*

Across the great valley a dream slept awaiting all people to one day arrive. From rainstorms come rainbows that lead to tomorrow – a day where we live with pride. *Come across all you people...* –Ryan Bauer-Walsh

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 315

“In the Midst of New Dimensions”

NEW DIMENSIONS

Please stand in body or spirit.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“March for a Joyous Occasion”

Conrad Susa

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

The cross which leads the procession today is dedicated
“In memory of all those who died from AIDS in our church and community.”
Our cross-bearer today is Daniel Duque.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Pride Sunday! Let's come together to celebrate and show our support for the LGBTQ+ community. Following the service, join us on the lawn for food, fellowship with a special coffee hour. We will be distributing water to participants in the march as part of our annual tradition. Visit our banned books table "Banned Books are Welcome Here!" in the lobby today featuring some of the most censored books and picture books of 2022 including *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe and *All Boys Aren't Blue* by George M. Johnson. Come and join in the celebration as we stand up for the rights of the love that brings us together.

Introduction to New Testament mini-virtual series meets again June 27th at 7 p.m. Contact the Rev. Barbara Davis (bdavis@fpcnyc.org) for more information.

The First Church Choir invites you to join them for The Summer Choir! The Summer Choir will meet every Sunday at 9:30 a.m., until July 30th 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).

Join us for First Saturday's at St. Joe's Soup Kitchen! Volunteers are invited to sign up with Emily Brewer at ebrewer@fpcnyc.org to serve at St. Joe's on the first Saturday of each month at 10 a.m. Don't miss this chance to make a difference in the community by giving back through service.

Join us for our virtual Prayer Writing sessions every Tuesday in July at 8:30 a.m. Using Camille Dungy's book, *Soil*, as inspiration, we'll explore the joy of writing and its connection to prayer. All are welcome as no writing experience is necessary, you can express yourself through writing without any pressure to share your work. Let's nurture our creativity together and enjoy the beauty of prayer in this space for personal reflection. Contact Barbara for more information at (bdavis@fpcnyc.org).

Bible Study will resume on July 12th at 12:30 p.m. with the 4 Gospels in 40 minutes! Join us for a hybrid experience, either on Zoom or in the library, as we dive into the world of the Gospels. In just 40 minutes, we'll explore the key teachings and stories of the four Gospels, discovering new insights and deepening our understanding of the Scriptures. Spend your lunch break with us as we break down the stories of the Gospels! Contact Barbara for more information at (bdavis@fpcnyc.org).

Join us for our "For the Beauty of the Earth" series at Coffee and Theology, taking place Sundays at 9:30 a.m. starting July 9th through July 30th. We will explore various aspects of nature's wonders in the Bible, including "Star Gazing for Presbyterians," "Birds of the Bible," "Fish Tales: A Theology of Ocean Life," and "The Trees of the Fields Will Clap Their Hands: Nature's Joy and How to Pay Attention to It." Come and join these engaging sessions as we delve into appreciating the bountiful beauty of our planet through the lens of familiar and lesser known Bible stories! Contact Barbara for more information at (bdavis@fpcnyc.org).

Please join us for "ReNew: The Green VBS!" - our Vacation Bible School theme for this summer! VBS will take place from July 31st to August 4th, running every day from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. All ages are welcome, and lunch will be provided. We are actively seeking volunteers to serve in our youth ministry during this week. Whether you can commit to a few days or the entire week, we would appreciate your support! To register for VBS or volunteer, please RSVP to Jenny at (jbennett@fpcnyc.org).

Volunteers needed for the upcoming A Tartan Christmas Fair, December 1-3rd and Yard Sale September 23rd! We are seeking both year-round and day-of-event volunteers to assist with various roles. For the Yard Sale, we require Book Team Members, as well as volunteers for Set-up and Break-Down and the Bake Sale Team. At the Tartan Christmas Fair, we need Foodies for the Café Team and a Leader, as well as Silent Auction Team Members and a Leader. Additionally, a Photographer is needed for the Photo with Santa event. Join us at our next meeting on Monday, June 26th at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom or email tartanfair@fpcnyc.org for more information.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Today

11:00 a.m. Pride Sunday Worship
11:00 a.m. Summer Family Worship Space
12:00 p.m. Coffee Fellowship
and Pride March Water Table

Monday

Church building will close at 4 p.m.
5:30 p.m. Qigong & Yoga at First

Tuesday

7:00 p.m. Introduction to the Bible for the
Novice and Experienced! (virtual)

Wednesday

5:30 p.m. Conversational Spanish

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. Coffee Fellowship

Star-Gazing for Presbyterians

July
9th



Birds of the Bible

July
16th



Coffee & Theology

Summer 2023

July
23rd



Fish Tales: A Theology of Ocean Life

July
30th



The Trees of the Fields Will Clap Their Hands:

Nature's Joy and How to
Pay Attention to It

LEADING THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*
Rev. Emily Brewer, *Interim Associate Pastor*

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

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