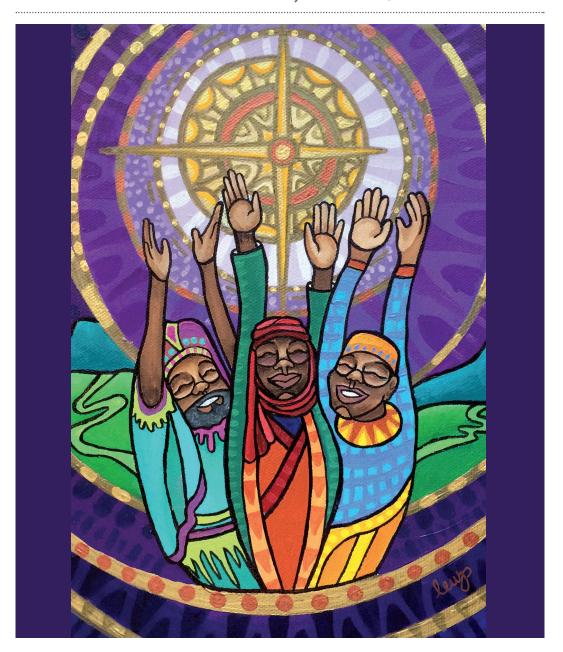


# Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

## SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

JANUARY 2, 2022 • 11:00 AM



Lauren Wright Pittman, Shining Hope

#### 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. Introduce yourself to one of our clergy or someone at our Welcome Table. We have tons of programs and community groups to feed your soul and expand your spirit. Try one out. You never know—you just might be home!

Scott Black Johnston Senior Pastor

#### Welcome

We'd love to connect! Please scan the QR code or fill out a Connect Card that you will find in your pew. You can fill it out online, or place the card into an offering plate, hand it to an usher, or drop it off at the Welcome Table (inside the Fifth Avenue entrance.) The folks at the Welcome Table can provide you with information about our ministries and programs. Our Sanctuary Doors open at 10 am every Sunday.

#### These May Help During the Service

If you would like a large-print bulletin please ask an usher.

#### 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. 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*.

#### **Worship Resources Online**

Head to *fapc.org* for information about future worship services. Our weekly video service, Light, Leaven & Salt, is available throughout the week at *fapc.org/worship*. This morning's Prayers of the People can be found at *fapc.org/pray*.

#### **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.



In response to the Omicron variant of Covid-19, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church requires that all worshippers (five years old and up) be fully vaccinated and present proof of vaccination (at least two shots and at least fourteen days away from the second shot) and properly wear a mask at all times.

We encourage you to follow Christ's command: "Love Your Neighbor!" Manifest your love by: Wearing a mask, distancing, and getting your jab or booster (as directed by your doctor)!

#### 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.

We ask that you properly wear a mask at all times.

PRELUDE Chorale Fantasia on Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern

("How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"), BuxWV 223

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637–1707)

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon Emi Iwaida One: Here on the heels of Christmas,

All: We speak of love.
One: We sing with joy.

All: We dream new dreams.

One: We listen for angel choruses.

All: We hold the words—"Do not be afraid."

One: We remember the promise—unto you,

a child is born.

All: Here on the heels of Christmas,

we look for God, who is surely among us.

One: Let us worship Holy God. Amen.

\* HYMN 150

As with Gladness Men of Old

\* 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; 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 sings once.)



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\* Assurance of Pardon





Music: Nikolaus Decius, 1539 - ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH'. Text: Nikolaus Decius, 1522, trans. F. Bland Tucker. © 1985 Church Publishing, Inc. 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.

LITANY OF PARTING

All: May God be with you there.

Children: May God be with you here.

Children (pre-K through fifth grade) are invited to exit the Sanctuary for Children's Church.

If this is your child's first time at Fifth Avenue, please come downstairs with them.

#### Announcements

Solo

The Kings · Peter Cornelius (1824–1874)

Three kings have journey'd from the eastern land, A star hath led them to Jordan's strand, And in Judea, inquire the three, Where the Newborn Infant King may be? With gold and myrrh and incense sweet, They bring the Holy Child an offering meet.

And brightly shineth the guiding star; Unto the manger the kings repair; With rapture filled, on the boy they gaze, And bow before him in joy and praise. With gold and myrrh and incense sweet, They bring the Holy Boy an offering meet.

O child of man, hold thee firm and true; The kings came hither; O come thou, too! The star of mercy, the star of love Shall point thee the pathway to Heav'n above; And fail thee gold and incense sweet, Lay thou thy heart at the Savior's feet, Bring Him thy heart!

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 2:1-12

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Rev. Sarah A. Speed

"Those Who Dream... Look for God"

\* PRAYER FOR THE DAY

God of starlight,

For the last month we have waited for you to arrive.

Help us to be more like the Magi.

Give us the courage to stop waiting and to start looking. We know that your fingerprints are all over this world.

We long to see them.

Amen.

\* HYMN 151

We Three Kings of Orient Are

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Jaime Staehle, Director of Christian Education

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

CALL TO GIVE AND RECEIVE

OFFERTORY SOLO

The Birthday of a King · W.H. Neidlinger (1863–1924)

In the little village of Bethlehem,

There lay a child one day, And the sky was bright With a holy light,

O'er the place where Jesus lay:

Alleluia!

O how the angels sang,

Alleluia! How it rang;

And the sky was bright With a holy light,

'Twas the birthday of a King. 'Twas a humble birthplace,

But oh! how much God gave to us that day, From the manger bed, what a path has led

What a perfect holy way:

Alleluia!

O how the angels sang,

Alleluia! How it rang;

And the sky was bright With a holy light,

'Twas the birthday of a King.

\* Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\* OFFERTORY PRAYER

\* HYMN 152

What Star Is This, with Beams so Bright

\* BENEDICTION

Postlude

Postlude on 'Mendelssohn' ("Hark! The Herald Angels Sing")

.....

David Willcocks (1919-2015)

The ministry of music this morning is offered by:
Dr. Patrick Kreeger, Associate Organist · Jacob Khalil, Baritone

#### CONGREGATIONAL CARE

## 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 that 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.

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### Please pray for:

Candy Asman, Phyllis Barr, Neta Beberino, Helen Betzaia, Becky Bjornstad, Benjamin Bradley Britta Cabanos, Ella Calderon, Pastor Toribio Cajiuat, Phoebe Chiu, Sookjoong Choi Dr. Johanna Cook, Edna Craddock, William Cuffee, Athanassia Doucas, Sherian Edgreen David Elissa and Barbara Mitchell, Michael Elissa, Narmella Elissa, Sterling Gillis IV Patricia L. (DeLue) Glimpse, Wanda Roush Hannan, Maggie Hendrix, Juliet Kaldanie Susan Kempler, Frederick Loomis, Louis Sterling King, Richard J. Lawson, Lauren Ma Keiko Matsuzaki, The McCall Family, Phyllis Oblander, Dexter Ramcharan, Pauline Sample Robert Scheuer, Tshombe Selby, Taylor Shultz, Spencer Robert Smith, Mark and Chrissy Snyder Frieda Sompotan, Rocco Tannehill, Harold Tither, Susan Tobiason, Betty Ty, Henny Waisapy Warren White, Suzanne Wilks, Sylvia Winrich, 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 Kristia Tolode (congregationalcare@fapc.org, 212.247.0490 ext 3007).

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today

11 am Worship. Sanctuary.

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

This Week

Wed Jan 5 20s + 30s Community Group: New Year's Celebration. 7 pm · Corning Logan

Room. Kick off the new year with an in-person gathering to reflect and hope.

Sat Jan 8 Meals on Heels. 8:30 am · Bonnell Hall. Weekly meal preparation and delivery

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

Coming Up

Sun Jan 9 The Word is Out. 9:30 am · 5th floor Board Room. All are welcome to this

community group for LGBTQ+ people of faith.

Worship. 11 am  $\cdot$  Sanctuary & Livestream. The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston,

preaching.

**Sun Jan 16** Fifth Avenue Courageous Conversations. 9:30 am · Bonnell Hall. An introduction

to the focus of Fifth Avenue Courageous Conversations for 2022. Proof of vaccination is required for this event and light snacks will be served. Please

register at fapc.org/events.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday. 11 am · Sanctuary & Livestream. The Rev. Dr.

Brian K. Blount, preaching.

**Confirmation Classes Begin.** 12:30 pm. Register at fapc.org/confirmation.

Believing and Belonging: Digital New Member Class (Session 1). 2 pm EST

 $\cdot$  Zoom. Led by the Rev. Sarah A. Speed. Register at  $\emph{fapc.org/events}.$  Email

membership@fapc.org for more information.

Sun Jan 23 The Word is Out. 9:30 am · 5th floor Board Room. All are welcome to this

community group for LGBTQ+ people of faith.

Worship. 11 am · Sanctuary & Livestream. The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston,

preaching.

Believing and Belonging: Digital New Member Class (Session 2). 2 pm EST

 $\cdot$  Zoom. Led by the Rev. Sarah A. Speed. Register at  $\emph{fapc.org/events}$ . Email

membership@fapc.org for more information.

An Introduction to Reformed Theology. 6 pm EST · Webinar. Instructor: Dr.

Cynthia Rigby, W.C. Brown Professor of Theology at Austin Theological Seminary.

Register at fapc.org/events.

Next Sunday • First Sunday After Epiphany

"The Color of the Year" • Jeremiah 22:13-16 The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching.

#### 20s + 30s Community Group: New Year's Celebration

Every Wednesday night the 20s + 30s gather at 7 pm, either on zoom or in person, for fellowship, conversation and study. Kick off the new year on Wednesday, Jan. 5 at 7 pm with an in person gathering to reflect on who we've been in the past, as well as to discuss who we hope to be, the ways we hope to grow, and the things we want to focus on in the coming year.

#### 2022 Fifth Avenue Courageous Conversations

Join us on Sunday, Jan. 16 at 9:30 am for an important discussion as the Anti-Racism Response Team (ARRT) and Adult Education share the 2022 focus for Fifth Avenue Courageous Conversations. We'll provide details for a month long social action challenge as well as a project here at Fifth Avenue. We'll also hear from PC(USA) leaders about what it means to be a Matthew 25 Church. Proof of vaccination is required for this event and light snacks will be served. Please register at fapc.org/events.

#### Confirmation Class 2022

Families of youth in 7th grade and above, sign up now for the 2022 Confirmation Class beginning Sunday, Jan. 16 until March 6. Each week at 12:30 pm confirmands will learn the basics of Christian belief, explore and ask questions about their faith. A weekend retreat is included in the Confirmation experience. Sign up at fapc.org/confirmation.

## Believing and Belonging: Digital New Member Class

If you are interested in planting deeper roots at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, we hope you'll join us in this winter's Digital Believing & Belonging New Member Class on Sunday Jan. 16 and Sunday, Jan. 23 at 2 pm. These classes, led by the Rev. Sarah A. Speed, will focus on building relationships, sharing our faith journeys, and learning more about Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. If you are seeking an in person membership experience, we will have an in person class in March! Register at fapc.org/events or email membership@fapc.org for more information.

#### An Introduction to Reformed Theology (Webinar)

Ever wonder what it means, really, to be part of the "Reformed Christian tradition"? In this webinar we will explore central theological emphases of the Reformed tradition. Join us on Sunday, Jan. 23 at 6 pm as we ask the pressing question: "So what?" What are the basics of Reformed theology, and why do they matter to us and this world? Dr. Cynthia Rigby is the W.C. Brown Professor of Theology at Austin Theological Seminary. Please register at *fapc.org/events*.

#### Faith in an Exhausted World

What does it mean to rest? How can our faith and the Sabbath be a resource as a restorative practice to fatigue and the environment? Join Outreach Ministries and our Mission Partner, The Farminary, on Thursday, Jan. 27 at 6 pm for an evening of restorative care as we talk about fatigue, from political to pandemic to work. Nate Stucky, executive director of The Farminary, will use scripture as a guidepost for rest and restoration in an exhausted world. Register at *fapc.org/events*.

#### Women's Winter Sabbath (Offsite)

On Friday, Jan. 28 join the Rev. Kate Dunn, the Rev. Sarah A. Speed, and our director of Christian education Jaime Staehle at the Community of St. John Baptist in Mendham, for a weekend of Bible study, worship, and personal reflection. For details and the itinerary of this fun and restorative retreat, register at *fapc.org/sabbath*. The cost is \$225 and space is limited. Please register by Jan. 7.

#### The Session

The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, *Moderator* • Erica Moffett, *Clerk of Session*Porter Binks, *Assistant Clerk of Session* • The Rev. Dr. Jonah So, *Executive Pastor*The Rev. Werner Ramirez, *Associate Pastor* • The Rev. Sarah A. Speed, *Associate Pastor* 

Class of 2022 Class of 2023 Class of 2024 Ann Bushe Porter Binks Iill Borrero Andy Craven Bryn Hartzell Mae Cheng-PaVon Joyce Hansen Jake Myers Bruni Fernandez Mary Jo Keeble Patrick Obeng-Frimpong Paul Griggs Erica Moffett Claire Kedeshian Emily Sytsma Neca Parker-Tongue Jama Toung John Kern William Stone Jacky Radifera William Sytsma John Wyatt

#### The Board of Deacons

Darby Blaker, *Moderator* • Kathy Murray, *Vice Moderator* • Carolyn Ferguson, *Secretary* Janine Schindler, *Treasurer* 

Class of 2022 Class of 2023 Class of 2024 Sallie Adams Ed Fagan Jennica Carmona Darby Blaker Carolyn Ferguson Greg Dow Emi Iwaida Joann Harrah David Blodgett Beverly Elmyra Johnson Heather Guardado Lori Lauman Will Hubbard Marco Michael Lvdia Kalmen Holly Kirby Glenda Moreland Shane Markstrum Adam McKoy Bryan Rombot Auguste Nipabi Matt Roush Kathleen Murray Joyce Nolen Aline Razafimampiandra Vijay Wijesundera Branden Wang Janine Schindler Lynn Wishart

#### The Board of Trustees

Mark Moreland, President • Carol Kenney, Vice President • Thomas Pak, Secretary Glenn Hubbard. Treasurer • Nichole Kim. Assistant Treasurer

Class of 2022 Class of 2023 Class of 2024 Nichole Kim Christian Bailey Alyce Andrews Sandy Lamb Amy Chung Paula Berry David Clark Bob Henn les Levine Mark Moreland Glenn Hubbard Carol Kenney Thomas Pak Jimmy Liu Daniel Krueger Sarah Wolpert Janet Otto

#### CLERGY & STAFF



The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston Senior Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Jonah So Executive Pastor

The Rev. Werner Ramirez Associate Pastor for Congregational Care & Family Ministries

The Rev. Sarah A. Speed Associate Pastor for Young Adults & Membership

The Rev. Kate Dunn, Parish Visitor

The Rev. Dr. Patricia Kitchen, Parish Associate

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

The Rev. Randy Weber, Associate Pastor Emeritus

Christine Boyle, Director of Outreach & Missions

Dr. Ryan Jackson, William S. Perper Director of Music & Fine Arts Ministries Donna Ketchledge, Program Coordinator & Assistant to the Executive Pastor

Dr. Patrick Kreeger, Associate Organist

Derek Maddalena, Director of Facilities

Katherine Miller, Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor & Director of Special Projects

Kellie Picallo, Director of Communications & Development

Richard J. Schexnider, Director of Finance

Jaime Staehle, Director of Christian Education

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

### CONTACT US



Announce a birth or adoption Jaime Staehle familyministries@fapc.org



Fund the altar flowers Kristia Tolode

congregationalcare@fapc.org



Rev. Sarah A. Speed membership@fapc.org





Plan your wedding Donna Ketchledge weddings@fapc.org familyministries@fapc.org



Prepare for baptism Jaime Staehle



Planned giving Richard Schexnider finance@fapc.org

Add a name to the prayer list • Kristia Tolode, congregationalcare@fapc.org Hire our caterer • Rodrigo Rosas, rodrigo@roxoevents.com Notify us of a death or illness • Kristia Tolode, congregationalcare@fapc.org Request a bulletin announcement • bulletin@fapc.org **Update contact information in our database** • update@fapc.org

We Livestream each worship service. From time to time, we may be taking video or a photo in the church house (interior and exterior). By your presence, you grant Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church unrestricted rights to use and publish, transmit or telecast your image or likeness that may be taken of you for use in communication related to the church. If you prefer to not sit in a visible area during our Livestream service, please notify an Usher or Greeter. Please contact Kellie Picallo, Director of Communications and Development at communications@fapc.org if you have questions or concerns.

## Let's Connect!

## Engage with us

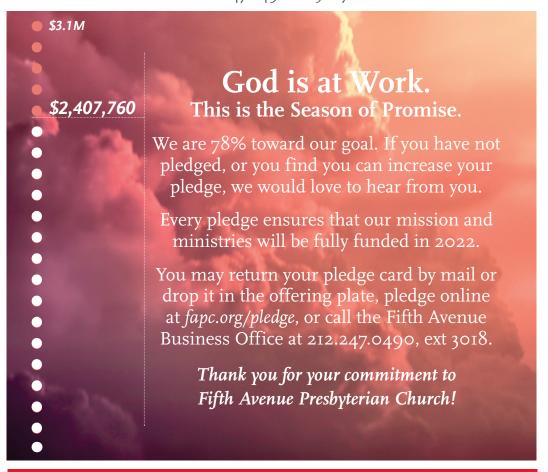
community@fapc.org 212.247.0490 ext 3005

## Pray with us

congregationalcare @fapc.org 212.247.0490 ext 3007

## Serve with us

outreach@fapc.org 212.247.0490 ext 3006



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