

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

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 9th, 2023 | 11:00 a.m.



Four Evangelists, Laura James, acrylic on canvas.

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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.

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

“from Kleine Klavierstücke, Op. 15b:
Waltzer, Hirtenmusik, and Aria”

Hugo Distler

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Please stand in body or spirit.

What does the Holy One require of us?
**To do justice, to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with our God.**

HYMN

“A Hymn of Calling”

AURELIA



1. For all that we are called to, God, we give thanks this day.
2. For those who need our work, God, the ones that we're called for.
3. For all that we are called from, tran - si - tions we must face.
4. The peo - ple we are called as, di - verse and none the same.
5. To You, God, we sing prais - es, the One who calls each one.



For peo - ple, part - ners, plac - es, at home, at work, at play.
We strive each day to serve them, to give and love them more.
When jour - neys end or change course, and we must turn a - way.
Cre - a - ted for vo - ca - tion, bap - tized and called by name.
Trans - form - ing and in - vi - ting, you call and we re - spond.



You gift us for our calls as you make the world's needs known.
Vo - ca - tion is for oth - ers, lives giv - en in ex - change—
The old and new both chal - lenge; we quest - ion though you guide.
To wit - ness as dis - ci - ples, our u - ni - ver - sal call.
Cre - a - tor and Re - deem - er, the Spir - it's stir - ring song—



Bless us with strength and cour - age to serve where we are shown.
the good of all your chil - dren, our com - mon hopes and dreams.
Be with us through our leav - ing, lead to the oth - er side.
Yet each u - nique - ly serv - ing the God who cares for all.
Your Tri - ni - ty u - ni - ting to call our whole life long.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of peace, you command us to love one another
and live in peace with our neighbors.
Yet, too often, we close our minds.
We choose suspicion and suppression.
We contribute to conflict.
We pray for wisdom and humility.
Empower us by your Spirit
to embrace one another and walk peacefully together. Amen.

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

Lloyd Pfautsch

May I live in the world as one who always seeks to serve. May I live as one who knows the love of God. Lord, teach me how to live and how to serve. With my ears may I hear. With my eyes may I see. With my lips may I speak. May your Word be heard through me. Thus as I live each day may love sustain the will to serve. Amen.

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1:21-39

pew Bible, New Testament page 35/large print, New Testament page 43

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

SERMON

“Urgency”

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 187

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

BRADBURY

Please stand in body or spirit.

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

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia! Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.
The Lord hath delivered His people, Alleluia! O be joyful in God, all ye lands. O sing praises to the honor of
His name, make His praise to be glorious. —Isaiah 48:20; Psalm 66:1, 7, 8, 18

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 320

“The Church of Christ In Every Age”

WAREHAM

Please stand in body or spirit.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“*Bourée and Hornpipe*, from *Orchestral Suite in F*, HWV 348”

G.F. Handel

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

LEADING THIS MORNING

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

The First Church Summer Choir
Colin Fowler, *Guest Musician*

MUSIC NOTE Colin Fowler is the music director for the Mark Morris Dance Group. Hailed by the New York Times as “invaluable” and “central to Morris’ music,” he has performed over 50 pieces with the company on almost every keyboard instrument possible. A versatile musician and conductor, Colin works in many areas of the music scene in New York City. He is a veteran of numerous Broadway shows, including the Tony Award winning musicals *42nd Street*, *In the Heights*, and *Jersey Boys*. A seasoned sacred musician, he has previously served as the Music Director at the Park Avenue Synagogue and Calvary Baptist Church. A Kansas City native, Colin earned the Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from The Julliard School.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jonathan Metzler and a group of FPCNYC teens will be offering tech support to seniors today 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 virtual experience, on Zoom. In just 40 minutes, we'll explore the key teachings and stories of the four 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. through July 30th. We will explore various aspects of nature's wonders in the Bible. 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.

Jaune Quick-to-See Smith Exhibition Tour at the Whitney Museum Join Presbyterian Women and Art at First on Friday, July 21st at 1:30 p.m. as they sponsor a guided tour of the Whitney Museum's exhibition showcasing the extraordinary work of Jaune Quick-to-See Smith! Please RSVP with Barbara Sherman at (sherman.barbara@gmail.com).

Join us this Summer in reading and discussing "How the Word Is Passed: A Reckoning With the History of Slavery Across America." Starting in his home-town of New Orleans, author Clint Smith documents his journey to monuments and landmarks around the country speaking with guides and visitors to learn how our history is shared and heard. Hybrid group readings will be hosted by Rev. Emily Brewer (ebrewer@fpcnyc.org) on July 14th and August 17th from 12-2 p.m. with virtual discussions moderated by Suzanne Mecs and LouAnne Gilleland via Zoom 6:30-8 p.m. on July 26th and August 23rd. The book is widely available, and a few copies will be at the front desk of the church to borrow. RSVP with Suzanne Mecs at (sdhmecs@yahoo.com).

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 BreakDown 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.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

Today

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

Monday

Building closes at 3 p.m.

Wednesday

Building closes at 3 p.m.
12:30 p.m. Bible Study

Thursday

Building closes at 3 p.m.
8:30 a.m. Prayer Writing
12:30 p.m. Senior Luncheon

Friday

12:00 p.m. Summer Group Reading
7:00 p.m. Current Events

Saturday

10:15 a.m. St. Joe's Soup Kitchen

Next Sunday

9:30 a.m. Coffee & Theology: Birds of the Bible
11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
11:00 a.m. Summer Family Worship Space
12:00 p.m. Coffee Fellowship
12:00 p.m. Confirmand Reunion

Star-Gazing for Presbyterians



July
9th

Birds of the Bible



July
16th

For the Beauty of the Earth

Coffee & Theology Summer Series



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

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