

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

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Service for the Lord's Day | July 12, 2026 | 11:00 a.m.



Hinton St. Mary Mosaic, British Museum, London, ca. 350 C.E.

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

INTROIT

CHRISTOPHER TYE

O Holy Spirit, Lord of grace, eternal source of love; inflame, we pray, our inmost hearts with fire from heaven above.
As thou dost join with holiest bonds the Father and the Son. So fill us all with mutual love and knit our hearts in one.

— Charles Coffin; trans. John Chandler

HYMN 662

“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”

RATISBON

Please stand in body or spirit.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we confess that we have sinned in your sight.

**We know we have failed to consistently live in ways
that bring honor to your name.**

Forgive us. Cleanse us. Have mercy on us.

Through the grace of Jesus Christ

and the power of the Holy Spirit,

set us free from the grip of sin,

and from everything that doesn't lead to life.

Hear our prayers...

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE

JULION



Though the shad - ows dim our vi - sion, hope is dawn - ing like the sun.



Give us strength to tend the wound - ed, till your new world has be - gun.



Word of Jus - tice, Liv - ing Prom - ise, be our life, O Ris - en One!

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE AND SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

ANTHEM

JOHN STAINER

God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

— John 3:16–17

HEARING THE WORD

LESSON

Romans 8:1-11

pew Bible, New Testament page 157/large print, New Testament page 191

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“No Condemnation”

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 264

“At the Name of Jesus”

KING’S WESTON

Please stand in body or spirit.

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

Put forth, O God, thy Spirit’s might and bid thy church increase, in breadth and length, in depth and height, her unity and peace. Let works of darkness disappear before thy conquering light; let hatred and tormenting fear pass with the passing night. Let what apostles learned of thee be ours from age to age; their steadfast faith, our unity, their peace our heritage. O Judge divine of human strife! O Vanquisher of pain! To know thee is eternal life, to serve thee is to reign.

—Howard Chandler Robbins

DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDREDTH



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 299

“You Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim”

HANOVER

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*

Jenny Bennett, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*

First Church Choir Octet

Colin Fowler, *Visiting Musician*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Today, 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 Partnership Presentation

Monday, July 13	7:00 p.m.	Current Events (virtual)
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Friday, July 17	5:45 p.m.	Summer Family Music
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Saturday, July 18	10:00 a.m.	Soup Kitchen
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Sunday, July 19	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



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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cuba Partnership Presentation | Today, 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. You can find the Zoom link for this presentation in this week's First Matters.

2026 Mission & Social Justice Grants

First Church is now accepting applications for the 2026 Grant Program. Grants support PC(USA)-related agencies and New York City nonprofit organizations working in areas such as environmental stewardship, food insecurity, immigration & refugee support, interfaith dialogue, LGBTQ advocacy, poverty relief, racial equity, and special needs populations. Know an organization that could benefit? Applications are open through September 30, 2026. You can find the application on our website at fpcnyc.org/serve/grants. Questions? Contact mission@fpcnyc.org.

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.

Music at First Church: 2026–27 Season

Join us for another inspiring year of music at First Church! The 2026–27 season features cherished traditional services, beloved choral masterworks, and special musical offerings throughout the year. Whether you have attended these events for years or are experiencing them for the first time, we hope you will join us. More details about the season will be shared in the months ahead.

Children & Youth Registration

This year, children, youth, and families will explore faith through stories, music, community, and wonder. From Church School and Worship Circle to new opportunities throughout the year, there is a place for every age to belong. Registration for the 2026–27 program year is now open. Please complete one registration form per family. You can find the registration page under Connect → Children & Youth on our website.

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)

Senior Luncheon | Thursday, August 13 | 12:30 p.m.

Join us for a summer picnic on the lawn (weather permitting), or in the Parlor if needed.

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.



A SUMMER IN ROME

A SERMON SERIES

Journey through the book of Romans

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