The First Presbyterian Church
in the City of New York

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

Service for the Lord's Day | November 1, 2026 | 11:00 a.m.



The Forerunners of Christ with Saints and Martyrs, Fra Angelico, Fiesole San Domenico Altarpiece, c. 1424

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.

The choral music today is from the *Requiem*, Op. 9, by Maurice Duruflé. The words are from the Latin Mass for the Dead. With origins in the 4th century, the words were formalized into the liturgy in the 16th century.

Gathering

Prelude "Adagio" Roger Nyquist

Pealing of the Carillon

Welcome

Introit

Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis. Te decet hymnus, Deus in Sion, et tibi reddetur votum in Jerusalem; exaudi orationem meam, ad te omnis caro veniet.
Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them. You are praised, God, in Zion, and homage will be paid to You in Jerusalem. Hear my prayer, to You all flesh will come.

Hymn 326 "For All the Saints" SINE NOMINE

Please stand in body or spirit.

Call to Confession

Kyrie

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.
Lord, have mercy on us. Christ, have mercy on us. Lord, have mercy on us.

Prayer of Confession

Eternal God,
in every age you have raised up people
to live and die in faith.
We confess that we are indifferent to your will.
You call us to proclaim good news, but we are silent.
You call us to do what is just, but we remain idle.
You call us to live faithfully, but we are afraid.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Give us courage to follow in your way,
that joined with those from ages past,
we may serve with faith, hope, and love...

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Lighting of the Peace Candle and Passing of the Peace

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

Children's Prayer

Children are welcome to come forward for the prayer. Afterward, children ages 3–5th grade are invited to Church School; families may pick them up at the end of the service.

Hearing the Word

Lesson Matthew 5:1–9
pew Bible, New Testament page 4/large print, New Testament page 4

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

Meditation "Comforted" Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis

Responding to the Word

Offering Invitation

Offertory

Lux aeterna luceat eis, Domine, cum sanctis tuis in aeternum, quia pius es. Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis.
Let eternal light shine on them, Lord, as with Your saints in eternity, because You are merciful. Grant them eternal rest, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine on them.

Prayer of Dedication

Communion

Invitation

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving

Thanks and praise to you, O God,
creator and lover of the universe.
You created all that was; you nurture all that is;
you imagine all that will be.
From the beginning of time...
...Remind us that we are not alone at this table as we join our voices
with all the saints from all times and places, who forever sing to you:

Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth, pleni sunt coeli et terra gloria tua. Hosanna in excelsis! Benedictus, qui venit in nomine Domini. Hosanna in excelsis!
Holy Lord God of hosts! Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

We give you thanks for Jesus Christ,
our host and our guest at this table...
...Through Jesus' death, you took on death, revealing the depth of your love for us.
Through Christ's resurrection, you gave us a bold new creation,
embodying the promise of the life everlasting.
We taste your goodness in this bread and this cup,
And we remember those saints who have gone before us,
who are gathered at your table now with us...
...Hear now as we pray together as Jesus taught the disciples:
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.

Music During Communion

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona eis requiem sempiternam.
Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world, grant them eternal rest forever.

Hymn 516 "For the Bread Which You Have Broken" KINGDOM

Prayer After Communion

God of glory, in this holy meal you have made us one
with you, with Christ, with the great multitude of the faithful.
Lead us in the paths of righteousness and guide us to you,
that we might bask in your presence all the day long.
Amen.

Sending

Hymn 286 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God" TRENTHAM

Please stand in body or spirit.

Blessing

Music for Reflection

In Paradisum deducant Angeli in tuo adventu suscipiant te Martyres et perducant te in civitatem sanctam Jerusalem. Chorus Angelorum te suscipit et cum Lazaro quondam paupere aeternam habeas requiem.
May the angels lead you into paradise; at your coming may the martyrs receive you and bring you into the holy city Jerusalem. May the choir of angels receive you, and with Lazarus, once poor, may you have eternal rest.

Postlude "O Christ, Redeemer of All " Marcel Dupré

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 Greg Vabre.

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

The First Church Choir
Michael Shake, *Organist and Director of Music*

MUSIC NOTE The Latin word *requiem*, which names both the liturgy and the music written for and inspired by it, comes from the opening of the introit: *Requiem aeternam dona eis, Domine* ("Grant them eternal rest, O Lord"). Over the centuries, requiem music evolved from single-line Gregorian chant to Renaissance polyphony, and later to the expansive choral-orchestral settings of the Classical and Romantic periods.

The *Requiem*, Op. 9, of Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986) weds the ancient Gregorian chants of the Mass for the Dead to a 20th-century impressionistic musical language, creating a work of transcendent power and spirituality. Completed in September 1947, the *Requiem* began as a suite for organ based on the chants. Duruflé explained, "It was difficult to separate the Latin words from the Gregorian [chant] to which they are so intimately connected. It was thus that the suite for organ was transformed into something that was more important and called naturally for choirs..." Describing the work, he wrote, "This *Requiem* is not an ethereal work which sings detached from worldly anxiety. It reflects, in the unchangeable form of the Christian prayer, the anguish of man facing the mystery of his last ending. It is often dramatic, or filled with resignation, or hope... it tries to translate the human feeling in front of their terrifying, inexplicable or consoling destiny. [It ends with] the ultimate response of faith to all the questions, by the flight of the soul toward Paradise."

As a pastoral musician to this community, allow me to offer a word about language. The *Requiem* is sung in Latin, which was the language of Roman Catholic worship until the Second Vatican Council in the 1960s. While the Reformation championed worship in the vernacular, the Reformers did not wholly dismiss Latin. When we affirm in the Apostles' Creed our belief in "the holy catholic church," we use catholic with a small c, meaning universal: the whole people of God across every time and place. In that spirit, Latin need not be heard as the possession of one tradition, but as a shared inheritance of the church catholic, a universal language of faith.

The music of our worship encircles the diversity of God's people, acknowledging that the creative Spirit of God transcends language. As we embrace those with us in the present and the saints who have gone before us, I pray that you will hear not simply unfamiliar words, but a rich synthesis of words and music, inspired by that same Spirit and offered to give voice to the deepest yearnings of our souls. —Michael Shake

This Week at First Church

Today, November 1 All Saints' Day	9:30 a.m.	Child Care
	9:30 a.m.	Worship Circle with Babies & Toddlers
	11:00 a.m.	Worship with Communion
	11:15 a.m.	Church School
	12:00 p.m.	Coffee & Fellowship
	12:00 p.m.	Open Gallery: Print Fair
	12:20 p.m.	Student Choristers
	12:30 p.m.	Presbyterian Women
	1:30 p.m.	Handbell Choir
Monday, November 2	5:30 p.m.	Qigong
	7:00 p.m.	Current Events
Tuesday, November 3	5:30 p.m.	Village Campus Ministry
	8:00 p.m.	Presbyterian Women
Wednesday, November 4	12:30 p.m.	Bible Study
Thursday, November 5	5:00 p.m.	Elder Care Committee
Saturday, November 7	9:00 a.m.	RIF Coat Drive
	10:00 a.m.	Fall Family Craft Day
	10:00 a.m.	St. Joe's Soup Kitchen
	12:00 p.m.	RIF Asylum Support
Sunday, November 8	9:30 a.m.	Child Care
	9:30 a.m.	Coffee & Theology
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	11:15 a.m.	Bibles & Bagels
	11:15 a.m.	Church School
	12:00 p.m.	Coffee & Fellowship
	12:20 p.m.	Student Choristers
	12:30 p.m.	LGBTQ Brunch
	1:30 p.m.	Handbell Choir
	2:00 p.m.	Open Gallery: Print Fair

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

Announcements

Handbell Choir | Today, November 1 | 1:30 p.m.
Join Rachel Barker-Asto for our new intergenerational handbell choir! No experience necessary. Rehearsals continue November 1, 8, and 15 at 1:30 p.m., with music shared in worship November 22. Questions? Contact rbarkerasto@fpcnyc.org.

Art at First: Call for Submissions | Due November 1
Artists are invited to submit up to three two-dimensional works and a short statement for *Tell Me a Story*, an exhibition opening January 17, 2027. Questions? Contact sherman.barbara@gmail.com.

RIF Annual Coat Drive | Drop off by Thursday, November 5
Help keep our neighbors warm this winter! The Deacons are collecting 40 new, heavy-duty winter coats in all sizes for RIF Asylum Support. Sign up at the front desk or during Coffee Hour with the coffee servers, and drop off coats in the lobby by Thursday, November 5. Monetary donations are also welcome by check payable to First Church, with "Annual RIF Coat Drive" in the memo. Questions? Contact mvireland92@gmail.com.

FPC Fall Family Craft Day | Saturday, November 7 | 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.
Join us on the FPC Rooftop for a day of crafting and fellowship as we create handmade Christmas items for A Tartan Christmas Fair. With projects for ages 3 through adult, there's something for everyone. Come for an hour or stay for the day, and bring your family and friends.

LGBTQ Happenings
Join members and friends for brunch on-site following worship on Sunday, November 8, and Bible Study with the Rev. Dr. Mark Hostetter on Thursday, November 12, at 7:30 p.m. via Zoom. For the Zoom link, see First Matters or contact lgbtq.fpcnyc@gmail.com or mission@fpcnyc.org.

Inquirers Class | Saturday, November 21 | 10:00 a.m.–1:00 p.m.
Interested in joining the church? Join us for an Inquirers Class to learn more about who we are, what we believe, and how to get involved. To reserve a spot, please email Aileen Caba at acaba@fpcnyc.org.

Vespers Festival of Music: Welcome All Wonders | Sunday, December 6 | 4:00 p.m.
Welcome the season with an afternoon of music for Advent and Christmas! The First Church Choir, conducted by Michael Shake, is joined by the Riverside Brass Quintet, timpani and percussion, and guest organist Andrew Henderson. Inspired by Richard Crashaw's poem "Welcome All Wonders," this festival moves from Advent longing to Christmas joy, from a procession with *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* to Vaughan Williams's beloved *Fantasia on Christmas Carols* and Daniel Pinkham's brass-filled *Christmas Cantata*. At the intersection of the Village and the City, this free event is our gift to the community, and all are welcome!

Adult Education
This fall, our Adult Education programs will explore the Bible and theology alongside contemporary questions for our faith.
- Sundays at 9:30 a.m. | Coffee & Theology. Starting November 8, join us for a hybrid conversation around "Common Errors Made about Early Judaism" as we explore the relationship between the Jesus movement and Judaism and how that impacts our theology today.
- Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. | Bible Study. Join us in a hybrid format for a deeper exploration of the Pharisees in Luke's gospel as we consider three familiar parables. This series begins on November 4.

For Zoom links, see First Matters or contact the front desk at frontdesk@fpcnyc.org.

Youth & Family Ministries
This year, our Youth & Family Ministries programs offer children and young people opportunities to grow in faith, build friendships, ask big questions, and experience God's love through worship, learning, music, and fellowship.
- Worship Circle with Babies and Toddlers (ages 0–3 and their caregivers), 9:30 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. first and third Sundays of each month
- Church School (ages 3–grade 5), Sundays, 11:15 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Student Choristers (grades 1–6), Sundays, 12:20 p.m. to 12:50 p.m.
- Youth Leadership Council (grades 6–12), seasonal weeknight dinners throughout the year
- Bibles & Bagels (middle and high school), twice a month during worship

For more information, contact Jenny at jbennett@fpcnyc.org.

Deacons of the Month
The November deacons of the month are **Mary Virginia Ireland** and **Bob Reiter**. They'll be wearing name badges at coffee hour and would be happy to answer questions about the church.

All Saints' Worship

Today, we remember those beloved by our community and others extending beyond this congregation who have died this past year. Please join us in remembering these individuals and offering our prayers for all who loved them.

Jean Asker
Robert Biette
Rev. David & Jean Boone
Stan Bosker
Howard & Ray Boswell
William Thomas Buice III
Bob Carter
Dr. Alfred T. Culliford III
Odelta Cruz
Herb Dawson
Donald Eberhard
Eileen Jane Fagan
Barbara Fontaine
Robert Foltz-Morrison
Irene Fonseca Francischini
Leroy Alfonso Fuller
Patricia Girvan
Paul Edwin Grunder
Carol Harrison
Mae Jean & Dan Hedberg
Charles & Nevin Henderson
Joshua Hilson
Amber Wallace & Ernie Mason Howell
Linda Jackson
Rose James
Travis Keller
Bob & Maxine Kisling
Bonnie Lewis
Ivette Maloney
Faith, James, & Robert McFaddon
Andrew Nkongho Sr.
Linda O'Connor
Carol Pollock
Natalia Ritter
Marina Roberts
Margie Robertson
Mike Robinson
Lee Rogers
Blanca Rosario
Arleen Smith
Diarmuid Smith
Brenda Stewart
Thomas Michael Taylor
Becky Thomas
Adeline Vichiconti
Marilyn Wragg
Nancy Young

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