The First Presbyterian Church
in the City of New York

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Service for the Lord's Day | November 15, 2026 | 11:00 a.m.



Interior with the Clock, Paul Klee, 1913

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 our Coffee & Fellowship in the Lobby or North Lawn Walkway 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 on RHOSYMEDRE" — Ralph Vaughan Williams
"Fantasy on ST. DENIO" — Gerre Hancock

Pealing of the Carillon

Welcome

Introit — Frederick Jacobi

O may the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thine eyes, O Lord, my Rock, and my Redeemer. —Psalm 19:14

Hymn 12 — "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" — ST. DENIO

Please stand in body or spirit.

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Everlasting God,
you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.
Since the creation of the world,
you have nurtured us with your love.
And yet we shamefully acknowledge
that we do not always share your love with others.
We are selective about which neighbors we choose to love.
Loving God,
teach us to love you more fully.
For in loving you, our lives will show love to all others,
even as your love encompasses all your creation,
in all generations.
We pray in the name of your greatest gift of love,
Jesus Christ.
Hear our prayers of confession...

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Response — CORVEDALE



Lighting of the Peace Candle and Sharing Signs of Peace

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

Children's Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

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

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.

Anthem — Adolphus Hailstork

God be merciful unto us, and bless us; and cause thy face to shine upon us. May thy way be known upon the earth, and thy saving health among all nations. Let the people praise thee, O God. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy. Amen.
—Psalm 67:1-4

Hearing the Word

Lesson — Psalm 90

pew Bible, Old Testament page 547/large print, Old Testament page 673

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

Sermon — "A Shelter for All Generations" — Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

Responding to the Word

Hymn 686 — "God of Our Life" — SANDON

Please stand in body or spirit.

Affirmation of Faith — Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth;

and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.

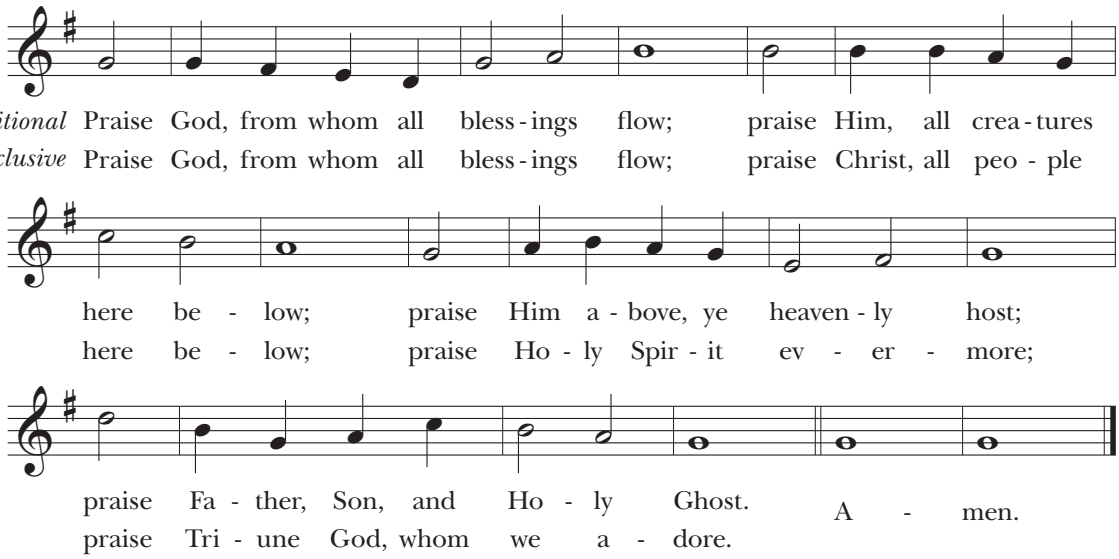
Offering Invitation

Offertory — Abbie Betinis

Blessed be the Lord, my rock and my fortress, my stronghold, my deliverer, my shield and he in whom I take refuge. We are like breath, our days are like a passing shadow. Bow thy heavens, O Lord, come down! Stretch forth thy hand from on high, rescue me, deliver me. I will sing a new song to thee, O God. —Psalm 144:1–2, 4–5, 7, 9

DOXOLOGY OLD HUNDREDTH

Please stand in body or spirit.



PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SENDING

HYMN 643 "Now Thank We All Our God" NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Please stand in body or spirit.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE "Fuga, from *Sonata*, op. 65, no. 2" Felix Mendelssohn

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

LEADING THIS MORNING
Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, *Senior Pastor*
Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*

The First Church Choir
Robbie Cowan, *Assisting Conductor*
Michael Shake, *Organist and Director of Music*

This Week at First Church

Today, November 15	9:30 a.m.	Child Care
	9:30 a.m.	Coffee & Theology
	9:30 a.m.	Worship Circle with Babies & Toddlers
	11:00 a.m.	Worship
	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
	1:30 p.m.	Handbell Choir
Monday, November 16	5:30 p.m.	Qigong
	6:30 p.m.	Earth Care Meeting
	7:00 p.m.	Current Events
Tuesday, November 17	11:30 a.m.	Coffee with the Pastor
	5:30 p.m.	Village Campus Ministry
Wednesday, November 18	12:30 p.m.	Bible Study
Thursday, November 19	6:30 p.m.	Facing Racism Meeting
Saturday, November 21	10:00 a.m.	Inquirers Class
	10:00 a.m.	St. Joe's Soup Kitchen
Sunday, November 22	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
	12:00 p.m.	Open Gallery: Print Fair
	12:20 p.m.	Student Choristers
	1:30 p.m.	Literary Group (hybrid)

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

Announcements

2026 Nominating Committee | Deadline: Today, November 15
The Nominating Committee is seeking nominations and self-nominations for members to serve as Elders, Deacons, and Trustees. We invite you to recommend congregation members who would be an asset in these leadership roles, including yourself! We especially encourage newer members to get involved. Please email your nominations to fpcnyc@fpcnyc.org with the subject line "Nominating Committee 2026" or complete a nomination form in the church lobby.

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.

Literary Group | Sunday, November 22 | 1:30 p.m.
The Literary Group meets monthly at 1:30 p.m. in a hybrid format for thoughtful conversation and fellowship. Our November selection is *Grandma Gatewood's Walk: The Inspiring Story of the Woman Who Saved the Appalachian Trail* by Ben Montgomery on November 22. Contact frontdesk@fpcnyc.org for the Zoom link.

A Tartan Christmas Fair | December 4–6
Join us for this beloved First Church tradition! This year's proceeds will help fight food insecurity in Greenwich Village by supporting neighborhood food pantries and soup kitchens, including St. Joe's, which serves weekly meals in our South Wing on Saturdays. Donations for the Silent Auction, Buy It Now, and Crafts are accepted through November 23. Pre-order holiday poinsettias and wreaths by November 16 for last year's prices. Volunteers are needed! Sign up in the Lobby or email tartanfair@fpcnyc.org. Visit www.tartanfair.org for more information.

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. 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.

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.

Family Ministries Christmas Celebration | Saturday, December 12 | 10:00 a.m.
The Family Ministries Christmas Celebration is Saturday, December 12, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.! We can't wait to celebrate this wonderful season together with festive crafts, Christmas carols, and plenty of holiday cheer! Children will also have the opportunity to take part in a special Nativity and help bring the Christmas story to life. Bring the whole family and join us for a joyful morning at First Church! For more information, please contact Jenny Bennett 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.



Inquirers Class

Saturday, November 21 | 10:00 a.m.

Email acaba@fpcnyc.org to rsvp.

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