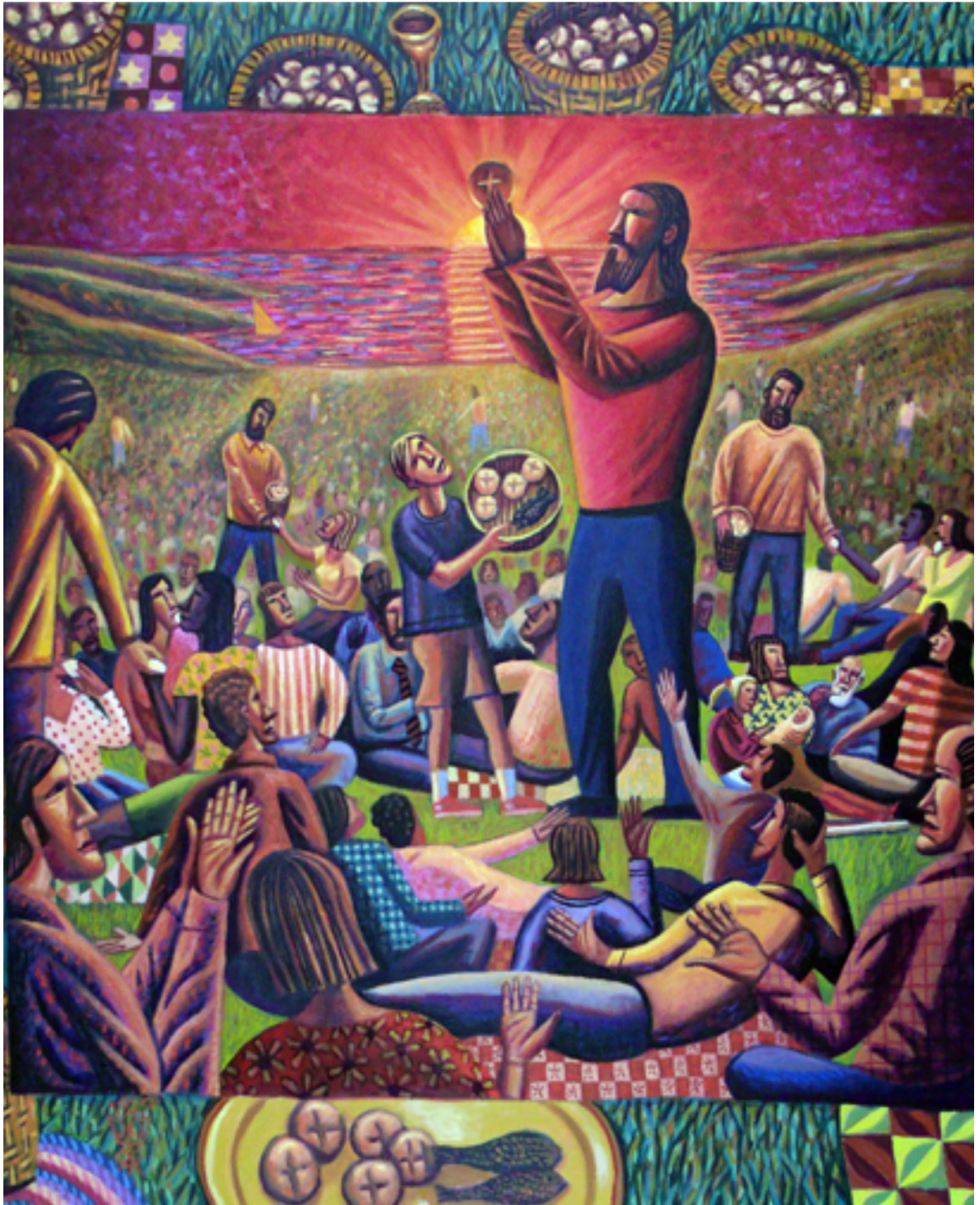


The First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Service for the Lord's Day | August 2, 2026 | 11:00 a.m.



Feeding the 5000, James B. Janknegt

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 Walkway, 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

“Partita no. 1, Sarabande, BWV 825”

J.S. BACH

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 40:31

Those who wait for the Lord
shall renew their strength,
they should mount up with wings like eagles
they shall run and not be weary,
they shall walk and not faint.

HYMN 667

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

LAUDES DOMINI

Please stand in body or spirit.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you
with our whole heart and mind and strength;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
In your mercy forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name...

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.

HEARING THE WORD

LESSON

Matthew 14:13-21

pew Bible, New Testament page 16/large print, New Testament page 19

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Nothing to See Here?”

Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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

Please stand in body or spirit.

**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.**

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY

“He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands”

The words may be found in *Glory to God: The Presbyterian Hymnal*, 14.

TRAD. ARR. MARGARET BONDS

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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

COMMUNION

INVITATION

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.

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

It is truly right and our greatest joy
to give you thanks and praise...

...You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh.
Christ is the Word that brought order to chaos,
bringing all things into being,
breathing Spirit into dust.

**Christ is the Light that overcame the darkness,
shining from the dawn of creation
to the daybreak of your eternal realm.**

Christ is the Water that quenches our thirst,
flowing from the hearts of believers
and springing up into eternal life.

**Christ is the Bread that rises from the earth,
feeding the poor and hungry,
giving us wisdom and strength for each day.**

Christ is the Vine that connects all creation,
binding us together in the unity of the Spirit,
causing us to bear fruit for the world.

**Christ is the Life that death could not destroy,
who gave his life in love for the world,
who lives and reigns forever...**

...As Christ our teacher taught us, we are told to pray:

**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 is available, please ask your server. The cups contain unfermented juice, so all may partake.

MUSIC FOR MEDITATION

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

TRAD. ARR. MOSES HOGAN

HYMN 498

“Loaves Were Broken, Words Were Spoken”

BEACH SPRING

Please stand in body or spirit.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**We give you thanks, eternal God,
that you have fed us in this sacrament.
Fill us with a vision of your new creation
where all may have life abundantly;
through Jesus Christ, the bread of life. Amen**

SENDING

HYMN 320

“The Church of Christ in Every Age”

WAREHAM

Please stand in body or spirit.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Sonata, K8”

DOMENICO SCARLATTI

*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. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*
Jenny Bennett, *Director of Youth and Family Ministries*
Elizabeth Adams, *Lay Leader*

First Church Choir Octet
Colin Fowler, *Visiting Musician*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Today, August 2	9:30 a.m.	Child Care
	11:00 a.m.	Worship with Communion
	12:00 p.m.	Coffee & Fellowship

Saturday, August 8	10:00 a.m.	Soup Kitchen
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Sunday, August 9	9:30 a.m.	Child Care
	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

New Mission Review Committee

A new Mission Review Committee was nominated and approved by Session in June and is now charged with creating a new mission review study; the next step established by the Commission on Ministry as we move toward calling a new associate pastor. Committee members are: Doug Krehbiel (chair), Sorrel Ann Alburger, Suzanne Mecs, Jeff Metzler, and George Varughese, with Rev. Greg Stovell serving as moderator (non-voting). Look for updates over the next few weeks as the committee's work progresses.

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.

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

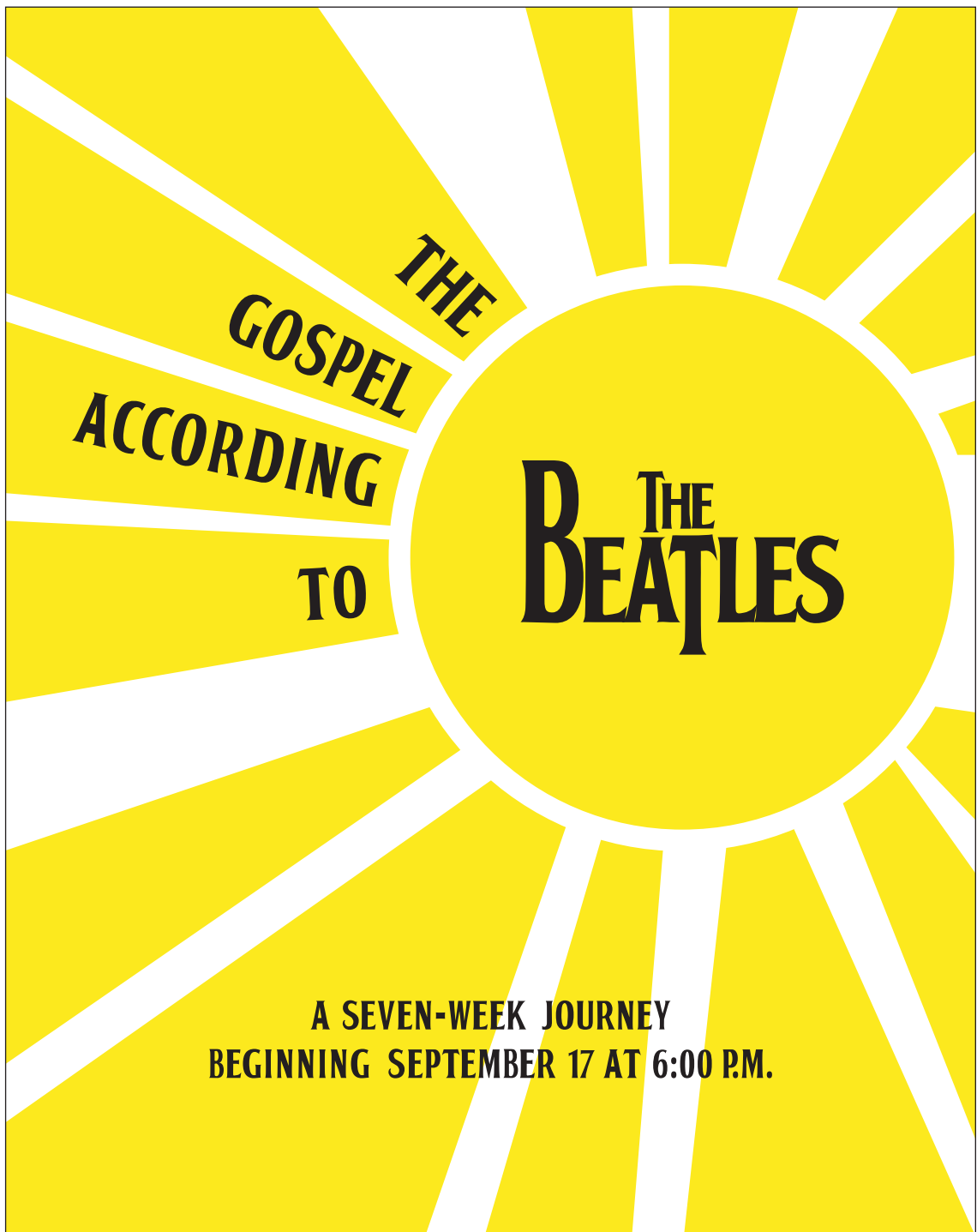
As we prepare for the Yard Sale in September, we are seeking donations of gently used, high-quality items, including children's toys and clothing, kitchen goods, housewares, electronics, jewelry, books, and home décor. We are also collecting designer handbags, scarves, wallets, sunglasses, and belts 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 August deacons of the month are **Bob Reiter** and **LouAnne Gilleland**. 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 SEVEN-WEEK JOURNEY
BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 17 AT 6:00 P.M.**

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