



Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

JANUARY 22, 2023 • 11:00 AM



Marc Chagall, *Moïse Recevant les Tables de la Loi*, c. 1960

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

New to Fifth Avenue?

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 Welcome Table (inside the Fifth Avenue entrance). You may also complete the welcome form online at fapc.org/welcome. Our friends at the Welcome Table can provide you with information about our ministries, programs and volunteer opportunities.

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, 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 to 12:30 pm in the LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.

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. Please provide your mobile phone number or an email address to the staff person at the 55th Street reception desk. You will receive a QR code to use at the garage. (The garage no longer provides physical validation stickers.)

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

Toccata and Fugue in C major, BWV 566a • J.S. Bach (1685–1750)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Janeen Sarlin

from Isaiah 40

One: Those who trust in the Lord

All: will renew their strength.

One: They will rise up to fly like eagles,

All: they will run and not be weary,

One: they will walk and not grow faint.

All: Let us worship God, tender and just.

* HYMN 394

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

* CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Sarah A. Speed

* 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.)

Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall
be; set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Music: John L. Bell, 1995. Text: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1995.
© 1995 WGRG, Iona Community, Scotland, admin. GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-721169.

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, - jah!

Music: George Mxadana.
© WGRG, Iona Community, Scotland, admin. GIA Publications, 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.

ANTHEM
Fifth Avenue
Community Choir

Lead Me, Lord • *Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810–1876)*
Text: *Psalms 5:8, 12 and 4:8*

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy righteousness,
Make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord only,
That makest me dwell in safety.

Lead me, Lord, lead me in the path of truth.
Teach me, O Lord, to trust in thee.
Thou, O my Lord, will bless the righteous,
All people shall praise thee, and bless thy name.

*Children (pre-K through second grade) are invited to exit the Sanctuary for Children's Church.
If this is your child's first time at Fifth Avenue, please accompany them downstairs.*

LITANY OF PARTING

All: May God be with you there.
Children: May God be with you here.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Rev. Dr. Jonah So

MOMENT FOR COMMITMENT *Dora DePugh, Co-chair, 2023 Pledge Campaign*

ANTHEM

Beati quorum via • *C.V. Stanford (1852–1924)*, Text: *Psalm 119:1*
Beati quorum via integra est, Blessed are those who live with integrity,
qui ambulant in lege Domini. who walk in the law of the Lord.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION
Ashley Gonzalez, Director of Engagement

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Exodus 20:12-20 (*The Message*)

Honor your father and mother so that you'll live a long time in the land that God, your God, is giving you.

No murder.

No adultery.

No stealing.

No lies about your neighbor.

No lusting after your neighbor's house—or wife or servant or maid or ox or donkey. Don't set your heart on anything that is your neighbor's.

All the people, experiencing the thunder and lightning, the trumpet blast and the smoking mountain, were afraid—they pulled back and stood at a distance. They said to Moses, "You speak to us and we'll listen, but don't have God speak to us or we'll die."

Moses spoke to the people: "Don't be afraid. God has come to test you and instill a deep and reverent awe within you so that you won't sin."

Romans 7:15-20; 24-25 (*New Revised Standard Version*)

I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God, but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.

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

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston

"Desire"

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adapted from *The Confession of 1967*

God's divine love is manifest in Jesus Christ.

Watching Jesus, we see

**power in the form of a servant,
wisdom in the folly of the cross,
and goodness in the welcome our Lord extends
to sinners and outcasts,
calling all people to participate in communities
of reconciliation and hope.**

**Gathering us together under the wings of Christ,
God works to transform us and to transform the world. Amen.**

* HYMN 846

Fight the Good Fight

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 ANTHEM

"Blessed are all they that fear him," from *Elijah*
Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)
Text: Psalm 128:1 and Psalm 112:4

Blessed are all they that fear him,
They ever walk in the ways of peace.
Through darkness riseth light,
Light to the upright.
He is gracious, compassionate;
He is righteous.

* 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 65

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

* BENEDICTION

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

* CHORAL RESPONSE

God Be with You Till We Meet Again
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872–1958)
Text by Jeremiah Eames Rankin (1828–1904)

God be with you till we meet again;
Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a shepherd's care enfold you:
God be with you till we meet again.

POSTLUDE

Trio Sonata no. 6 in G major, BWV 530: I. Vivace • *J.S. Bach*

The ministry of music this morning is offered by the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church Choir

The Fifth Avenue Community Choir

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

Dr. Patrick Kreeger, Associate Organist

WORSHIP NOTES

The Anthem is a famous setting by one of the great-grandfathers of English choral music, Charles Villiers Stanford. *Beati quorum via* ("Blessed are those") is the second in a set of three motets for unaccompanied choir, composed around 1892 and published in 1905. The motets are dedicated to Alan Gray and the choir of Trinity College, Cambridge, and are widely considered to be among Stanford's finest choral compositions. In particular, the elegant six-voice part writing in *Beati quorum via* ensures its place as one of Stanford's most exquisite compositions for unaccompanied choir.

The Offertory Anthem comes from Felix Mendelssohn's *Elijah*, an English-language oratorio written in 1846 for a music festival in Birmingham, England. This piece was composed in the spirit of Mendelssohn's Baroque predecessors Bach and Handel, whose music he loved. In 1829 Mendelssohn had organized the first performance of Bach's *St. Matthew Passion* since the composer's death and was instrumental in bringing this and other Bach works to widespread popularity. *Elijah* depicts various events in the life of the Biblical prophet, and many of the texts are drawn from the first and second book of Kings, as well as the Psalms. "Blessed are all they that fear him" (originally "Blessed are the men that fear him") is one of the most well-known and frequently performed choruses from this beloved oratorio.

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.

Please pray for:

Candy Asman, Neta Beberino, Helen Betzaia, Becky Bjornstad, Benjamin Bradley Britta Cabanos, Pastor Toribio Cajiut, Ella Calderon, Denise Campbell, Phoebe Chiu Sookjoong Choi, Anne Coffey, Dr. Johanna Cook, Edna Craddock, William Cuffee Athanassia Doucas, Sherian Edgreen, David Elissa and Barbara Mitchell, Michael Elissa Narmella Elissa, Sohn Fong and Kyu Fong, Sterling Gillis IV, Wanda Roush Hannan Christopher Henderson, Maggie Hendrix, Juliet Kaldanie, Susan Kempler, Frederick Loomis Louis Sterling King, Ceciwa Khonje, Janet Lamberth, Richard J. Lawson, Mary Lowry, Lauren Ma Keiko Matsuzaki, The McCall Family, Frank Owarish, Dexter Ramcharan, Pauline Sample Robert Scheuer, Tshombe Selby, Taylor Shultz, Spencer Robert Smith, Frieda Sompotan Neva Strom, Rocco Tannehill, Harold Tither, Susan Tobiason, Betty Ty, Henny Waisapy Bill Wanek, Warren White, Suzanne Wilks, Sylvia Winrich, Deborah Wurgler, Doris Wurgler

Faithful Departed:

January 10, 2023: Philip Wesley—beloved brother of Tom Wesley.

If you would like to add a name to the church prayer list or the list of faithful departed, please contact Lisauri Marizan (congregationalcare@fapc.org, 212.247.0490).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Today

- 9 am** **Little Lambs Nursery.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- 9:30 am** **Chapel Church.** Kirkland Chapel.
- Sunday School, Children's Choir, Youth Group.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- The Word Is Out** (LGBTQ+ community group). Board Room.
- 11 am** **Worship.** Sanctuary. The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching.
- 11:15 am** **Children's Church.** Kirkland Chapel and Christian Education Center.
- 12:30 pm** **Coffee Hour.** Bonnell Hall.
- 2 pm** **Believing & Belonging: New Member Class.** Zoom. First of a two-week online class for exploring membership in Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church.
-

This Week

- Wed Jan 25** **Community Choir.** 6 pm • Jones Auditorium. All voices welcome!
- FAYA Midweek.** 6:30 pm • Corning Logan Room. Wednesday evening young adult gathering. Contact: The Rev. Sarah Speed (youngadults@fapc.org).
- Fri Jan 27** **Youth Group: Last Friday Meetup.** 7 pm • LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center. Join us for games, supper and Bible study. Contact: The Rev. Werner Ramirez (familyministries@fapc.org).
- Sat Jan 28** **Meals on Heels.** 8:30 am • Bonnell Hall. Volunteers prepare and deliver meals to homebound seniors. New volunteers are welcome and needed! Contact: John Wyatt (moh@fapc.org).

Coming Up

- Sun Jan 29** **Believing & Belonging Membership Class, Part 2.** 2 pm • Zoom. Contact: Ashley Gonzalez (membership@fapc.org).
- Webinar: Apartheid and Anti-Semitism: A Conversation Between Two Words.** 7 pm • Zoom. The second in a three-part series about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Details and registration at fapc.org/adult-ed.
- Sat Feb 4** **FAYA Believing & Belonging.** 2 pm • Corning Logan Room. A one-day class for young adults exploring membership in Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. Contact: The Rev. Sarah A. Speed (youngadults@fapc.org).
- Sun Feb 5** **Israel/Palestine: Discerning a Response.** 12:30 pm • Jones Auditorium. Our three-part Adult Education series on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict concludes.
- Fri Feb 10** **To the Hands: Songs of Compassion.** 7 pm • Kirkland Chapel. The winter concert from the Fifth Avenue Chamber Choir & Instrumentalists. Tickets available at fapc.org/tickets. The concert also will be accessible on livestream.

Next Sunday • Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

"Friend or Foe" • Luke 9:49-56

The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching.

Starting Today: Fight Like Jesus!

Senior Pastor Scott Black Johnston launches a five-week sermon series, *Fight Like Jesus: How Faith Can Inform Conflict*. This series challenges us to love our enemies by working toward reconciliation. *Fight Like Jesus* continues through Transfiguration Sunday, Feb. 19.

Today: Our Membership Class Begins

Believing & Belonging, a two-week class for anyone (anywhere!) who is considering membership in this church, takes place on Zoom today and next Sunday (Jan. 29) at 2 pm. It is not too late to register! Go to fapc.org/membership, or contact Ashley Gonzalez, director of engagement (membership@fapc.org).

Today: Deadline for Officer Recommendations

The Nominating Committee is seeking your input as it prepares a slate of officer candidates for a new three-year term. If you, or another member you know, would be a good candidate for the Session, the Board of Deacons or the Board of Trustees, please send us your recommendation. More information on the election process, and the officer recommendation form, are available at fapc.org/officer-elections. Today is the deadline for all recommendations!

Next Sunday: Discussing Apartheid and Anti-Semitism

The second in our three-part series on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict takes place next Sunday at 7 pm on Zoom. Our Adult Education program is bringing together a diverse group of expert voices to discuss apartheid and anti-Semitism in the wake of the controversial statement adopted by the Presbyterian Church (USA) General Assembly last summer. Moderator of the discussion is the Rev. J.C. Austin, senior pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, and a former parish associate at Fifth Avenue. Details on the panelists, the General Assembly statement and online registration are all available at fapc.org/adult-ed. Our series concludes on Sunday, Feb. 5.

Coming Up: The Chili Cook-Off

After a two-year Covid absence, the Chili Cook-Off is back! Sponsored by our Youth Group, the event brings some heat to a winter afternoon while raising funds to fight hunger. This year's cook-off will take place on Sunday, Feb. 12, at 12:30 pm in Bonnell Hall. Your \$10 admission goes directly to the Souper Bowl of Caring, which works to alleviate hunger in local communities. Your admission also allows you to judge all of the chilis, prepared by individuals, families and teams. Perennial champions Eleanor and Mike Peters have moved to South Carolina, opening the field for a new champion! If you want to compete for the crown, you will find entry rules and registration at fapc.org/chili.

Winter Concert: Presented Live & On Livestream

Tickets are available for *To the Hands: Songs of Compassion*, the winter concert from the Fifth Avenue Chamber Choir and Instrumentalists, set for 7 pm Friday, Feb. 10, in Kirkland Chapel. The concert features a genre-defying selection of music that sings of the blessings and challenges of human connection. At the heart of the program, and the inspiration for the concert's title, is *To the Hands*, a modern-day masterpiece for choir and strings by the Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Caroline Shaw. Go to fapc.org/tickets to reserve your seats. You can also enjoy this concert via livestream.

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*

<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Porter Binks	Jill Borrero	Eric Daniels
Bryn Hartzell	Mae Cheng-PaVon	Ann Marie Koehler
Jake Myers	Bruni Fernandez	Sara Rodgers
Patrick Obeng-Frimpong	Paul Griggs	Chris Rogers
Spencer Roberson	Claire Kedeshian	Janeen A. Sarlin
Emily Sytsma	John Kern	Meg Sheehan
Jama Toung	William Stone	Sylvia Winrich
	John Wyatt	

The Board of Deacons

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

<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Ed Fagan	Jennica Carmona	Kirsten Aiello
Carolyn Ferguson	Greg Dow	Kelly Baer
Emi Iwaida	Joann Harrah	Jessica Carmona
Lori Lauman	Beverly Elmyra Johnson	Hope Griggs
Marco Michael	Lydia Kalmen	Jane Henn
Glenda Moreland	Shane Markstrum	Sarah McKoy
Bryan Rombot	Auguste Nipabi	Jeannine Rodgers
Matt Roush	Joyce Nolen	Chad Schepp
Vijay Wijesundera	Branden Wang	Dicky Tuwaidan
	Lynn Wishart	Arthur Wong

The Board of Trustees

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

<u>Class of 2023</u>	<u>Class of 2024</u>	<u>Class of 2025</u>
Christian Bailey	Alyce Andrews	Susan Cersovsky
Amy Chung	Paula Berry	Jose Guardado
David Clark	Bob Henn	Ken Henderson
Carol Kenney	Glenn Hubbard	Joanna McNurlen
Jimmy Liu	Daniel Krueger	Jeff Rowbottom
Janet Otto		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

Lisauri Marizan
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 • Lisauri Marizan, congregationalcare@fapc.org

Hire our caterer • Rodrigo Rosas, rodrigo@roxoevents.com

Notify us of a death or illness • Lisauri Marizan, congregationalcare@fapc.org

Request a bulletin announcement • Tim Palmer Curl, fapc@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 (fapc@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

EXTRAORDINARY

Thank You for Your Support!

The 2023 Pledge Campaign has received \$3,125,948 in pledges from 382 households, putting us 98% toward our goal of \$3.2 million. Thank you! If you have not yet made your pledge to support our mission and ministries in the coming year, we need you! You will find pledge brochures at either entrance of the church. You may return your pledge card by mail or drop it in the offering plate. You can also pledge online at fapc.org/pledge, or contact Cengiz Yener (cyener@fapc.org). Together, let's do extraordinary things!

fapc.org/pledge

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



Building Hours

Mon • Thu • Fri

9 am – 5 pm

Tuesday • Wednesday

9 am – 8 pm

Saturday

8 am – 1 pm

Sunday

8 am – 2:30 pm



FAPCNYC



FAPC_NYC



FAPCinNYC



FAPC.ORG/LIVE

7 West 55th Street • New York, NY 10019