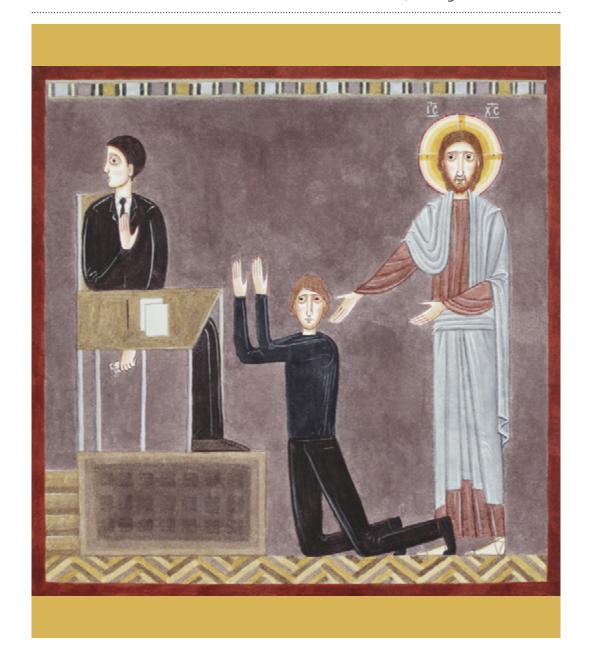


FIFTH AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

SEPTEMBER 22, 2019 • 11:00 AM



Nikola Sarić, Parable of the Unjust Judge, 2014

THIS IS GOD'S HOUSE. ALL ARE WELCOME.

WELCOME TO FIFTH AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Whether you are visiting for the first time, or are a longtime member, we are blessed to have you with us.

The cover of this bulletin reads, "This Is God's House. All Are Welcome." We take these words seriously. We strive to be a community as diverse and hospitable as God's kingdom. We don't all look or act alike; God *knows* we don't all think alike. We don't all read the Bible the same way. We bring different questions, and we carry different burdens. But every Sunday, we worship together as one.

In this grand old church, we do Sunday morning in some pretty traditional (very Presbyterian) ways. We study the teachings and the actions of Jesus. We sing many of the same hymns our grandparents sang. Yet, in our preaching and our prayers, we wrestle with the challenges of the modern world. I hope your heart will hear something personal and relevant this morning—a word of comfort, a spur to action, a call to a deeper relationship with God.

After the service, please stick around. Take a tour of the church. Have a cup of coffee with us. Introduce yourself to one of our clergy. There are tons of opportunities here to feed your soul and expand your spirit. Try one out. You never know—you just might be home!

Scott Black Johnston Senior Pastor

If You Are New Here

Please fill out the Welcome card you will find in your pew. Place the card in the offering plate, hand it to an usher, or drop it off at the Visitors Table (inside the Fifth Avenue entrance). You may also complete the Welcome card online at *fapc.org/welcome*. The folks at the Visitors Table can provide you with information about our ministries, programs and volunteer opportunities. We also invite you on a guided tour of the church, starting from the rear of the Sanctuary shortly after the service.

These May Help During the Service

If you would like a large-print bulletin or a hearing-enhancement device, please ask an usher. You may return the hearing-enhancement device to the rear of the Chapel or Sanctuary after the service.

Welcoming Children

Children are always welcome in worship! Families are welcome to sit anywhere in the Sanctuary, but you may want to take advantage of the first 10 rows on the far north side, which we have equipped for families with young children. You will find children's Bibles and children's worship bulletins in the pews, as well as easy access to our Family Room, located just outside the Sanctuary. (See the map on the back of the bulletin for the exact location.) If you are attending worship in Kirkland Chapel, the ushers can provide a worship bag to keep your child engaged. (You may return these materials at the end of the service.) We also provide childcare for infants and toddlers from 9 am until 12:30 pm in the LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center. Learn more about our Family Ministries at fapc.org.

If You Are in Need of Prayer

Deacons (wearing white stoles) are available to pray with you after the service. Your prayers are confidential unless you request they be shared with our Congregational Care staff. You may also complete a prayer request card (available in the pews and at the entrances) and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. You may submit prayer requests online at *fapc.org/prayer-requests*.

Help With Parking

We have a parking arrangement with the garage at 51 W. 56th St. For \$16, you may park for up to three hours, seven days a week. Ask for discount coupons at the 55th Street reception desk.



Worship Resources Online

You will find information about future worship services (including the bulletin for the upcoming Sunday) at fapc.org/worship. Recorded sermons are available at fapc.org/sermons and via podcast on iTunes. This morning's Prayers of the People can be found at fapc.org/pray.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

As the Prelude begins, we invite you into a period of quiet reflection as we prepare for worship. Please **silence all electronic devices** and **do not take flash photos** during the service.

PRELUDE Capriccio, op. 116, no. 3 and Intermezzo, op. 116, no. 4

Johannes Brahms (1833–1897)

* CALL TO WORSHIP Micah 6

Elder Kalen Strickland One: With what shall we come before the Holy One,

and bow ourselves before God on high?

All: God has shown us what is good.

One: What does the Holy One require of us?

All: To do justice,

One: and to love kindness,

All: and to walk humbly with our God.
One: Let us worship God, tender and just.

* HYMN 755 Alleluia! Laud and Blessing

* CALL TO CONFESSION
The Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell

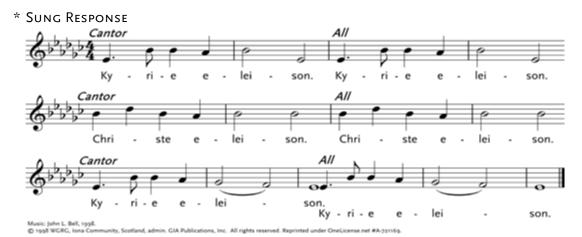
* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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.

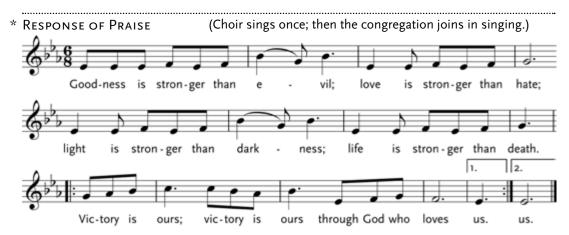
We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

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 Reflection and Confession



^{*} ASSURANCE OF PARDON



* PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Children (pre-K through second grade) are invited to the front of the Sanctuary to depart for Children's Church. If this is your child's first time in Children's Church, please fill out the purple label in the pew rack and affix to your child's back.

LITANY OF PARTING Congregation: May God be with you there.

Children: May God be with you here.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANTHEM

Os Justi • Anton Bruckner (1824–1896), Text: Psalm 37:30-31

Os justi meditabitur sapientiam, et lingua ejus loquetur judicium. Lex Dei ejus in corde ipsius: et non supplantabuntur gressus ejus. The mouth of the righteous utters wisdom, and his tongue speaks what is just.
The law of his God is in his heart; and his steps will not be impeded.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

Exodus 23:1-9

You shall not spread a false report. You shall not join hands with the wicked to act as a malicious witness. You shall not follow a majority in wrongdoing; when you bear witness in a lawsuit, you shall not side with the majority so as to pervert justice; nor shall you be partial to the poor in a lawsuit. When you come upon your enemy's ox or donkey going astray, you shall bring it back. When you see the donkey of one who hates you lying under its burden and you would hold back from setting it free, you must help to set it free. You shall not pervert the justice due to your poor in their lawsuits. Keep far from a false charge, and do not kill the innocent and those in the right, for I will not acquit the guilty. You shall take no bribe, for a bribe blinds the officials, and subverts the cause of those who are in the right. You shall not oppress a resident alien; you know the heart of an alien, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt.

Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my

opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

One: This is the Word of God; for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Learning to Love Justice"

The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from A Brief Statement of Faith, Presbyterian Church (USA)

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.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks

and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,

praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" Amen.

* Hymn 769

For Everyone Born

(Cantor sings verse one; then the congregation joins in singing.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
The Rev. Werner Ramirez

THE LORD'S PRAYER

("...and forgive us our debts...")

THE OFFERING

You may text your offering to 646.491.8331

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

The FAPC Choir

& Community Choir

What Does the Lord Require of You? Mark Miller (b. 1967), Text: Micah 6:8

With what shall I come before the Lord, And bow myself before God on high?

God has told you,

O mortal what is good, is good.

What does the Lord require of you? I want to know, I want to know.

Justice! Kindness!

Walk humbly with your God!

* Doxology

Hymn 606

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

* HYMN 772 Live into Hope

* BENEDICTION

Please remain in your pew until the conclusion of the Choral Response.

* CHORAL RESPONSE Song of Simeon • Hal Hopson (b. 1933)

Go now in peace.

Now, God, you have kept your word: let your servant go in peace.

With my own eyes I have seen the salvation

Which you have prepared in the sight of every people;

A light to reveal you to the nations

And the glory of your people Israel. Amen.

POSTLUDE Sonata no. 2 in C minor: Allegro maestoso e vivace and Fuga

Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

The ministry of music this morning is offered by:

The Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church Choir & Community Choir

Dr. Ryan Jackson, William S. Perper Director of Music and Fine Arts Ministries

Patrick Kreeger, Associate Organist · Clayton Brown, Baritone · Tomas Cruz, Tenor

Sharon Byrne, Mezzo-Soprano · Cait Frizzell, Soprano

WORSHIP NOTES

The composer of this morning's anthem, Anton Bruckner, was born in 1824 in the northern Austrian town of Ansfelden. Bruckner loved and assiduously studied the music of Renaissance Italian polyphonic masters such as Palestrina, as well as German Baroque composers, especially J.S. Bach. These diverse elements are brought together, along with the boldly Romantic aesthetic inherited from Wagner, in Bruckner's sacred motets. *Os justi* was composed in 1879, the same year that Bruckner began work on his sixth symphony. This extraordinary motet, which sets Psalm 37:30–31, is set in the Lydian mode, and Bruckner achieves striking harmonic effects without using a single sharp or flat note.

The Offertory Anthem, "What Does the Lord Require of You?", was written in 2005 by Mark Miller. Miller serves as assistant professor of church music at Drew Theological School and is a lecturer in the practice of sacred music at Yale University. He is also the minister of music at Christ Church in Summit, New Jersey. Miller's memorable setting of this famous reading from Micah playfully combines two primary musical inspirations: the African American gospel tradition, and the Baroque contrapuntal style of J.S. Bach.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Please pray for:

Candy Asman, Phyllis Barr, Neta Beberino, Helen Betzaia, Becky Bjornstad, Benjamin Bradley Britta Cabanos, Ella Calderon, Sookjoong Choi, Dr. Johanna Cook, Edna Craddock William Cuffee, Nancy Dawkins, Athanassia Doucas, Narmella Elissa, Sterling Gillis IV Wanda Roush Hannan, Nancy Hatch, Patricia Henry, Bill Jones, Juliet Kaldanie, Susan Kempler Louis Sterling King, Richard J. Lawson, Stephanie Le Cornec, Jorge Martinez, Keiko Matsuzaki The McCall Family, Jean Meek Barker, Joyce Nolen, Phyllis Oblander, Marjorie Quaife Jeff Rowbottom, Pauline Sample, Robert Scheuer, Taylor Shultz, Spencer Robert Smith Frieda Sompotan, Jean Stewart, Rocco Tannehill, Steve Teelucksingh, Harold Tither, Arthur Tobiason Susan Tobiason, Stevanus & Henny Waisapy, Johnnie Walker, James & Barbara Wallace Jennifer Wallis-Eifert, Warren White, Suzanne Wilks, Sylvia Winrich, Lesley Wood Deborah Wurgler, Doris Wurgler

If you would like to add a name to the church prayer list or the list of faithful departed, please contact Lance Hurst (*lhurst@fapc.org*, 212.247.0490 ext 3007).

Caregiving Ministries

Fifth Avenue provides space for several community-based ministries and programs. All are open to members and friends of the church. Check the lobby monitor for specific room locations.

Alcoholics Anonymous + AA Beginners

Monday - Thursday, 12:30 pm • ny-aa.org

Al-Anon

Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays, 12:30 pm • nycalanon.org

The Compassionate Friends: A support group for grieving families

Second & fourth Tuesdays, 7 pm • compassionatefriends.org

Health Advocates for Older People

Strength & weight exercise class • Wednesdays, 11 am • hafop.org

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today

9 am Coffee Cart. Bonnell Hall. Continues until 1 pm.

9:30 am Worship. Kirkland Chapel.

Little Lambs, Sunday School and Youth Group. All in the LaDane Williamson

Christian Education Center.

10:15 am Children's Choir. LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.

11 am Worship. Sanctuary.

11:15 am Children's Church. Kirkland Chapel & Christian Education Center.

12:15 pm Meet & Greet. The Gallery. All are invited (visitors especially!) to join the

pastors, staff and fellow members for conversation and coffee after worship.

Tour the Church. Meet at the rear of the Sanctuary following worship.

12:30 pm Adult Education: The Shema: Understanding Our Call to Love God.

Corning Logan Room. Instructor: Rabbi Mollie Cantor.

This Week

Mon Sept 23 Women's Association Needlework Group. 11 am – Romeyn Room.

Tue Sept 24 Women's Association Luncheon. 12 pm – Bonnell Hall.

Followed by Bridge at 1:30 pm.

Women's Association Speaking English. 1:30 pm – Corning Logan Room.

Thu Sept 26 FAPC Community Choir Rehearsal. 6 pm – Jones Auditorium. All are welcome.

Fri Sept 27 Youth: Friday Night Hangout. 7 pm. Christian Education Center.

Sat Sept 28 Meals on Heels. 9:30 am – Bonnell Hall. Weekly meal preparation and delivery to

homebound seniors. Contact: John Wyatt (moh@fapc.org).

Coming Up

Sun Sept 29 Belonging in Community: A Membership Class. 9:30 am – Corning Logan Room.

Contact: Morgan King (mking@fapc.org, 212.247.0490 ext 3005).

Adult Education: Hope for the Children of Lesotho. 12:30 pm – Corning Logan Room. Presenter: Mamonyane Mohale, executive director, Ministry of Hope

Lesotho (a Fifth Avenue mission partner).

Tue Oct 1 Mystics with Macie: Week One. 6:30 pm – Romeyn Room. Part 1 of a four-week

series. RSVP: communitygroups@fapc.org.

Sun Oct 6 Believing in the Church: A Membership Class. 9:30 am – Corning Logan Room.

Contact: Morgan King (mking@fapc.org, 212.247.0490 ext 3005)

Next Sunday . Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

"Learning to Love Mercy" • Matthew 18:21-35 The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching.

Next Sunday: Congregational Meeting

Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church will convene a Congregational Meeting next Sunday (Sept. 29) at the close of the 11 am service to hear a report and take action regarding a proposed gift of land. All members are encouraged to attend.

Today: Adult Education Returns with a Study of the Shema

Adult Education is taking the fall sermon series—*Curate Your Heart*—to heart! Many of our classes this fall center on the themes our preachers are exploring from the pulpit. Today we welcome Rabbi Mollie Cantor from Jewish Theological Seminary for a discussion of the Shema, which many consider the most essential prayer in Judaism. We will discover what this prayer has meant to the Christian tradition and its enduring relevance today. Her class begins at 12:30 pm in the Corning Logan Room.

Opening Today: A Retrospective of Our Music Ministry

Today the Arts & Our Faith Committee unveils a historical retrospective of the music ministry that serves this congregation. *Faith in Song: 200 Years of Music Ministry* is now on view in the Chesnut Gallery. Come learn about the advent of congregational singing (a thorny issue in the 19th century!), our first organ, and the many renowned musicians who have been part of our music program since the church's founding in 1808. The exhibit will remain on view through Thanksgiving.

New Dates: Pageant Auditions & Stewardship Workshop

Parents, please note these new dates on the Family Ministries calendar! Auditions for this year's Christmas Pageant have been rescheduled for Sunday, Oct. 6, immediately following the 11 am service, in the LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center. Contact: Eugenia Yau (eyau@fapc. org). The family stewardship workshop, "Giving Together," will now meet for two weeks instead of three. The first session is on Sunday, Oct. 6, at 12:30 pm. This session is for parents (something to do while the kids are auditioning!). The second session, on Sunday, Oct. 13, is for parents and children together. Contact: Jaime Staehle (jstaehle@fapc.org).

Interested in Joining the Church? It's Easy as 1-2-3

Step 1: Come to "Belonging in Community," a discussion of the rewards and responsibilities of membership, next Sunday (Sept. 29) at 9:30 am in the Corning Logan Room. **Step 2:** Come to "Believing in the Church," a class on the Presbyterian tradition and the future of our denomination, at 9:30 am Sunday, Oct. 6. Both classes are in the Corning Logan Room, and both are required for membership. **Step 3?** That's when we welcome you into the congregation—on Sunday, Oct. 13, at 11 am. To enroll, contact: Morgan King (*mking@fapc.org*, 212.247.0490 ext 3005).

Coming Up: Mystics with Macie, Starting Oct. 1

Building on the success of our Lenten spirituality classes, we invite you to a four-part series on Christian mystics starting on Tuesday, Oct. 1. Seminarian Macie Sweet will lead a study of the leading figures, texts and practices of this ancient tradition. Email *communitygroups@fapc.org* if you want to join! Classes will meet on Tuesdays through Oct. 22 at 6:30 pm in the Romeyn Room.

Save the Date: Women's Winter Sabbath

The 2020 Women's Winter Sabbath is set for the weekend of Jan. 24–26. We will return to the Community of St. John Baptist in Mendham, New Jersey. Mark your calendars, and watch for registration information coming soon.

The Session

The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, Moderator • Greg Dow, Clerk of Session

Jane Hong, Assistant Clerk of Session • The Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell, Executive Pastor

The Rev. Kate Dunn, Associate Pastor • The Rev. Werner Ramirez, Associate Pastor

Class of 2020 Class of 2021 Class of 2022 Ann Bushe Brenda Berkman Iesse Allen Rusty Breedlove Amanda DeMeola Andy Craven David DePugh Meredith Fleck Joyce Hansen Greg Dow Suzan Habachy Mary Jo Keeble Elizabeth Gramley Meaghan McFarland Jane Hong **Josie Lawrence** Marc Lovci Erica Moffett

Matt Martinez Phillip Ma Jeneca Parker-Tongue

Joanna McNurlen Jeanne Pape Jacky Radifera

Melanie Musgrove Cody Powers
Chris Robertson Kalen Karnes Strickland

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Mark Zivkovic

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CLERGY & STAFF



The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston Senior Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell Executive Pastor

The Rev. Kate Dunn Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Outreach

The Rev. Werner Ramirez Associate Pastor for Youth, Young Adults & Community Groups

The Rev. Helen Jackson, Parish Visitor

The Rev. Dr. Patricia Kitchen. Parish Associate

The Rev. Kellie Picallo, Parish Associate

The Rev. Dr. J. Oscar McCloud, Associate Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Randy Weber, Associate Pastor Emeritus

Séamus Campbell, Director of Outreach Ministries

Dr. Ryan Jackson, William S. Perper Director of Music & Fine Arts Ministries

Stephanie Kelley, Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor & Director of Special Projects

Morgan King, Director of Engagement

Patrick Kreeger, Associate Organist

Derek Maddalena, Director of Facilities

Timothy Palmer Curl, Director of Communications & Development

Jonathan Schlesinger, Interim Chief Financial Officer

Jaime Staehle, Director of Christian Education

Dr. Eugenia Oi Yan Yau, Director of Music for Family Ministries

CONTACT US



Announce a birth or adoption
Jackie Smith
jsmith@fapc.org



Fund the altar flowers
Lance Hurst
Ihurst@fapc.org



Join the church Morgan King mking@fapc.org



Make a donation
Jonathan Schlesinger
cfo@fapc.org



Plan your wedding
Jackie Smith
jsmith@fapc.org



Prepare for baptism
Jackie Smith
jsmith@fapc.org



Remember the church in your planned giving Jonathan Schlesinger cfo@fapc.org



Schedule an event Jackie Smith jsmith@fapc.org

Add a name to the prayer list • Lance Hurst, lhurst@fapc.org
Arrange a private tour • Judy Moseley, tours@fapc.org
Hire our caterer • Rodrigo Rosas, rodrigo@roxoevents.com
Notify us of a death or illness • Lance Hurst, congregationalcare@fapc.org
Request a bulletin announcement • Tim Palmer Curl, tpalmer@fapc.org
Update contact information in our database • Diego Cardona, dcardona@fapc.org

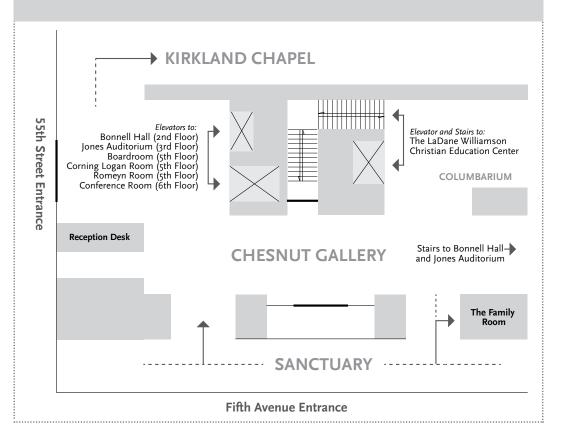
From time to time we may be taking video or photography in the Sanctuary, Kirkland Chapel and other parts of the church house (interior and exterior). By your presence, you grant Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church unrestricted rights to use and publish, transmit or telecast images or likeness that may be taken of you for use in communication related to the church. Please contact Tim Palmer Curl, director of communications and development (tpalmer@fapc.org), if you have questions or concerns.

FIFTH AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

7 West 55th Street • New York, NY 10019 • 212.247.0490 • fapc.org • fapc@fapc.org

About the Cover

Nikola Sarić, *Parable of the Unjust Judge*, 2014. Nikola Sarić is a Serbian-born artist living in Hannover, Germany. His work features Christian themes, such as the parables of Christ and views of the cross. Learn more at *nikolasaric.de*.



Visit Us During the Week

The Sanctuary, Kirkland Chapel and Columbarium are open seven days a week for prayer and reflection.

Building Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday: 8 am to 6 pm • Tuesday: 8 am to 9 pm Saturday: 8 am to 1 pm • Sunday: 8 am to 2:30 pm







