The First Presbyterian Church
in the City of New York

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST/GRADUATION SUNDAY

Service for the Lord's Day | June 14, 2026 | 11:00 a.m.

Vincent van Gogh, *The Sower at Sunset,* 1888

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.

We are an open and inclusive community, gathered by God's grace and shaped by many cultures, identities, and experiences.

Together, we are a tapestry of God's children, seeking to respond to God's call in our lives and to witness to God's love, grace, and justice in the world.

Wherever you are in your journey of faith, we pray today's service will be a blessing to you. If this is your first time here, a member of the pastoral staff would be glad to greet you and answer any questions 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 after worship for Coffee Fellowship in the Lobby or on the North Lawn, weather permitting, 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 on the south side. Additional restrooms are located in the lobby on the north side.

Get Involved

Stay Connected

Scan to receive our weekly newsletter, *First Matters*.

Interested in Membership?

Learn more about becoming part of our community.

Give

Support the life and ministries of the church.

If you are in need of care, such as prayer, a call from a pastor, or a ride to the church, please contact our church office at (212) 675-6150. Our staff will connect you with one of our pastors or a deacon from our caring ministry.

Gathering

Prelude — "Prelude in D" — Daniel Ficarri

Pealing of the Carillon

Welcome

Introit — *Missouri Harmony*

To God, in whom I trust, I lift my heart and voice; O! let me not be put to shame, nor let my foes rejoice. Your mercy, and your truth O righteous Lord display in bringing wandering sinners home, and teaching them your way. Your mercies, and your love, O Lord, recall to mind; and graciously continue still, as you were, ever kind. —Isaac Watts

Hymn 265 — "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun!" — DUKE STREET

Please stand in body or spirit.

Call to Confession

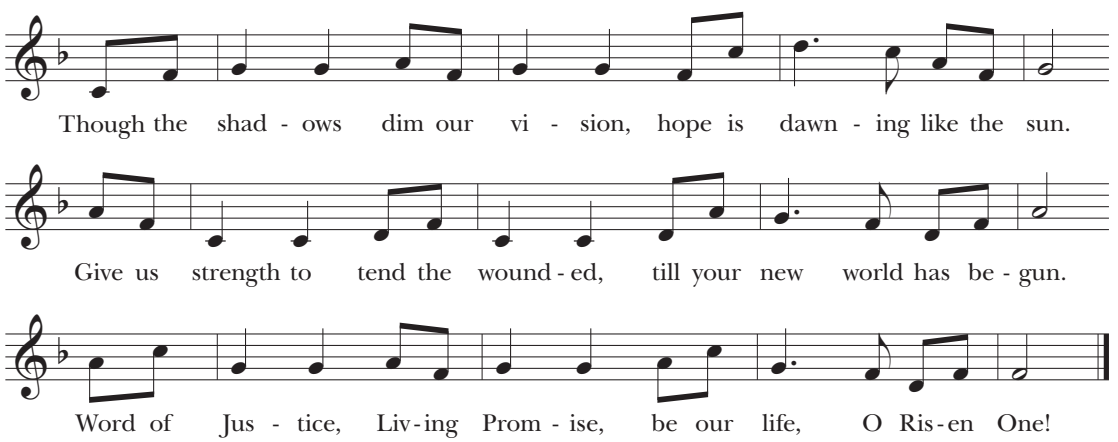
Prayer of Confession

Loving God,
who summoned the world into being,
molded the mountains,
and breathed into us the Spirit of life,
we bring you our praise.
We praise you that through the Spirit at work in the world,
we can all know the joy and freedom of your generous love.
Forgive us when we fail to show that love to others.
Forgive us when we stifle your ever-creating Spirit
in our lives or in the lives of others.
By your love, make us new,
and help us to know ourselves forgiven and loved.
Hear our prayers...

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Response — JULION



Lighting of the Peace Candle and Sharing Signs of Peace

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

Prayer and Recognition of New Graduates

Anthem — John Harper

Alleluia. Praise God in this holy place, praise God in the mighty heavens, praise God for God's powerful deeds, praise God's surpassing greatness. Alleluia. O praise God with sound of trumpet, praise God with lute and harp, praise God with timbrel and dance, praise God with strings and pipe. Alleluia. O praise God with resounding cymbals, praise God with clashing of cymbals, let everything that lives and that breathes give praise to the Lord. Alleluia. —Psalm 150

Hearing the Word

Scripture Lesson — Matthew 9:35–10:8

pew Bible, New Testament page 9/large print, New Testament page 11

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

Sermon — "Called" — Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

Responding to the Word

Hymn 722 — "Lord, Speak to Me That I May Speak" — CANONBURY

Please stand in body or spirit.

Recognition of New Members

Affirmation of Faith — from Brief Statement of Faith, PC(USA), 1983

Please stand in body or spirit.

The same Spirit
who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

Offering Invitation

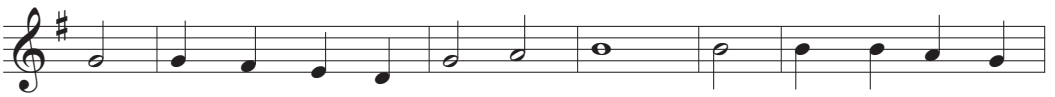
Offertory — Tom Trenney

Praise the one who breaks the darkness with a liberating light. Praise the one who frees the prisoners, turning blindness into sight. Praise the one who preached the Gospel, healing every dread disease, calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.

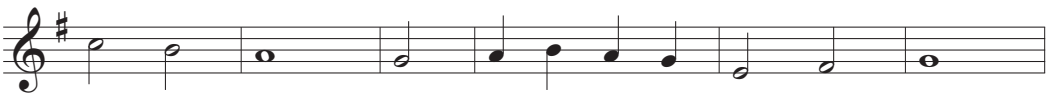
Praise the one who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word. Praise the one who drove out demons with a piercing two-edged sword. Praise the one who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand. From this well comes living water, quenching thirst in every land.

Praise the one true love incarnate: Christ who suffered in our place. Jesus died and rose for many that we may know God by grace. Let us sing for joy and gladness, seeing what our God has done. Praise the one redeeming glory, praise the One who makes us one.
—Rusty Edwards

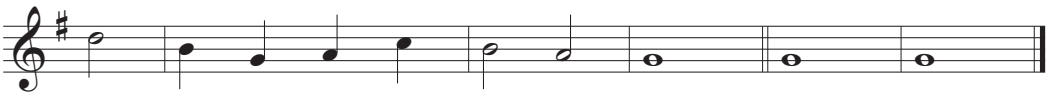
Doxology



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.

Prayer of Dedication

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 298 "Lord, You Give the Great Commission" ABBOT'S LEIGH
Please stand in body or spirit.

Blessing

Postlude "Exultation" Ficarri

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

The cross is dedicated
"In memory of all those who died from AIDS in our church and community."
Our cross-bearer today is Meg Harper.

Leading This Morning
Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, *Senior Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*
Jenny Bennett, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*

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

Receiving the Sacrament of Baptism
George Middleton

Class of 2026 Graduates
Middle School and High School
Trevor Arcella
Mima Atwa
Beatrice Kiernan
Sienna Maciel
Isabel Noh

College
Francesco Ferraro, *University of Rhode Island*
Samantha Paige Halverstadt, *Tulane University*
Juliana Maciel, *M.S.Ed. in Early Childhood Education, Brooklyn College*
Jacqueline Metzler, *Brown University*
Harry Stovell, *Borough of Manhattan Community College*
Anne Elizabeth Wallar, *Vassar College*

New Members
Makenzie Corbin
Steven Marangos
George Middleton

This Week at First Church

Today, June 14	9:30 a.m.	Child Care
	9:30 a.m.	Coffee & Theologians (hybrid)
	9:30 a.m.	Summer Choir
	10:00 a.m.	Summer Strummers
	11:00 a.m.	Sunday Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Coffee & Fellowship
	12:30 p.m.	LGBTQ Brunch
	2:00 p.m.	Creatives Create: Closing Performance & Reception
Monday, June 15	5:30 p.m.	Qigong (virtual)
	6:30 p.m.	Tartan Fair Meeting (virtual)
	7:00 p.m.	Current Events (virtual)
Tuesday, June 16	6:30 p.m.	Facing Racism Action Group Meeting (virtual)
Wednesday, June 17	12:30 p.m.	Bible Study (hybrid)
	7:00 p.m.	LGBTQ Bible Study (virtual)
Friday, June 19	**Church Office Closed for Juneteenth**	
Saturday, June 20	10:00 a.m.	Soup Kitchen
	11:00 a.m.	Caring for the Earth
Sunday, June 21	9:30 a.m.	Child Care
	9:30 a.m.	Summer Choir
	9:30 a.m.	Worship Circle with Babies & Toddlers
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Coffee & Fellowship
	12:30 p.m.	Literary Group (hybrid)
	12:30 p.m.	Architectural Tour of First Church

Stay connected with all that's happening at First Church. Scan to receive our weekly newsletter, *First Matters*.

Announcements

Pride Month at First Church

Join us this June for Pride Month gatherings and events at First Church. From Bible study and shared meals to music, fellowship, and serving our neighbors during the NYC Pride Parade, we invite you to celebrate with us.

- **Sunday Brunch with Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church | Today, June 14 | 12:30 p.m.** Join us for a shared rooftop brunch and community gathering following worship.
- **Jazz & Cocktails on the Lawn | Thursday, June 25 | 6:00–9:00 p.m.** Celebrate Pride Month with live jazz, fellowship, and summer gathering on the South Lawn.
- **Pride Parade Water Tables | Sunday, June 28 | beginning 11:00 a.m.** Help offer water and welcome along the NYC Pride Parade route.

Questions? Contact Sally Collins at mission@fpcnyc.org.

Creatives Create: Closing Performance & Reception | Today, June 14 | 2:00 p.m.

Join us for *Deep & WIDE,* the finale of the month-long Creatives Create! series sponsored by the Global Mission/Cuba Action Group. Enjoy music, dance, and spoken word performances exploring the theme of partnerships around the world. The program includes a special presentation by Sorrel Alburger, *Let's Count to Three!*, featuring a demonstration and performance with Cuba's national musical instrument. A reception with light refreshments will follow.

Virtual LGBTQ Bible Study | Wednesday, June 17 | 7:00 p.m.

This series engages in conversations around biblical stories and the book *Queer Virtue* by the Reverend Elizabeth M. Edman. Considering stories of Mary meeting Jesus in the garden outside the tomb and the wedding at Cana, Edman's book explores the "inherent queerness of Christianity" and how reading our sacred stories from this point of view can help us energize our faith beyond the often considered binaries.

Architectural Tour of First Church | Sunday, June 21 | 12:30 p.m.

Join us for a special architectural tour of First Church led by preservation architect Eric Hilton. Participants will explore the history, design, and significance of our church building while learning more about the beauty of this historic space. Meet in the Narthex vestibule at the Fifth Avenue entrance.

Literary Group | Sunday, June 21 | 12:30 p.m.

Join the Literary Group for upcoming discussions following worship at 12:30 p.m. in the Parlor and via Zoom. On Sunday, June 21, the discussion will focus on *Travels with Herodotus* by Ryszard Kapuscinski.

Summer Music and Community for All Ages | June and July

Join us this summer for music for all ages:

- **Summer Choir** (high school and up, Sundays in June; mshake@fpcnyc.org)
- **Summer Strummers** (intergenerational ukulele, select Sundays in June and July; rbarkerasto@fpcnyc.org)
- **Summer Worship Circle with Babies & Toddlers** (select Sundays in June and July; jbennett@fpcnyc.org)
- **Family Summer Music** (Fridays outdoors in June and July; rbarkerasto@fpcnyc.org)

Adult Education

This season, our hybrid adult education offerings explore hope through ancient and contemporary voices.

- **Bible Study | Wednesday, June 17 | 12:30 p.m.** Join us as we explore the Gospel of John, engaging themes from Dorothy A. Lee's commentary. Together, we will reflect on ideas central to this late first-century community, including wisdom, glory, light, and revelation. (Hybrid)
- **Coffee & Theologians | Sunday, June 14 | 9:30 a.m.** *The Work of Discipleship in Today's World*. Gather for thoughtful conversation as we consider what it means to live out our faith today. (Hybrid)

For details and Zoom links, contact the front desk at frontdesk@fpcnyc.org.

Youth & Family Ministries

- Church School (age 3–6th grade) is on summer recess and will resume in September.
- Child care for infants and toddlers is available throughout the summer during worship.
- Additional summer programming for children and families will be announced throughout the season.

For more information, contact Jenny, Director of Youth & Family Ministries at jbennett@fpcnyc.org.

Deacons of the Month

The June deacons of the month are **LouAnne Gilleland** and **Matthew Power.** They'll be wearing name badges at coffee hour and would be happy to answer questions about the church.

Soup Kitchen Volunteers Needed

St. Joe's Soup Kitchen, now housed at First Church, has been serving meals to folks who need them for more than 40 years. Volunteers are needed each Saturday for two shifts: morning food prep (10:30–1:00 p.m.) and afternoon food service (1:00–3:30 p.m.). No experience is necessary, but please sign up in advance to volunteer. For questions or to get involved, contact sjskvolunteer@gmail.com or go to sjsk.nyc.

PRIDE

6.14
Rooftop
Brunch

6.25
Jazz & Cocktails
on the Lawn

6.28
Pride Parade
Water Tables

AT FPC NYC

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