

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

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FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

*Service for the Lord's Day*

July 2nd, 2023 | 11 a.m.

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*Jesus Wept*, James Tissot, 1894, Gouache and watercolor on paper.

# 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*

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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

“Ground in C minor, Z. 221”

Henry Purcell

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

God has welcomed us without reservation,  
so let us welcome all in God’s name!

**Peace be with you.**

God’s peace be among us,  
around us,  
and within us.

**Let us worship God.**

HYMN 611

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”

HYMN TO JOY

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God,**

**you have called us to live in peace,  
but we turn to conflict and exclusion.**

**You yearn for us to work together,  
but we keep finding ways to dismiss each other.**

**Forgive us and remind us again of the things that make for peace:  
to love one another as you have loved us.**

**Teach us again to be your people, your body, your church. Amen.**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE

NETTLETON



*Continues on following page*

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

*Dona nobis pacem.* -traditional liturgical text

Anon.; Eric T. Myers, arr.

## HEARING THE WORD

### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 19:41-48  
*pew Bible, New Testament page 83/large print, New Testament page 101*

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

### SERMON

“If we only knew”

Rev. Emily Brewer

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith, PC(USA), 1983

**We trust in Jesus Christ,  
 fully human, fully God.  
 Jesus proclaimed the reign of God:  
 preaching good news to the poor  
 and release to the captives,  
 teaching by word and deed and blessing the children,  
 healing the sick and binding up the brokenhearted,  
 eating with outcasts, forgiving sinners,  
 and calling all to repent and believe the gospel.  
 Unjustly condemned for blasphemy and sedition,  
 Jesus was crucified,  
 suffering the depths of human pain  
 and giving his life for the sins of the world.  
 God raised this Jesus from the dead,  
 vindicating his sinless life,  
 breaking the power of sin and evil,  
 delivering us from death to life eternal.**

### OFFERTORY

Tom Trenney

Father, Mother, God, thank you for your presence during the hard and mean days. For then we have you to lean upon. Thank you for your presence during the bright and sunny days, for then we can share that which we have with those who have less. Thank you for your presence during the holy days, for then we are able to celebrate you and our families and our friends. For those who have no voice, we ask you to speak. For those who feel unworthy, we ask you to pour your love out in waterfalls of tenderness. For those who live in pain, we ask you to bathe them in the river of your healing. For those who are lonely, we ask you to keep them company. For those who are depressed, we ask you to shower upon them the light of hope. Father, Mother, God, you, the borderless sea of substance, we ask you to give to all the world that which we need most—peace.  
 —“Prayer,” Maya Angelou

# 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 heav-en-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.

# COMMUNION

## INVITATION

### PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

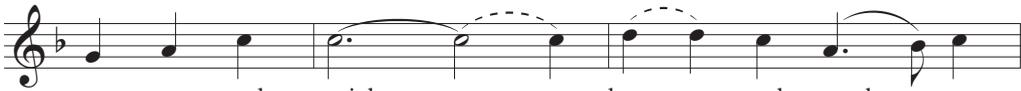
Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...That is why we join in the song of your unending greatness:



Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord, God of  
Bless-ed is the one who comes in the



pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are  
name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the



full of your glo-ry. Ho-san-na in the high-est.  
high-est, ho-san-na in the high-est.

And so we pray in the way Jesus taught us:

**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.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### SHARING THE ELEMENTS

*Please come forward at the direction of the ushers, those in the back of the center aisle will be invited forward first. The servers will give you bread; please take a juice glass from the tray. You may take the juice in your own time and leave your cup in the pew holders. Gluten-free bread and self-contained bread and juice are available, please ask your server.*

SOLO

“Cantique de Jean Racine, Op. 11”

Gabriel Fauré

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**O God, you bring us to life, call us to freedom,  
and move between us with love.  
Having been nourished at your table,  
may we go into your wondrous and diverse world  
to tear down walls of exclusion,  
to confront powers and principalities,  
to live and love boldly in the promise of your resurrection. Amen.**

## SENDING

HYMN 331

“God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand”

NATIONAL HYMN

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

## BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“*Sheep May Safely Graze*, from Cantata 208”

J. S. Bach

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

**MUSIC NOTE** Christopher Knox Oakey (b. 2005) is a pianist from Richmond, Virginia. As the pianist of the Ben & Carol Auger Contemporary Music Advanced Study Ensemble, he has performed around the Wilmington and Philadelphia area alongside violinist Adah Kaplan. He received second prize in the Music & More Summerfest Concerto Competition, and appeared as the soloist for Bach’s F minor keyboard concerto at the laureates’ concert. He has also received awards from the Anselmo Academy Youth Competition and the Clara Mannes Scholars’ Program. He studied at the Mannes School of Music’s precollege program in Manhattan. He currently studies piano with Tatjana Rankovich and will be studying with Dorian Lejzak at the Royal College of Music, London starting this fall.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Jonathan Metzler and a group of FPCNYC teens will be offering tech support to seniors!**

Previously scheduled for today, it will now be hosted next Sunday, July 9th, during coffee hour. Seniors who need help with technology can bring their phones, laptops, iPads, and other devices to church, and the teen tech squad will work with them one-on-one. No need to sign up in advance - just show up!

**Join us for our virtual Prayer Writing sessions every Thursday 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).

**Join us for the Senior Luncheon in the parlor on July 13th, at 12:30 p.m.** as we welcome our guest speaker, Susie Spodek, Adult Education Coordinator from GrowNYC. GrowNYC education fosters a lifelong appreciation of nature, healthy food, and sustainability. In this talk, she will discuss "What is a greenmarket and what are their benefits?" If you are interested in joining for this special event, please RSVP with the front desk by calling: (212) 675-6150 to secure your spot.

**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. Email tartanfair@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).

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST

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### **Today**

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

### **Monday**

Church building will be closed  
5:30 p.m. Qigong & Yoga at First

### **Tuesday**

Church building will be closed

### **Thursday**

Church building closes at 3 p.m.  
8:30 a.m. Prayer Writing

### **Friday**

7:00 p.m. Current Events

### **Saturday**

10:15 a.m. St. Joe's Soup Kitchen  
1:00 p.m. Gardening Day

### **Next Sunday**

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Theology: Star-Gazing  
for Presbyterians  
11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship  
11:00 a.m. Summer Family Worship Space  
12:00 p.m. Coffee Fellowship  
12:00 p.m. Tech Support for Seniors

## 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*  
Jenny Bennett, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*

Christopher Knox Oakey, *piano*  
The First Church Summer Choir  
Michael Shake, *Organist and Director of Music*

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