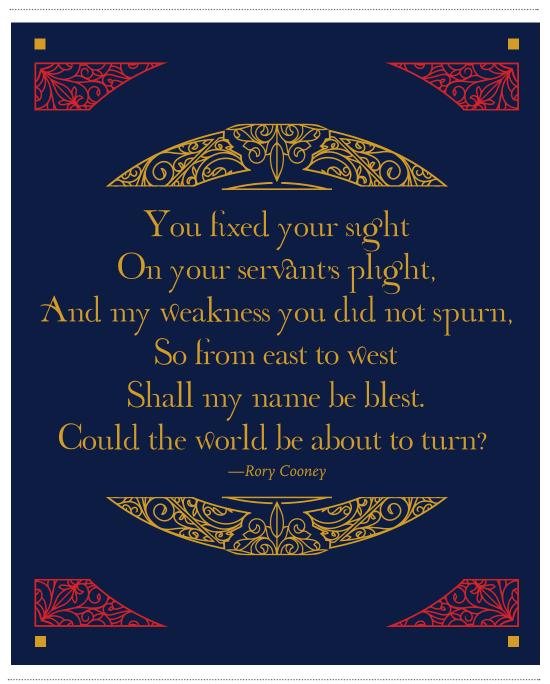


Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 15, 2019 • 9:30 AM



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, or hand it to an usher. You may also complete the Welcome card online at *fapc.org/welcome*. We also invite you on a guided tour of the church, starting from the rear of the Sanctuary just after the 11 am 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 these materials 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 in G major, BWV 541• J.S. Bach (1685–1750)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Marc Lovci One: In the midst of the barren land,

All: flowers burst into bloom.

One: In the midst of the dry desert,

All: streams of water gush forth.

One: In the midst of sorrow and sighing,

All: joy and gladness dance together.

One: We shall see the glory of God!

* HYMN 100

Canticle of the Turning

* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Alison Beskin & Stephen Ham

* SUNG RESPONSE



Music: James R. Murray, 1887 - AWAY IN A MANGER. Text: Sandra Dean ⊚ 1986 Sandra Dean. All rights reserved. Reprinted with permission.

* CALL TO CONFESSION The Rev. Werner Ramirez

* 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

* SUNG RESPONSE

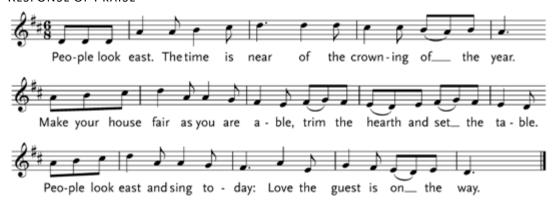
(Cantor sings once; then the congregation joins, singing once.)

son.



Music: 15th century plainsong melody - VENI EMMANUEL. Text: from the Ordinary of the Mass.

- * Assurance of Pardon
- * RESPONSE OF PRAISE



Music: French folk melody - BESANÇON. Text: Eleanor Farjeon @ 1928 David Higham Associates. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-721169.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

One:

The peace of Christ be with you.

All:

And also with you.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 1:46-55

And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he

has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Canticle of the Turning"

Seminarian Casey Aldridge

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Psalm 146:5-7

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them:

the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever;

who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. Amen.

* HYMN 100 Canticle of the Turning

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Seminarian Macie Sweet

THE LORD'S PRAYER ("...and forgive us our debts...")

THE OFFERING You may text your offering to 646.491.8331

OFFERTORY Title • Name (Dates)

Text

* Doxology Hymn 606

* OFFERTORY PRAYER

* HYMN 83 Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Fugue in G major, BWV 541 • *J.S. Bach*

The ministry of music this morning is offered by: Patrick Kreeger, Associate Organist

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, Athanassia Doucas, Narmella Elissa, Sterling Gillis IV, Patricia L. (DeLue) Glimpse 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, Bernhard Schindler, Taylor Shultz, Spencer Robert Smith Mark & Chrissy Snyder, 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 Deborah Wurgler, Doris Wurgler

Faithful Departed

Aug. 6, 2012: Chen-Ming Chiu—beloved father of Phoebe Chiu.

Nov. 20, 2016: GuaiBao Chiu—beloved sister of Phoebe Chiu.

Oct. 24, 2019: Florence Schulte—beloved grandmother of Erin Collier and beloved great-grandmother to Vivian and Elliot Collier.

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

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 Jacky Radifera Joanna McNurlen Jeanne Pape

Melanie Musgrove Cody Powers

Chris Robertson Kalen Karnes Strickland

The Board of Deacons

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> Class of 2020 Class of 2021 Class of 2022 Sallie Adams Fred Cannon Joel Arandia Mae Cheng-PaVon Hannah Bell Darby Blaker Twalema Khonje Lisa Cinelli David Blodgett Roseanne Lind Dora DePugh Ryan Brown Robert Pay Gretchen Grant Annie Cheng Tabor Hollingsworth Janeen Sarlin Heather Guardado Margie Wagers Trevor Illingworth Will Hubbard Debbie Mullins Vijay Wijesundera Adam McKoy Rebecca Tarby Kathy Murray Sylvia Winrich Chrissy Wojcik Aline Razafimampiandra

Mark Zivkovic

The Board of Trustees

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> Class of 2020 Class of 2021 Class of 2022 Susan Callahan Alyce Andrews Nichole Kim Dennis Bushe Christopher Edwards Sandy Lamb Diane Chesnut Charlotte Frankowski les Levine Glenn Hubbard Mark Moreland Mary Jane Goode Tiffany Cochran O'Brien Edgar (Ted) Peck Thomas Pak David Roberson Philip Ryan Sarah Wolpert

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today

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

9:30 am Worship. Kirkland Chapel.

Little Lambs. LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.

11 am Worship. Sanctuary.

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 Cider Sing! Fifth Avenue steps.

1 pm Youth Christmas Baking Day with April Fellers. Bonnell Hall.

This Week

Mon Dec 16 Women's Association Needlework Group. 11 am – Romeyn Room.

Tue Dec 17 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.

Wed Dec 18 Homeless Persons' Memorial Day. 4:30 pm – Bonnell Hall. A service to

commemorate New Yorkers who have died without stable housing.

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

Street Outreach to LGBTQ Youth. 6:30 pm - Curry Church House.

Thu Dec 19 Travelers Christmas Eve. 6:30 pm – Kirkland Chapel. The Rev. Dr. Scott Black

Johnston, preaching.

Sat Dec 21 Meals on Heels. 9:30 am – Bonnell Hall. Weekly meal preparation and delivery

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

Saturday Advent Tours. 11 am – 1 pm. From the Fifth Avenue entrance.

Coming Up

Tue Dec 24 Family Ministries Christmas Eve. 4 pm – Sanctuary. Music begins at 3:30 pm.

Werner Ramirez & Jaime Staehle, presiding.

Early Candlelight Service. 7:30 pm – Sanctuary. Music begins at 7 pm.

The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching.

Late Candlelight Service. 11 pm – Sanctuary. Music begins at 10:30 pm.

The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching.

Next Sunday · Fourth Sunday of Advent

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" • Colossians 1:15-20; Revelation 1:8; John 1:1-4

The Rev. Kate Dunn, preaching.

This Afternoon: Cider Sing and Youth Holiday Baking

Following the 11 am service, join us on the Fifth Avenue steps for Cider Sing, our way of bringing the joy of the season to our neighbors. All voices are welcome, starting at 12:30 pm. At 1 pm, members and friends of our Youth Group are invited to Bonnell Hall for some holiday baking with expert chef April Fellers (aka Pastor Werner's wife). For youth who would like to learn some new recipes (or eat them), April will lead a fun time in the kitchen.

Tomorrow Is the Deadline for Christmas Flower Memorials

We invite you to honor the memory of departed loved ones with a donation to the Flower Fund. Your loved one's name will appear in the bulletins on the Fourth Sunday of Advent and Christmas Day. Please send your loved one's name along with a donation no later than tomorrow morning (Dec. 16), to Lance Hurst (*lhurst@fapc.org*, 212.247.0490 ext 3007). The suggested donation is \$25 for each listing. Your donations help to provide flowers for worship throughout the year.

Wednesday: Homeless Persons' Memorial Day + LGBTQ Youth Outreach

Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church is the venue on Wednesday (Dec. 18) for the Homeless Persons' Memorial Day program, sponsored by Care for the Homeless and Urban Pathways. This program commemorates New Yorkers who passed away this year without stable housing. The event in Bonnell Hall begins with supper at 4:30 pm, followed by the program at 5:30. It is free and open to all. Afterward, our mission partner Parity invites volunteers for an evening of outreach to LGBTQ youth who are living on the streets. Join the Rev. Marian Edmonds-Allen in Bonnell Hall for training before heading out to deliver care packages for the youth. Details on both events are available at fapc.org/volunteer.

Thursday: Travelers Christmas Eve

Our Travelers Christmas Eve service is set for 6:30 pm Thursday (Dec. 19) in Kirkland Chapel. Travelers Christmas Eve is a Fifth Avenue tradition, designed for members and friends who will be on the road next week and don't want to miss Christmas Eve with their church family. All are welcome to this beautiful candlelight service. For our complete schedule of Christmas services, see fapc.org/worship.

Christmas Day: Volunteer with Meals on Heels

On Christmas morning (Wednesday, Dec. 25), our Meals on Heels chefs will prepare a holiday feast that we will deliver to elderly and homebound neighbors in midtown. To help with the cooking, join us at 9:30 am in Bonnell Hall on the second floor. If you are available for deliveries, come upstairs immediately after the 11 am service that day. Contact: John Wyatt (moh@fapc.org).

Here's Your Year-End Checklist!

Yes, Advent is a time of waiting—but here are some things you can do while you wait. **First: Submit your 2020 pledge**, if you haven't already. Go to *fapc.org/pledge* and help us fund our ministries for the coming year! **Second: Fulfill your 2019 pledge**, if you have a balance outstanding. Contact Richard Schexnider (*rschexnider*@*fapc.org*, 212.247.0490 ext 3044) if you have a question about your balance. **Third: Help us identify the next officer class!** If you, or another member you know, would make an outstanding Elder, Deacon or Trustee, go to *fapc.org/officer-elections* and submit the officer recommendation form.

GETTING CONNECTED

Adult Education

Each spring and fall, we offer courses in theology and Scripture, spirituality, social issues and other disciplines. The curriculum includes visiting authors, interfaith dialogue and other events. The Employment Advisory program offers monthly seminars on career-related issues. All classes are free and open to all, with no registration required. Information on upcoming classes is available at *fapc.org*.

Community Life

Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church offers an array of opportunities for community fellowship. We gather for congregation-wide events (such as Homecoming and the Thanksgiving luncheon) several times a year. Community groups offer an opportunity for more intimate engagement within this large congregation. Many of our groups gather neighbors from a particular part of the city; others focus on spiritual questions particular to women, 20s/30s, older adults, couples, new members, parents and the LGBTQ community. Our social clubs—City Club, *CouplesPlus!* and the Fifth Avenue Fellowship Club—gather for dinners and cocktail parties, museum and theater outings, and other social events throughout the year. Contact: *community@fapc.org*.

Congregational Care

If you (or others you know in our congregation) are going through a difficult time, we are here for you. We have a team of dedicated staff and volunteers who are available for counseling, home and hospital visits, medical escorts and prayer. You may also submit prayer requests at fapc.org/prayer-requests. Contact: congregationalcare@fapc.org.

Family Ministries

Family Ministries brings together people of diverse backgrounds and families of all definitions to nurture healthy children and strong, faithful families. We offer Sunday School, Youth Group, Children's Choir, Little Lambs (programming for infants to toddlers), community groups for parents, FAPC-U (our college ministry), Vacation Bible School and special events all year long. Contact: familyministries@fapc.org.

Membership

When we say "All are welcome," we mean it. From the moment you walk through our doors, we invite you to be a part of our community. We want to learn your name, listen to your questions, and hear your story. Every step of the way, we choose you. Then in membership, you choose us. The process is simple. Through our *Believing and Belonging* seminars, you explore what it means to be a part of the Christian church, the Presbyterian tradition, and Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. Whether you're sure membership is right for you, or you're just beginning to wonder if this may be your spiritual home, we'd love to have you in an upcoming class. Email Morgan King (mking@fapc.org) or visit fapc.org/membership to learn more.

20S+30S

20s+30s is a diverse group of curious, adventurous people who are centered in our faith. We offer a number of programs to make you feel at home—our Sunday afternoon discussion group (Embrace), service projects, social events, retreats and more. Join us! We're online at fapc.org/20s-30s and on Instagram @FAPC20s30s. Contact: youngadults@fapc.org.

GETTING CONNECTED

Mission Partners

Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church supports a diverse group of mission partners whose missions and ministries align closely with our own. We invite you to get to know them:

The Bowery Mission Jan Hus Presbyterian Church Operation Exodus The Bridge & Neighborhood House Parity Church of Gethsemane Presbyterian Senior Services Ministry of Hope – Lesotho Hands Along the Nile Search and Care Mission co-workers Cobbie & **Development Services** West Side Federation for Senior Dessa Palm – Philippines Holmes Presbyterian Camp & Supportive Housing Mission co-workers Dan & & Conference Center Womankind Elizabeth Turk - Madagascar

We offer many volunteer opportunities through our mission partners as well.

Contact: outreach@fapc.org.

Music + Arts

Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church is home to a versatile program of arts in our worship and community life that endeavors to inspire, challenge and comfort all who encounter it, and to provide opportunities to share our artistic gifts. In addition to the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church Choir and Chamber Choir, we offer the FAPC Community Choir, an entry-level ensemble that meets on Thursday evenings for rehearsal and fellowship. Contact: <code>music@fapc.org</code>. Our Theatre Fellowship offers a mainstage production every spring, and staged readings, a cabaret and other events during the year. Contact: <code>theatre@fapc.org</code>. The Arts & Our Faith Committee sponsors exhibitions of art, history and photography in the Chesnut Gallery, often featuring work by members of the congregation.

Volunteering

Volunteering is one of the most important ways we show that God's house is truly a place where all are welcome. Each week, members of this community serve as ushers and greeters, host in the David B. Skinner Shelter, prepare and deliver meals to the homebound, provide comfort and support to the elderly, lead tours for members and visitors, and work with the underserved of New York City. To learn more about our diverse volunteer opportunities, and how you can join in, visit fapc.org/volunteer or email volunteer@fapc.org.

CLERGY & STAFF

The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, Senior Pastor Dr. Ryan Jackson, William S. Perper Director of Music & Fine Arts Ministries The Rev. Dr. Charlene Han Powell, Executive Pastor Stephanie Kelley, Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor & The Rev. Kate Dunn, Associate Pastor Director of Special Projects The Rev. Werner Ramirez, Associate Pastor Morgan King, Director of Engagement The Rev. Helen Jackson, Parish Visitor Patrick Kreeger, Associate Organist The Rev. Dr. Patricia Kitchen, Parish Associate Derek Maddalena, Director of Facilities The Rev. Kellie Picallo, Parish Associate Timothy Palmer Curl, Director of Communications & Development The Rev. Dr. J. Oscar McCloud, Associate Pastor Emeritus Richard J. Schexnider, Interim Chief Financial Officer The Rev. Randy Weber, Associate Pastor Emeritus Jaime Staehle, Director of Christian Education Séamus Campbell, Director of Outreach Ministries Dr. Eugenia Oi Yan Yau, Director of Music for Family Ministries

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.

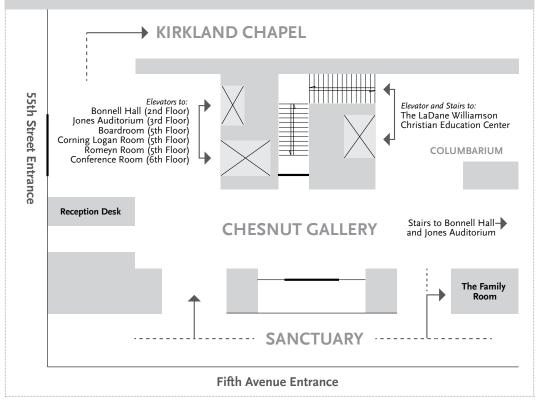
FIFTH AVENUE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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

Great Is Thy Faithfulness!

Great Is Thy Faithfulness: The 2020 Pledge Campaign has received \$2,634,319 in pledges from 382 households, putting us 88% toward our goal of \$3 million. Thank you! If you did not receive your pledge materials in the mail, please pick up a brochure at either entrance.

You may return your pledge card by mail or drop it in the offering plate. You may also pledge online at *fapc.org/pledge*, or contact Tim Palmer Curl, director of Communications and Development (*tpalmer@fapc.org*, 212.247.0490 ext 3001). Thank you for your faithfulness to Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church!



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







