

Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 11, 2022 • 10:00 AM



Jen Norton, *Flock in the Promised Land*, 2016

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, gathered in the Sanctuary and online, 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 lots 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

Connect with Us

We invite you to look for the Connect Card in your pew (or ask an usher if you do not find it). You can submit it online using the QR code, or fill it out and place into the offering plate or hand it to an usher. Also, visit the Welcome Table just inside the Fifth Avenue entrance, where our volunteers will be happy to provide information on all of our ministries and programs.

Large-Print Bulletins

Please speak with an usher if you would like to use a large-print bulletin to follow the service.

Families with Children

Children are always welcome in worship! Families are free 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 9:30 am until 11:30 am in the LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center. Learn more about our Family Ministries at fapc.org.

Worship Resources Online

A replay of today’s service will be available this afternoon at fapc.org/playback. This morning’s Prayers of the People can be found at fapc.org/pray. Details about the upcoming service each week can be found at fapc.org/this-sunday. For information about future worship services, visit fapc.org/worship.

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.

We recommend that all who worship with us in person be vaccinated (and boosted) against Covid-19. If you are experiencing cold or flu symptoms, please stay home and worship with us via livestream. You will find the livestream service every week at fapc.org/live.



We provide mask-required and mask-optional seating areas in the Sanctuary.
Please ask an usher if you have questions.

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

Méditation • Maurice Duruflé (1902–1986)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Meg Sheehan

One: Even in the desert,
Even in the wilderness,
Even when the stars don't shine—

All: God is with us. We are not alone.

One: So even in our doubt,
Even in our fear,
Even when the world feels fragile—

All: May we hold onto hope. May we dare to believe.

One: God is with us. We are not alone.

All: Let us worship our Restoring God.

* HYMN 687

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

* CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Dr. Jonah So

* 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

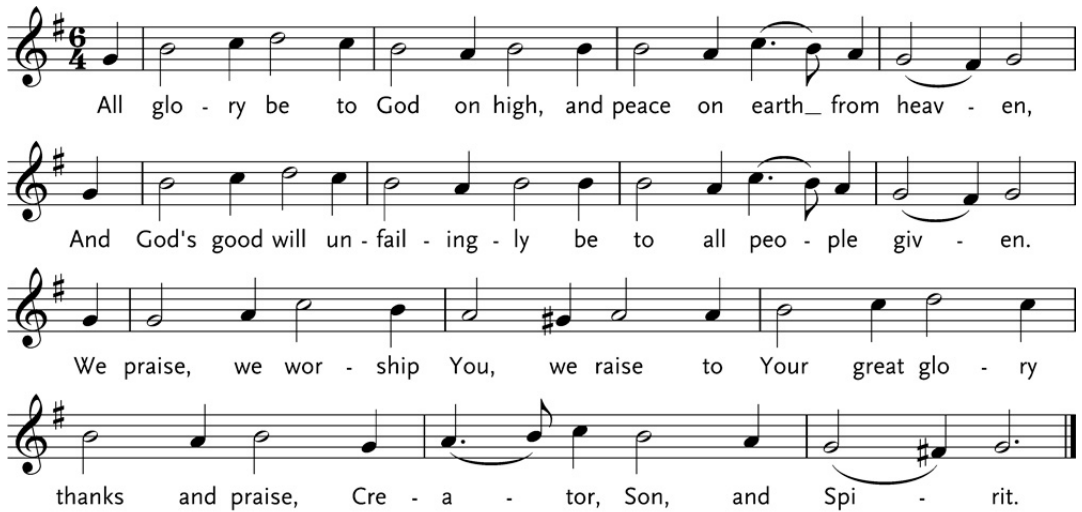
(Cantor sings once; then the congregation sings once.)



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* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* RESPONSE OF PRAISE



All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace on earth_ from heav - en,
And God's good will un - fail - ing - ly be to all peo - ple giv - en.
We praise, we wor - ship You, we raise to Your great glo - ry
thanks and praise, Cre - a - tor, Son, and Spi - rit.

Music: Nikolaus Decius, 1539 - ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH'. Text: Nikolaus Decius, 1522, trans. F. Bland Tucker.
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* PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.
All: **And also with you.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOLO

Acquaint Now Thyself with Him • *Michael Head (1900–1976)*
Text from Job 22; Psalms 96 & 99; Micah 6

Acquaint now thyself with him and be at peace;
Thereby good shall come unto thee.
Acquaint now thyself with him and be at peace.
Exalt the Lord our God and worship at his holy hill.
For the Lord our God is holy.
O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
Fear before him all the earth.
Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name.
Bring an offering, and come unto his courts.
Wherewith shall I come before the Lord,
And bow myself before the most high God?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings?
He hath showed thee O man what is good
And what doth the Lord require of thee,
But to do justly, and to love mercy
And to walk humbly with thy God.
Acquaint now thyself with him and be at peace;
Thereby good shall come unto thee.
Acquaint now thyself with him and be at peace.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON*Jeremiah 32:1-3, 6-15*

The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord in the tenth year of King Zedekiah of Judah, which was the eighteenth year of Nebuchadnezzar. At that time the army of the king of Babylon was besieging Jerusalem, and the prophet Jeremiah was confined in the court of the guard that was in the palace of the king of Judah, where King Zedekiah of Judah had confined him. Zedekiah had said, “Why do you prophesy and say: Thus says the Lord: I am going to give this city into the hand of the king of Babylon, and he shall take it...?”

Jeremiah said, The word of the Lord came to me: Hanamel son of your uncle Shallum is going to come to you and say, “Buy my field that is at Anathoth, for the right of redemption by purchase is yours.” Then my cousin Hanamel came to me in the court of the guard, in accordance with the word of the Lord, and said to me, “Buy my field that is at Anathoth in the land of Benjamin, for the right of possession and redemption is yours; buy it for yourself.” Then I knew that this was the word of the Lord. And I bought the field at Anathoth from my cousin Hanamel, and weighed out the money to him, seventeen shekels of silver. I signed the deed, sealed it, got witnesses, and weighed the money on scales. Then I took the sealed deed of purchase, containing the terms and conditions, and the open copy; and I gave the deed of purchase to Baruch son of Neriah son of Mahseiah, in the presence of my cousin Hanamel, in the presence of the witnesses who signed the deed of purchase, and in the presence of all the Judeans who were sitting in the court of the guard. In their presence I charged Baruch, saying, Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Take these deeds, both this sealed deed of purchase and this open deed, and put them in an earthenware jar, in order that they may last for a long time. For thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel: Houses and fields and vineyards shall again be bought in this land.

One: This is the Word of God; for the People of God.
All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON*The Rev. Sarah A. Speed***“Reason to Hope”***** AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

**We believe in a bright and amazing God
who gathers us together and gives us reason to hope.
We believe in a God who is constantly breathing new life
into weary bones and restoring what once was broken.
We believe that this restoration exists even in the worst of times.
Therefore, we hold onto hope—even when it’s risky,
even when it’s hard.
We hold onto hope.
Amen.**

*** HYMN 816****If Thou but Trust in God to Guide Thee****PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE***The Rev. Werner Ramirez*

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

OFFERTORY SOLO

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord

Michael Head, Text: Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all ye lands.

Serve the Lord with gladness:

Come before his presence with singing.

Know ye that the Lord he is God:

It is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;

We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Enter into his courts with praise:

Be thankful unto him, and bless his name.

For the Lord is good; his mercy is everlasting;

And his truth endureth to all generations.

* 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 772

Live into Hope

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Carillon de Westminster • Louis Vierne (1870–1937)

The ministry of music this morning is offered by
Dr. Ryan Jackson, *William S. Perper Director of Music and Fine Arts Ministries*
Zachary Fletcher, *Baritone*

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

***Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Frederic K. Han,
by his wife, Patricia Han, and his son, Eric Jay Han.***

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.

Please pray for:

Candy Asman, Neta Beberino, Helen Betzaia, Becky Bjornstad, Benjamin Bradley, Bill Brown
Britta Cabanos, Ella Calderon, Pastor Toribio Cajiut, Phoebe Chiu, Sookjoong Choi
Dr. Johanna Cook, Edna Craddock, Jeff Cruikshank, William Cuffee, Athanassia Doucas
Sherian Edgreen, David Elissa and Barbara Mitchell, Michael Elissa, Narmella Elissa
Sterling Gillis IV, Wanda Roush Hannan, Christopher Henderson, Maggie Hendrix, Juliet Kaldanie
Susan Kempler, Frederick Loomis, Louis Sterling King, Ceciwa Khonje, Richard J. Lawson
Mary Lowry, Lauren Ma, Keiko Matsuzaki, The McCall Family, Frank Owarish, Jeanne Pape
Emmett Raitt, Louisa Raitt, Dexter Ramcharan, Pauline Sample, Robert Scheuer, Tshombe Selby
Taylor Shultz, Brian Smith, Rosabelle Smith, Spencer Robert Smith, Frieda Sompotan
Rocco Tannehill, Harold Tither, Susan Tobiason, Betty Ty, Henny Waisapy, Bill Wanek, 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

- 9:30 am** **Little Lambs Nursery.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- 10 am** **Worship.** Sanctuary. The Rev. Sarah A. Speed, preaching.
- 11:15 am** **Coffee Hour.** Bonnell Hall. Join us after worship for a cup of coffee and an opportunity to chat with clergy and friends.
- 1 pm** **Margaret Shafer Community Picnic.** Central Park. Last-minute volunteers welcome! Meet us in Kirkland Chapel following worship.
-

This Week

- Wed Sept 14** **Feed Your Soul.** 6 pm • Bonnell Hall + Kirkland Chapel. Supper and a prayer service for volunteers and prospective volunteers in all church ministries and programs. RSVP at fapc.org/outreach-events.
- Sat Sept 17** **Meals on Heels.** 8:30 am • Bonnell Hall. Volunteers prepare and deliver weekend meals to homebound seniors. New volunteers are welcome and needed! Contact: John Wyatt (moh@fapc.org).

Coming Up

- Sun Sept 18** **Homecoming Breakfast.** 9:30 am • LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center. Family Ministries invites parents and kids to come meet the Sunday School staff and talk about the program year ahead. RSVP to familyministries@fapc.org.
- Worship.** 11 am • Sanctuary. The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching. The senior pastor returns with a new sermon series for the fall.
- A Brush with Transcendence.** 12:15 pm • Chesnut Gallery. Meet the artist and pastor Michael Jinkins as the Arts & Our Faith Committee presents this new exhibition of his work.
- Homecoming Celebration.** 12:30 pm • Bonnell Hall. Great food, lots of friends, live music and some fun surprises. And balloons – lots of balloons!
- Tue Sept 20** **Let Your Resume Sell You.** 6:15 pm • A free presentation by the Employment Advisory program. To register, go to fapc.org/employment-advisory.
- Wed Sept 21** **FAYA Midweek.** 6:30 pm. Corning Logan Room. FAYA (Fifth Avenue Young Adults) launches a new season of midweek gatherings at the church and online. RSVP to youngadults@fapc.org.
- Sun Sept 25** **Chapel Church.** 9:30 am • Kirkland Chapel. Our new worship service debuts! The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching.

Next Sunday • Homecoming Sunday

“Places” • Genesis 11:1-5; Psalm 104:1-26 • *The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching.*

Reminder

***Next Sunday we return to our regular worship schedule.
The service will begin at 11 am.***

Next Sunday: Homecoming!

Join us next Sunday (Sept. 18) as Senior Pastor Scott Black Johnston returns to the pulpit and we welcome back the full Fifth Avenue Choir from their summer vacations. Scott begins a 10-week sermon series, *Holy Ground: Loving and Caring for God's Creation*, which explores our response to God's desire for humankind to be faithful stewards of the Earth. The Arts & Our Faith Committee opens *A Brush with Transcendence*, an exhibition of paintings by the Rev. Dr. Michael Jenkins. Plan to stop by the Chesnut Gallery to greet Dr. Jenkins on opening day. Then, don't miss the Homecoming Celebration, an afternoon of good food and good friends as we begin the new program year. The festivities start at 12:30 pm in Bonnell Hall.

Wednesday: Welcome the Fall with Supper and Prayer

Feed Your Soul is a supper and prayer service celebrating everyone who serves the church and our ministries. This event is traditionally held in November, but this year we are moving the date forward, to Wednesday, Sept. 14. We will use our time together to prepare for a year of faithful service as officers, vocalists, ushers and greeters, Sunday School teachers, Outreach volunteers and more. Whether you are a current volunteer, or you are considering how you might serve, this event is for you. We begin with supper in Bonnell Hall at 6 pm, followed by communal prayer in Kirkland Chapel. To register, go to fapc.org/outreach-events.

Enrollment Opens for Fall Bereavement Group

This fall Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church will host a 10-week, online bereavement support group for anyone struggling with grief and the aftermath of loss. The group will be led on Zoom by bereavement counselor Ellen Theg. Meetings begin on Wednesday, Sept. 21, and continue every Wednesday at 7 pm through Dec. 7. (The group will not meet on Oct. 12 or Nov. 23.) The cost is \$125 for the full program, and enrollment is limited to eight persons. To register, contact Kristia Tolode (congregationalcare@fapc.org) by Sept. 15. Financial assistance is available.

Are You Reading Deacon King Kong?

With the author James McBride set to deliver the fifth-annual Anita and Antonio Gotto Lecture on Nov. 3, we encourage you to read McBride's latest novel, *Deacon King Kong*. The novel brings together cops and criminals, sinners and saints in a compelling story of 1960s New York. If you would like to participate in a book group with members of First Presbyterian Church in Jamaica, Queens (which is co-sponsoring the Gotto lecture this year), go to fapc.org/adult-ed, or email Jaime Staehle, director of Christian education (jstaehle@fapc.org). Groups will meet online for three weeks, beginning Thursday, Oct. 6.

New Member Class Begins Oct. 2

Our next new member class, Believing & Belonging, kicks off on Sunday, Oct. 2, and meets for three weekly sessions. Regardless of whether you are ready to join the church, this class is an excellent introduction to Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church and the Presbyterian tradition. We host four new member classes each year—two in person, and two on Zoom. Our next Zoom class is set for Jan. 22 & 29, 2023. To sign up for either upcoming class, go to fapc.org/membership, or contact Ashley Gonzalez, director of engagement (membership@fapc.org, 212.247.0490 ext 3007).

OFFICERS BY CLASS

The Session

The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, *Moderator* • The Rev. Dr. Jonah So, *Executive Pastor*
Porter Binks, *Clerk of Session* • John Wyatt, *Assistant Clerk of Session*

The Rev. Werner Ramirez, *Associate Pastor* • The Rev. Sarah Speed, *Associate Pastor*

Class of 2023

Porter Binks
Bryn Hartzell
Jake Myers
Patrick Obeng-Frimpong
Spencer Roberson
Emily Sytsma
Jama Tounge

Class of 2024

Jill Borrero
Mae Cheng-PaVon
Bruni Fernandez
Paul Griggs
Claire Kedeshian
John Kern
William Stone
John Wyatt

Class of 2025

Eric Daniels
Ann Marie Koehler
Sara Rodgers
Chris Rogers
Janeen A. Sarlin
Meg Sheehan
Sylvia Winrich

The Board of Deacons

Matt Roush, *Moderator* • Emi Iwaida, *Vice Moderator* • Carolyn Ferguson, *Secretary*
Shane Markstrum, *Treasurer*

Class of 2023

Ed Fagan
Carolyn Ferguson
Emi Iwaida
Lori Lauman
Marco Michael
Glenda Moreland
Bryan Rombot
Matt Roush
Vijay Wijesundera

Class of 2024

Jennica Carmona
Greg Dow
Joann Harrah
Beverly Elmyra Johnson
Lydia Kalmen
Shane Markstrum
Auguste Nipabi
Joyce Nolen
Branden Wang
Lynn Wishart

Class of 2025

Kirsten Aiello
Kelly Baer
Jessica Carmona
Hope Griggs
Jane Henn
Sarah McKoy
Jeannine Rodgers
Chad Schepp
Dicky Tuwaidan
Arthur Wong

The Board of Trustees

Carol Kenney, *President* • Ken Henderson, *Vice President* • Janet Otto, *Secretary*
Glenn Hubbard, *Treasurer* • Alyce Andrews, *Assistant Treasurer*

Class of 2023

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Amy Chung
David Clark
Carol Kenney
Jimmy Liu
Janet Otto

Class of 2024

Alyce Andrews
Paula Berry
Bob Henn
Glenn Hubbard
Daniel Krueger

Class of 2025

Susan Cersovsky
Jose Guardado
Ken Henderson
Joanna McNurlen
Jeff Rowbottom
Mark Snyder

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*

Ashley Gonzalez, *Director of Engagement*

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*

Timothy Palmer Curl, *Interim 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



Join the church

Rev. Sarah A. Speed
membership@fapc.org



Make a donation

fapc.org/give



Plan your wedding

Donna Ketchledge
weddings@fapc.org



Planned giving

Richard Schexnider
finance@fapc.org



Prepare for baptism

Jaime Staehle
familyministries@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 our worship services and provide online playback on demand. We also shoot videos and photos from time to time 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 in communications related to the church.

Please contact Timothy Palmer Curl (communications@fapc.org) if you have questions or concerns.

If you prefer to sit outside of camera range during the service, please speak with an usher.

Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

Introducing Chapel Church



There's something new happening in Kirkland Chapel this fall. Chapel Church is a Sunday morning worship service featuring the rhythms of piano and guitar and celebrating weekly communion. The inaugural service will be at 9:30 am on Sept. 25. The new service will continue on a trial basis through Nov. 13. Learn more at fapc.org, and make plans to join us!

Support the Church

Scan this code using the camera on your smartphone and follow the instructions to make a secure donation to our ministries.

fapc.org/give



Summer Building Hours

Tuesday – Friday

8 am – 5 pm

Saturday

8 am – 1 pm

Sunday

8 am – 12 pm



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