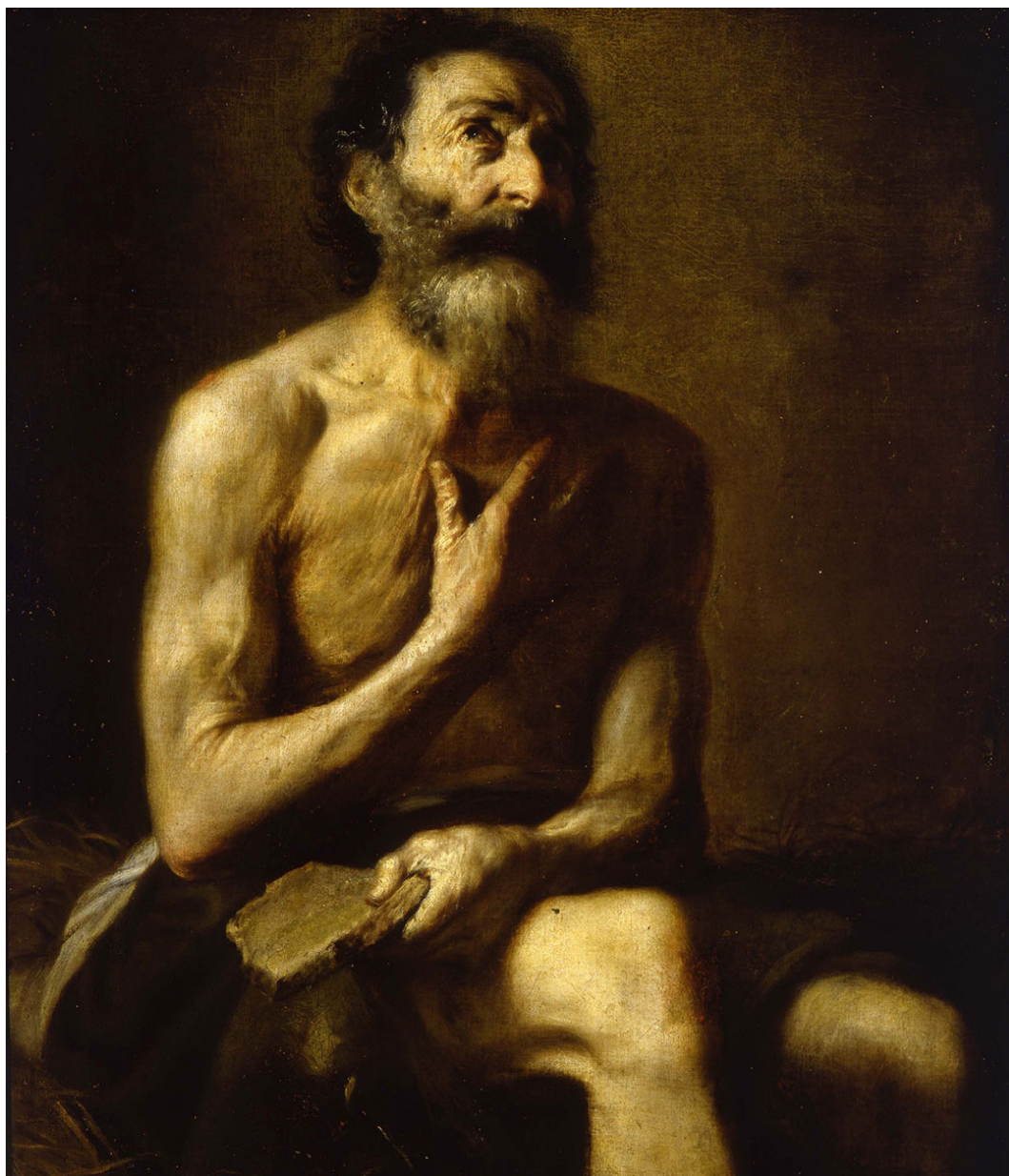


Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 22, 2023 • 11:00 AM



Jusepe de Ribera, *Giobbe*, c. 1635

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 or hymnal to follow the service.

➔ Families with Children

Children are always welcome! You will find children’s Bibles in the first 10 rows of pews on the far north side of the Sanctuary (to the right when looking down the aisle). Ushers can also provide children’s bulletins and worship bags. If you need to leave the service with your child, the ushers can direct you to the nearest changing table and livestream monitor. Every Sunday, we provide childcare for infants and toddlers from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm in the LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center. There is Sunday school for children in preschool through 5th grade at 9:30 am and Children’s Church for children in preschool through 2nd grade at 11:15 am.

➔ 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.)

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

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Nancy Moore

One: Jesus says, “Come to me, all you that are weary
and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.

All: **Jesus says: “Take my yoke upon you,
and learn from me;
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.”**

One: Jesus says, “My yoke is easy,
and my burden is light.”

All: **We yearn to have our burdens lifted.
We want to learn the ways of grace.**

One: Let us worship God!

* HYMN 756

O God of Every Nation

* 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.**

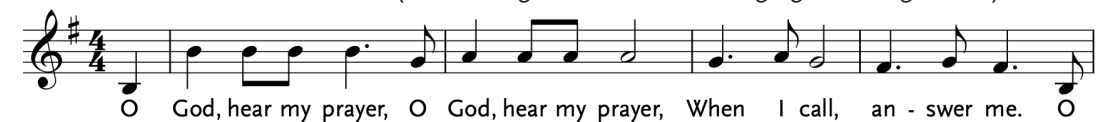
**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**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 sings once.)



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**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est!

Glo - ry to God, glo - ry to God, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

Music: Jacques Berthier, 1979. Words: Traditional Liturgical Text.
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* 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 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS
The Rev. Dr. Jonah So

MOMENT FOR COMMITMENT Darby Blaker & Matt Martinez
 2024 Pledge Campaign Co-Chairs

ANTHEM Light of a Clear Blue Morning
 Dolly Parton (b. 1946), arr. Craig Hella Johnson (b. 1962)

It's been a long, dark night,
And I've been waiting for the morning.
It's been a long, hard fight,
But I see a brand-new day a-dawning.
I've been looking for the sunshine,
'Cause I ain't seen it in so long.
Everything's gonna work out fine.
Everything's gonna be alright,
It's gonna be okay.

I can see the light of a clear blue morning.
I can see the light of a brand-new day.
I can see the light of a clear blue morning.
Everything's gonna be alright,
It's gonna be okay.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON 2 Corinthians 1:3-11

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and the God of all consolation, who consoles us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to console those who

are in any affliction with the consolation with which we ourselves are consoled by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us, so also our consolation is abundant through Christ. If we are being afflicted, it is for your consolation and salvation; if we are being consoled, it is for your consolation, which you experience when you patiently endure the same sufferings that we are also suffering.

Our hope for you is unshaken; for we know that as you share in our sufferings, so also you share in our consolation. We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, of the affliction we experienced in Asia; for we were so utterly, unbearably crushed that we despaired of life itself. Indeed, we felt that we had received the sentence of death so that we would rely not on ourselves but on God who raises the dead. He who rescued us from so deadly a peril will continue to rescue us; on him we have set our hope that he will rescue us again, as you also join in helping us by your prayers, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessing granted us through the prayers of many.

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

SERMON
The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston

“Unbearable”

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH from The Confession of 1967, Presbyterian Church (USA)

Christ's human life involves the church
in the common life of all people.
Christ's service to men and women
commits the church to work for every form of human well-being.
Christ's suffering makes the church sensitive
to all human suffering
so that it sees the face of Jesus
in the faces of persons in every kind of need.
In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming,
the church sees the promise of God's renewal of human life
in society and of God's victory over all wrong. Amen.

* HYMN 45 I to the Hills Will Lift My Eyes

NEW MEMBER RECEPTION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE
Natalie Owens-Pike, Director of Ministry to the Online Campus

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

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need
American Folk Hymn, arr. Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

My Shepherd will supply my need; Jehovah is his Name;
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back, when I forsake his ways,
And leads me for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay;
One word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows, thine oil anoints my head.
The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may thy house be mine abode and all my work be praise!
There would I find a settled rest while others go and come,
No more a stranger, nor a guest; but like a child at home.

* 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 649

Amazing Grace

* BENEDICTION

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

* CHORAL RESPONSE

May the Blessing of God Be upon You • *William H.M. Wright*
Text by R. Gordon Nodwell

May the blessing of God be upon you.
May God's love light all your way.
May the grace of Christ enfold you and peace around you stay.
May the Spirit of God dwell within you.
May you live in joy each day.

POSTLUDE

Trio Sonata no. 6 in G major, BWV 530: I. Vivace
J.S. Bach (1685–1750)

The ministry of music this morning is offered by the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church Choir
Dr. Ryan Jackson, *William S. Perper* Director of Music and Fine Arts Ministries
Dr. Patrick Kreeger, *Associate Organist* • Rebecca Soelberg, *Soprano*
Max Tan, *Violin*

WORSHIP NOTES

This morning's Anthem is Craig Hella Johnson's choral arrangement of Dolly Parton's *Light of a Clear Blue Morning*. Johnson's moving arrangement takes a more soulful and introspective tone than Parton's gospel-inspired original, replacing the driving rhythms of the band with the choir humming beneath plaintive violin and soprano solos. The choir builds in intensity over the course of the piece, leading to a lovely coda that features a mashup of musical material inspired from earlier in the song. With a blend of contemporary techniques and the original spirit of Parton's timeless classic, Johnson's arrangement is a powerful tribute to the spirit's ability to weather storms and overcome adversity.

The Offertory Anthem, Mack Wilberg's arrangement of *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need*, is a beautiful reimagining of Sir Isaac Watts' timeless hymn. This touching arrangement showcases Wilberg's particular gift for poignancy through simplicity. The piece's serene melody appears throughout in gently varied textures over a meditative organ accompaniment, while a violin duet soars above, creating a sense of weightlessness and timelessness. It is a beautiful musical expression of the spiritual comfort that countless souls have found in the words of Psalm 23 over the millennia.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

***Flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mark Cabanos Jr.,
with love from the Cabanos Family***

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, Pat Backus, Algernon John Baptiste, Neta Beberino, Helen Betzaia, Becky Bjornstad Benjamin Bradley, Britta Cabanos, Pastor Toribio Cajiuat, 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, Janet Gibbs, Wanda Roush Hannan, Christopher Henderson Donna Marie Henderson, Maggie Hendrix, Juliet Kaldanie, 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, Don Rogers, Pauline Sample Robert Scheuer, Tshombe Selby, Taylor Shultz, Spencer Robert Smith, Willie Gerald Smith Frieda Sompotan, Neva Strom, Rocco Tannehill, Harold Tither, Susan Tobiason, Caroline Todd Henny Waisapy, Bill Wanek, Warren White, Suzanne Wilks, Sylvia Winrich, Deborah Wurgler Doris Wurgler, Wayne Zhou

Faithful Departed:

October 16, 2023: Lorraine McNeil, beloved cousin of Kenneth Mulligan

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

CALENDAR

Today

9:30 am **Little Lambs Nursery, Sunday School, and Youth Group.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.

Chapel Church. Kirkland Chapel.

11 am **Worship.** Sanctuary and livestream. The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching.

12 pm **Coffee Hour.** The Weber Terrace & The Living Room.

12:30 pm **Family Ministries Fall Festival & Christmas Pageant Auditions.** Jones Auditorium.

Bagels & Bible. Romeyn Room. All 40s are welcome!

2 pm **Memorial Service for Rita Arlen.** Kirkland Chapel.

This Week

Tue Oct 24 **Staff-led Bible study.** 12 pm. For more information, please contact Christine Boyle (bible-study@fapc.org).

Wed Oct 25 **Zoom Women's Bible Study.** 8 am. For more information, please contact Jaime Staehle (adulted@fapc.org).

Community Choir Rehearsal. 6 pm • Jones Auditorium. All are welcome.

FAYA Midweeks. 6:30 pm • The Living Room. The Fifth Avenue Young Adults weekly meeting. Please contact the Rev. Sarah A. Speed (youngadults@fapc.org).

Thu Oct 26 **Career Directions.** 10 am • Zoom. A weekly online gathering for job seekers or anyone looking for career guidance. Contact Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom (membership@fapc.org) for the link.

Fri Oct 27 **Kenneth O. Jones Distinguished Service Awards.** 6:30 pm • Jones Auditorium + Bonnell Hall.

Youth Group Last Friday Meetup. 7 pm • LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center

Sat Oct 28 **Meals on Heels.** 8:30 am. Bonnell Hall. Volunteers prepare and deliver meals to homebound neighbors. New volunteers are welcome and needed! Contact: John Wyatt (moh@fapc.org).

Coming Up

Sun Oct 29 **The Desert Mothers: Spiritual Practices from the Women of the Wilderness Webinar.** 7 pm • Zoom. Register at fapc.org/adult-ed.

Next Sunday • Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

“Out of the Mouths of Babies” • Psalm 8:1-4; Matthew 18:1-5

The Rev. Werner Ramirez, preaching.

NEWS & EVENTS

Welcome New Members

A warm Fifth Avenue welcome to our new members who joined the church on October 15: Sarah Boyce, Melody Sun, Amy Smith and Lance Smith.

Today: Fall Festival & Christmas Pageant Auditions

Join us for games, crafts and, of course, a costume contest! We'll start Christmas Pageant auditions at 12:15 pm so that children can audition individually throughout the festival. Lunch will be served. A donation of \$10 per person is requested. Registration required. Visit fapc.org/event/fall-festival to register.

Tuesday, October 24: Online Bible Study

This is the perfect opportunity for you to strengthen your relationship with Scripture and deepen your faith. Throughout the year, Fifth Avenue's senior staff will guide you through some of the Bible's most thought-provoking passages. This month, Christine Boyle, Director of Outreach and Missions, leads an exploration of how the Bible depicts human migration. Beginning on Tuesday, November 7, join the Rev. Sarah A. Speed as she examines both famous and lesser-known stories of biblical women. This series meets every Tuesday at 12 pm on Zoom. For more information, please reach out to Christine Boyle (bible-study@fapc.org). To register, visit fapc.org/bible-study.

Friday, October 27: Kenneth O. Jones Distinguished Service Awards

It's one of our biggest nights of the year and we want you there when Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church holds the Kenneth O. Jones Distinguished Service Awards! The Jones Awards were created in 2011 to celebrate our congregation and recognize officers and former officers for their outstanding service to the church. The evening begins with wine and hors d'oeuvres in Jones Auditorium, followed by a three-course dinner and the awards presentation in Bonnell Hall. To secure your reservation, visit fapc.org/jones.

Friday, October 27: Youth Group Last Friday Meetup

All youth in grades 6-12 are invited for our monthly get-together, a night of pizza, games, and Bible study. For more information, please contact the Rev. Werner Ramirez (youth@fapc.org).

Women's Association Holiday Bazaar

Thursday, November 2, 10 am – 5 pm & Friday, November 3, 10 am – 4 pm

The Women's Association hosts its two-day mega-sale, with bargains in women's and men's apparel, accessories, jewelry, collectibles, art, photography, and much more! Don't miss the gourmet table while you are here. All proceeds support the ministries of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. We are also looking for volunteers to help set up, clean up, and break down. This is a fun way to help the church prepare for the holiday season. If you can lend a hand, please volunteer at fapc.org/bazaar-volunteer or email womensministry@fapc.org.

Did you know...

...that you can sponsor a Coffee Hour? In honor of a loved one, celebration of a milestone, or commemoration of a significant personal or familial event, you can support a Coffee Hour at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. Please contact Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom (engagement@fapc.org) for more information.

OFFICERS BY CLASS

The Session

The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, *Moderator* • The Rev. Dr. Jonah So, *Executive Pastor*
The Rev. Werner Ramirez, *Associate Pastor* • The Rev. Sarah Speed, *Associate Pastor*
John Wyatt, *Clerk of Session* • Meg Sheehan, *Assistant Clerk of Session*

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Jill Borrero	Eric Daniels	Rachel Brenner
Mae Cheng-PaVon	Ann Marie Koehler	Dennis Bushe
Bruni Fernandez	Sara Rodgers	Roseanne Lind
Paul Griggs	Chris Rogers	Nate Mahrer
Sam Griggs	Janeen A. Sarlin	Brian McLendon
Claire Kedeshian	Meg Sheehan	Louisa Raitt
John Kern	Sylvia Winrich	Martha Van Hise
William Stone		
John Wyatt		

The Board of Deacons

Greg Dow, *Moderator* • Joann Harrah, *Vice Moderator* • Sarah McKoy, *Secretary*
Shane Markstrum, *Treasurer*

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Jennica Carmona	Kirsten Aiello	Chrissy Badger
Greg Dow	Kelly Baer	Brendan Birth
Joann Harrah	Jessica Carmona	Joshua Code
Beverly Elmyra Johnson	Hope Griggs	Rumel Francois
Lydia Kalmen	Jane Henn	Jeanne Lehman French
Shane Markstrum	Sarah McKoy	Bruce Ramsden
Auguste Nipabi	Jeannine Rodgers	Susan Roberson
Joyce Nolen	Chad Schepp	Betsy Ross
Branden Wang	Dicky Tuwaidan	Amelia Vogler
Lynn Wishart	Arthur Wong	Julia Ward

The Board of Trustees

Ken Henderson, *President* • Joanna McNurlen, *Vice President* • Susan Cersovsky, *Secretary*
Glenn Hubbard, *Treasurer* • Alyce Andrews, *Assistant Treasurer*

Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
Alyce Andrews	Susan Cersovsky	Christopher Duffy
Paula Berry	Jose Guardado	Chris Edwards
Bob Henn	Ken Henderson	Meredith Fleck
Glenn Hubbard	Joanna McNurlen	Jane Hong
Daniel Krueger	Jeff Rowbottom	Susan Neunaber
Mark Moreland	Mark Snyder	Thomas Wesley

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-Grissom, *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*
Sean McAvoy, *Director of Communications & Development*
Can Olgun, *Director of Chapel Church Music*
Natalie Owens-Pike, *Director of Ministry to the Online Campus*
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
Natalie Wardius
congregationalcare@fapc.org



Join the church
Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom
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 • Natalie Wardius, congregationalcare@fapc.org
Hire our caterer • Rodrigo Rosas, rodrigo@roxoevents.com
Notify us of a death or illness • Natalie Wardius, congregationalcare@fapc.org
Request a bulletin announcement • Sean McAvoy, 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 Sean McAvoy (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

Mark Your Calendar!

On October 27 at 6:30 pm, we will celebrate the
Kenneth O. Jones Distinguished Service Awards.



**Reserve
Your Spot
Here!**

It's one of our biggest nights of the year! The Jones Awards began in 2011 to celebrate officers and former officers and to recognize individuals for their outstanding service to the church. The awards honor the memory of the Rev. Kenneth O. Jones, associate minister of Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church for 33 years until his death in 1996. The event begins with wine and hors d'oeuvres in Jones Auditorium, followed by a three-course dinner and the awards presentation in Bonnell Hall. See you there!

To secure your reservation, please visit fapc.org/jones or scan the QR code.

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

Monday,
Wednesday – Friday
9 am – 6 pm

Tuesday
9 am – 9 pm

Saturday
8 am – 1 pm

Sunday
8 am – 2:30 pm



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