The First Presbyterian Church
in the City of New York

SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Service for the Lord's Day | July 5, 2026 | 11:00 a.m.

Journey with Jesus, He Qi

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

Pealing of the Carillon

Welcome

Call to Worship

Please stand in body or spirit.

O sing to the Lord a new song;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Declare God's glory among the nations;
tell all the people of God's marvelous works.
Say among the nations: The Lord is sovereign!
God will judge the peoples with equity.
Let us worship God.

Hymn 331 "God of the Ages Whose Almighty Hand" NATIONAL HYMN

Please stand in body or spirit.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

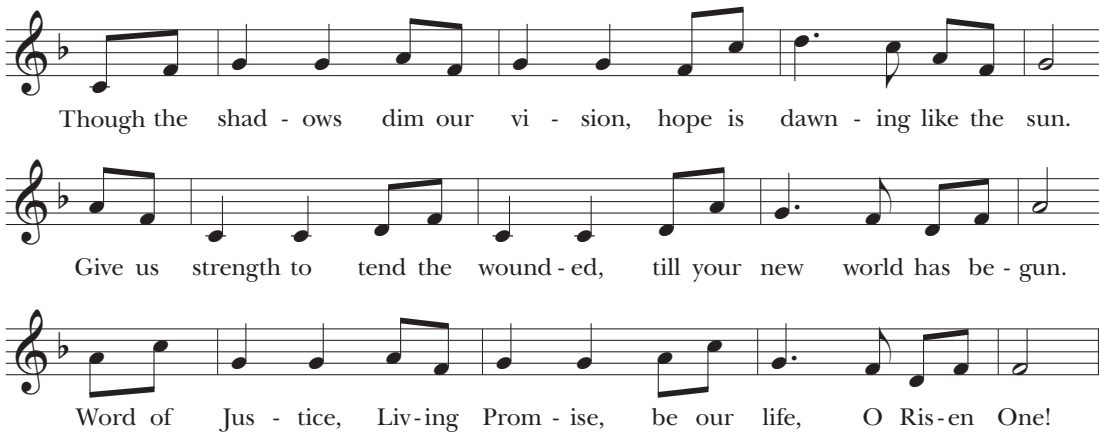
Merciful God,
in your gracious presence
we confess our sin and the sin of this world.

Although Christ is among us as our peace,
we are a people divided against ourselves
as we cling to the values of a broken world.
The profit and pleasures we pursue
lay waste the land and pollute the seas.
The fears and jealousies that we harbor
set neighbor against neighbor
and nation against nation.
We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom,
of intellect and reason,
and have turned them into bonds of oppression.

Lord, have mercy upon us;
heal and forgive us.
Set us free to serve you in the world
as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ...

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.

Hearing the Word

Lesson — Amos 5:21–24
pew Bible, Old Testament page 854/large print, Old Testament page 1046

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

Sermon — "How Do You Measure 250 Years?" — Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

Responding to the Word

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
We shall walk through the valley in peace. *If Jesus himself shall be our leader, we shall walk through the valley in peace.* There will be no trials there. *If Jesus himself...*
–African American spiritual

Hymn 523 — "You Satisfy the Hungry Heart" — BICENTENNIAL
Please stand in body or spirit.

Prayer of Dedication

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.

Holy God, creator of the universe,
with joy we praise you and give you thanks.
You brought light from darkness
and drew land from the sea.
You made us in your image to live
with one another in hope and in love.

You promised yourself in covenant with us,
you told us your purpose in your law,
and called for justice through the prophets.
Through long generations you have been faithful to your people.
Therefore we join our voices with all those
who sing to the glory of your name:
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 of 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. The cups contain unfermented juice, so all may partake.

Anthem — William Billings

Teach me the measure of my days, thou maker of my frame; I would survey life's narrow space and learn how frail I am.
A span is all that we can boast an inch or two of time; we are vanity and dust in all our flower and prime. —Isaac Watts

Prayer After Communion

Sending

Hymn 687 "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" ST. ANNE

Please stand in body or spirit.

Blessing

Postlude

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."

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

First Church Choir Octet
Colin Fowler, *Visiting Musician*

This Week at First Church

Today, July 5	9:30 a.m.	Child Care
	9:30 a.m.	Worship Circle with Babies & Toddlers
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Coffee & Fellowship
Monday, July 6	7:00 p.m.	Current Events (virtual)
Thursday, July 9	12:30 p.m.	Senior Luncheon
Friday, July 10	5:45 p.m.	Summer Family Music
Saturday, July 11	10:00 a.m.	Soup Kitchen
	12:00 p.m.	RIF Asylum Support
Sunday, July 12	9:30 a.m.	Child Care
	10:00 a.m.	Summer Strummers
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	12:00 p.m.	Coffee & Fellowship
	12:30 p.m.	Cuba Partners Presentation

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

Announcements

Coming This Fall: The Gospel According to the Beatles
Join Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell on Thursday nights this fall for a seven-week journey through the music of the Beatles and the enduring themes of faith, love, hope, loneliness, memory, and resurrection. Through song, scripture, and conversation, we'll explore how some of the most beloved music of the twentieth century continues to speak to the deepest questions of our lives.

Senior Luncheon | Thursday, July 9 | 12:30 p.m.
The Elder Care Committee welcomes member, Neil Williamson, who will lead "An Afternoon of Song."

Cuba Partners Presentation | Sunday, July 12 | 12:30 p.m.
Hear from our Global Mission Action Group leaders about their recent trip to our partner church in Taguasco, Cuba. Chair Sorrel Alburger, LouAnne Gilleland and Barron Flood will share their experiences, describe the current conditions, and offer ways in which we can participate and help.

Summer Music and Community for All Ages | June and July
Join us this summer for music for all ages:
- **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)

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.

Donations Needed for the Yard Sale & Tartan Fair
As we prepare for the Yard Sale in September, we are seeking donations of gently used, high-quality items, including children's toys and clothing, kitchen goods, housewares, electronics, jewelry, books, and home décor. We are also collecting designer handbags, scarves, wallets, sunglasses, and belts for this year's Accessories Boutique. Donations may be dropped off in the lobby on weekdays from 9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. To make other arrangements, call the Front Desk or email tartanfair@fpcnyc.org. Volunteers are also needed to help sort and price items on Sundays from 1:00–4:00 p.m.

Deacons of the Month
The July deacons of the month are **Ellen Hagopian** and **Lindsay Martuscello.** 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 AT FPCNYC

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12 W 12th Street, New York, NY 10011
212.675.6150 • fpcnyc.org