

# Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 3, 2023 • 11:00 AM



This Is God's House. All Are Welcome.

# Welcome to Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

Whether you are visiting for the first time, or are a longtime member, we are blessed to have you with us.

The cover of this bulletin reads, “This Is God’s House. All Are Welcome.” We take these words seriously. We strive to be a community as diverse and hospitable as God’s kingdom. We don’t all look or act alike; God knows we don’t all think alike. We don’t all read the Bible the same way. We bring different questions, and we carry different burdens. But every Sunday, 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](http://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](http://fapc.org/playback). This morning’s Prayers of the People can be found at [fapc.org/pray](http://fapc.org/pray). Details about the upcoming service each week can be found at [fapc.org/this-sunday](http://fapc.org/this-sunday). For information about future worship services, visit [fapc.org/worship](http://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

Three Settings of *Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland*  
 (“Savior of the Nations, Come”), BWV 599, 659, and 661  
*J.S. Bach (1685–1750)*

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

*Elder Paul Griggs*

One: In the lonely places,  
in the wilderness  
where we stand forlorn  
windswept and alone,  
a voice calls out:

**All: Prepare a way for the Lord**

One: In the dark places,  
in the shadows  
where we clutch our fears  
and weep quiet tears,  
a voice calls out:

**All: Prepare a way for the Lord**

One: In the desert places,  
the dry spaces  
where our souls gasp  
and our canteens are empty,  
a voice calls out:

**All: Prepare a way for the Lord**

One: It is Advent, O Lord, our Lord,  
We hear your voice in the wilds.  
You are coming to make all things new.  
Our hearts jump. It is time...

**All: Prepare a way for the Lord**

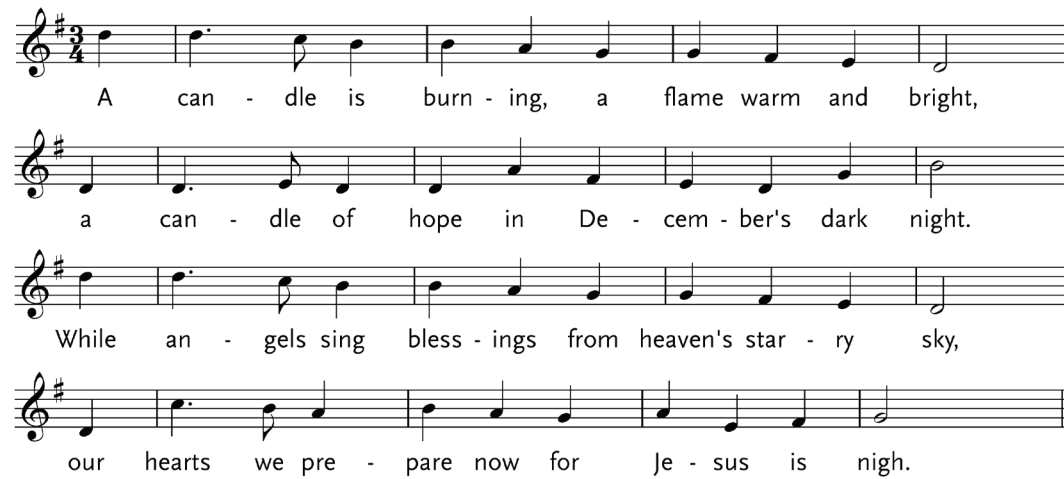
### \* PROCESSIONAL HYMN 88

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

### \* LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*Deacon Evelyn Acosta*

\* SONG RESPONSE



A can - dle is burn - ing, a flame warm and bright,  
a can - dle of hope in De - cem - ber's dark night.  
While an - gels sing bless - ings from heaven's star - ry sky,  
our hearts we pre - pare now for Je - sus is nigh.

Music: James R. Murray, 1887 - AWAY IN A MANGER. Text: Sandra Dean © 1986 Sandra Dean.  
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\* CALL TO CONFESSION

*The Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike*

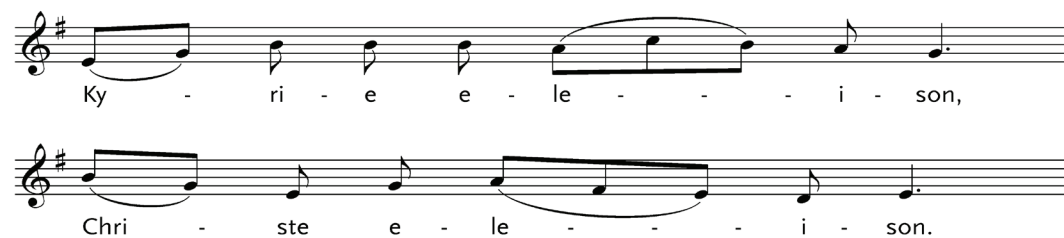
\* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**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*

\* SONG RESPONSE

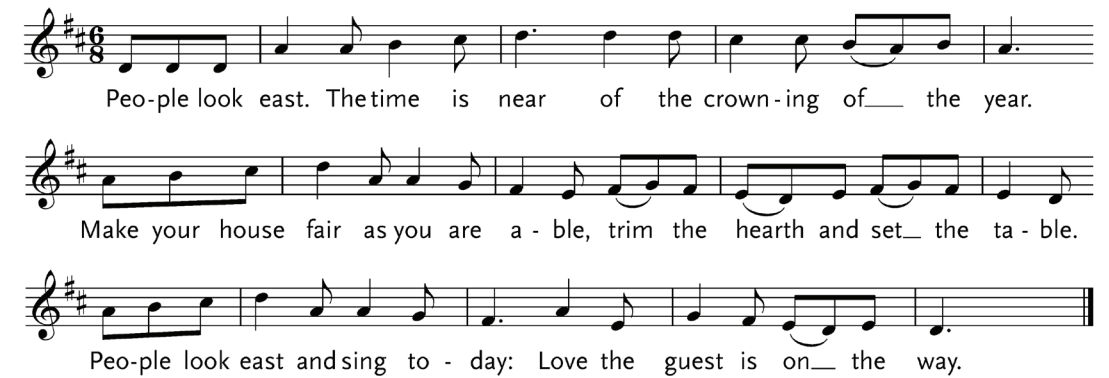
(Cantor sings once; then the congregation joins, singing once.)



Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son,  
Chri - ste e - le - i - son.

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\* RESPONSE OF PRAISE



Peo-ple look east. The time is near of the crown-ing of the year.  
Make your house fair as you are a - ble, trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.  
Peo-ple look east and sing to - day: Love the guest is on the way.

Music: French folk melody - BESANÇON. Text: Eleanor Farjeon © 1928 David Higham Associates.  
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\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

*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*

ANTHEM

E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come • *Paul Manz (1919–2009)*  
*Text: Revelation 22*

Peace be to you and grace from Him  
Who freed us from our sins,  
Who loved us all and shed His blood  
That we might saved be.

Sing Holy, Holy to our Lord,  
The Lord, Almighty God,  
Who was and is and is to come;  
Sing Holy, Holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,  
Rejoice on earth, ye saints below,  
For Christ is coming, is coming soon,  
For Christ is coming soon!

E'en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,  
And night shall be no more;  
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,  
For Christ will be their All!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON                      *Malachi 3:1-4*

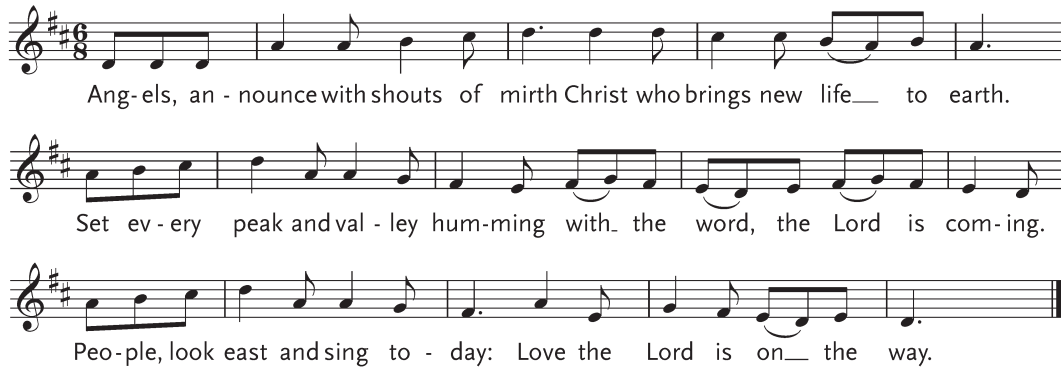
See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

SERMON                                      **“Christmas at Malachi’s House”**  
*The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston*

\* PRAYER FOR THE DAY                      **God of fresh starts, Author of morning light,  
Emmanuel who shines a beacon on our way,  
help us chart a faithful path toward Christmas.  
Awake our souls with the scent of fresh soap. Purify us.  
Take a hose and sluice away  
the anger, cynicism and fear spackling our hearts.  
Open to us a new way—the way of Advent.  
For truly, this journey, these candles, these carols,  
are exactly what our hearts most need.  
Amen.**

\* SUNG RESPONSE



Ang-els, an - nounce with shouts of mirth Christ who brings new life\_\_ to earth.

Set ev - ery peak and val - ley hum-ming with the word, the Lord is com-ing.

Peo-ple, look east and sing to - day: Love the Lord is on\_\_ the way.

Music: French folk melody - BESANÇON. Text: Eleanor Farjeon © 1928 David Higham Associates.  
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CALL TO GIVE  
*The Rev. Sarah A. Speed*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Creator of the Stars of Night • *Malcolm Archer (b. 1952)*  
*Text: Office Hymn, English text by J.M. Neale (1818–1866)*

Creator of the stars of night,  
Thy people’s everlasting light,  
Jesu, Redeemer, save us all,  
And hear thy servants when they call.

Thou camest, bridegroom of the bride,  
As drew the world to eveningtide,  
Proceeding from a virgin shrine,  
The Son of Man, yet all divine.

At thy great name, exalted now,  
All knees must bend, all hearts must bow,  
And things in heaven and earth shall own  
That thou art Lord and King alone.

To God the Father, God the Son,  
And God the Spirit, Three in One,  
Laud, honor, might, and glory be  
From age to age eternally. Amen.

\* 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.**

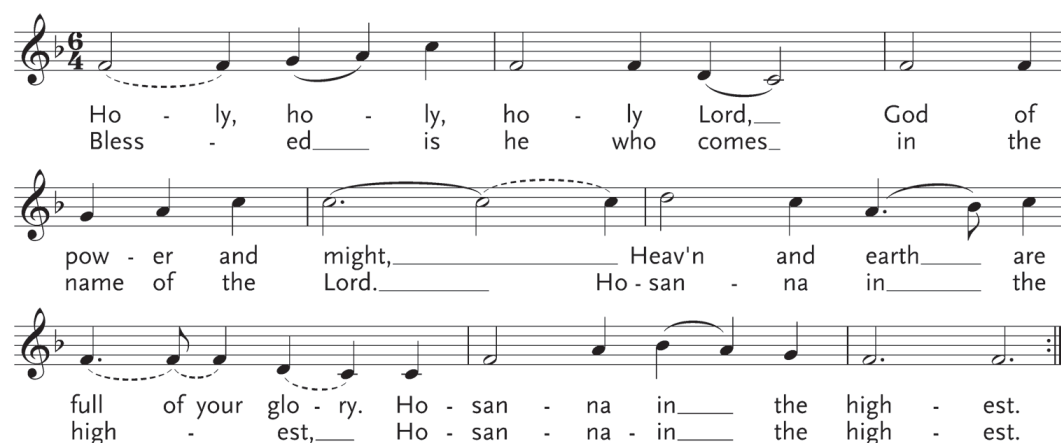
\* OFFERTORY PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.  
**All: And also with you.**  
One: Lift up your hearts.  
**All: We lift them to the Lord.**  
One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Holy God, we praise you.  
Let the heavens be joyful, and the earth be glad.  
We bless you for creating the whole world, for your promises to your people Israel,  
and for Jesus Christ, in whom your fullness dwells.



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of the  
Bless - ed is he who comes in the  
pow - er and might, Heav'n and earth are  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Born of Mary, he shares our life.  
Eating with sinners, he welcomes us.  
Guiding his children, he leads us.  
Visiting the sick, he heals us.  
Dying on the cross, he saves us.  
Rising from the dead, he gives new life.  
Living with you, he prays for us.  
Great is the mystery of faith:



Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.  
Christ has died; Christ is ris - en; Christ will come a - gain.

With thanksgiving we take this bread and this cup  
and proclaim the death and resurrection of our Lord.  
Receive our sacrifice of praise.  
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, that this meal may be a communion  
in the body and blood of our Lord.  
Make us one with Christ and with all who share this feast.  
Unite us in faith, encourage us with hope, inspire us to love,  
that we may serve as your faithful disciples until we feast at your table in glory.  
We praise you, eternal God, through Christ your Word made flesh,  
in the holy and life-giving Spirit, now and forever.



A - men, a - men, a - - - men.

Music: American folk melody, arr. Richard Proulx, 1984 - LAND OF REST. Text: Traditional liturgical text.  
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## 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.**

## COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

### COMMUNION ANTHEM

*Veiled in Darkness • Glenn Rudolph (b. 1951)*

Veiled in darkness Judah lay, waiting for the promised day,  
While across the shadowy night streamed a flood of glorious light,  
Heavenly voices chanted then, "Peace on earth, goodwill to men."

Still the earth in darkness lies, up from death's dark vale arise  
Voices of a world in grief, prayers of all who seek relief;  
Now our darkness pierce again,  
"Peace on earth, goodwill to men."

Light of light, we humbly pray, shine upon thy world today;  
Break the gloom of our dark night,  
fill our souls with love and light,  
Send thy blessed words again, "Peace on earth, goodwill to men."

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\* HYMN 348

**Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending**

\* BENEDICTION

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

\* CHORAL RESPONSE

*Thou Shalt Know Him When He Comes • Mark G. Sirett (b. 1952)*  
*Text: Anonymous*

Thou shalt know him when he comes,  
Not by any din of drums,  
Nor his manners, nor his airs,  
Nor by anything he wears.  
Thou shalt know him when he comes,  
Not by his crown or by his gown,  
But his coming known shall be,  
By the holy harmony which his coming makes in thee.  
Thou shalt know him when he comes. Amen.

### POSTLUDE

*Toccata on Veni Emmanuel ("O Come, O Come, Emmanuel")*  
*Andrew Carter (b. 1939)*

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

## CALENDAR

### Today

<b>9:30 am</b>	<b>Advent Festival.</b> Join the families of Fifth Avenue as we prepare for the holy season. <b>Chapel Church.</b> Kirkland Chapel.
<b>10:15 am</b>	<b>Children's Choir.</b> LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
<b>11 am</b>	<b>Worship.</b> Sanctuary.
<b>11:15 am</b>	<b>Children's Church.</b> Kirkland Chapel & Christian Education Center.
<b>12 pm</b>	<b>Coffee Hour.</b> Narthex and online. <b>Tour the Church.</b> Meet at the rear of the Sanctuary following worship.
<b>12:15 pm</b>	<b>Fifth Avenue Caroling.</b> Front steps. Join our band, Chapel Church Music, as they serenade passersby on Fifth Avenue.
<b>2 pm</b>	<b>The Joe Vedella Holiday Dinner.</b> Bonnell Hall. Our annual holiday feast with our homeless neighbors.

### This Week

<b>Tue Dec 5</b>	<b>Weekly Word Bible Study.</b> 12 pm. For more information, please contact Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom ( <a href="mailto:bible-study@fapc.org">bible-study@fapc.org</a> ).
<b>Wed Dec 6</b>	<b>Zoom Women's Bible Study.</b> 8 am. For more information, please contact Jaime Staehle ( <a href="mailto:adulted@fapc.org">adulted@fapc.org</a> ). <b>Memorial service for Keiko Matsuzaki.</b> 12 pm • Kirkland Chapel. <b>Community Choir.</b> 6 pm • Jones Auditorium. All voices are welcome! <b>Asian-American Bible Study.</b> 6:30 pm • 6th Floor Conference Room and Zoom. <b>FAYA Midweeks.</b> 6:30 pm • The Living Room. The Fifth Avenue Young Adults weekly meeting. Please contact the Rev. Sarah A. Speed ( <a href="mailto:youngadults@fapc.org">youngadults@fapc.org</a> ).
<b>Thu Dec 7</b>	<b>Career Directions.</b> 10 am • Zoom. A weekly online gathering for job seekers or anyone looking for career guidance. Contact Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom ( <a href="mailto:membership@fapc.org">membership@fapc.org</a> ) for the link.
<b>Fri Dec 8 &amp; Sat Dec 9</b>	<b>Carols by Candlelight: The Advent Concert.</b> 7 pm • Kirkland Chapel. Purchase your tickets online at <a href="http://fapc.org/tickets">fapc.org/tickets</a> .
<b>Sat Dec 9</b>	<b>Meals on Heels.</b> 8:30 am • Bonnell Hall. Volunteers prepare and deliver meals to homebound neighbors. Volunteers needed! Contact: John Wyatt ( <a href="mailto:moh@fapc.org">moh@fapc.org</a> ).

### Coming Up

<b>Sun Dec 10</b>	<b>Bagels &amp; Bible.</b> 12:30 pm • Romeyn Room. All 40s are welcome!
<b>Wed Dec 13</b>	<b>Blue Christmas.</b> 6:30 pm • Kirkland Chapel. The Rev. Kate Dunn, presiding.

### Next Sunday · Second Sunday of Advent

"Christmas at Isaiah's House" • Isaiah 42:1-4  
The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching.

## NEWS & EVENTS

### TODAY

#### Family Ministries Advent Festival

Come prepare for the Advent season with the families of Fifth Avenue in the LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center. We will enjoy breakfast together, create crafts, decorate trees, and sing some favorite carols. For more information, please contact Jaime Staehle ([familyministries@fapc.org](mailto:familyministries@fapc.org)).

#### Fifth Avenue Caroling – Week 1

Join our amazing band, Chapel Church Music, on the Fifth Avenue steps after today's 11 am service. These talented musicians will serenade our beloved city with a wonderful arrangement of holiday favorites. Grab a cup cocoa or coffee and join in the cheer!

### Tuesday, December 5: Weekly Word Bible Study

This is the perfect opportunity for you to strengthen your relationship with Scripture and deepen your faith. Throughout the year, senior staff will guide you through some of the Bible's most thought-provoking passages. This month, Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom will lead an Advent Bible study. Weekly Word meets every Tuesday at 12 pm on Zoom. For more information, please reach out to Ashley at [bible-study@fapc.org](mailto:bible-study@fapc.org). To register, visit [fapc.org/bible-study](http://fapc.org/bible-study).

### Friday, December 8 & Saturday, December 9: Carols by Candlelight: The Advent Concert

Step away from the bustle of Christmas preparations for an hour of choral music and congregational carols in the candlelit beauty of Kirkland Chapel. Each night at 7 pm, Broadway star and beloved member of the Fifth Avenue Family Jeanne Lehman reads seasonal poetry as the Chamber Choir performs a selection of familiar music and new treasures that illuminate the wonder and majesty of Jesus's birth. You can purchase your tickets online at [fapc.org/events](http://fapc.org/events).

### Sunday, December 10: Unwrapping Joy

Do you know the history behind some of our most beloved Christmas carols? In the holy time of Advent, join us as we discover the background to some of our most oft-sung holiday tunes. You will find new meaning for the season! Register online at [fapc.org/adult-ed](http://fapc.org/adult-ed) or email Jaime Staehle ([adulted@fapc.org](mailto:adulted@fapc.org)).

### Monday, December 11: Shelter Family Christmas Party

A longstanding Fifth Avenue tradition continues as we throw a holiday party for children and families in the city shelter system. Volunteers will welcome our guests, attend to more than 40 children, and help create an evening of merriment. The event takes place from 5:30 until 8 pm. Volunteers are needed as early as 4:30 pm. More specific times will be provided when you volunteer. Help us make this holiday a special one for our neighbors!

### Wednesday, December 13: Blue Christmas Worship Service

As the rest of the world rushes toward the Christmas holiday, our Blue Christmas service reminds us that Advent is a time of quiet contemplation and preparation. This service can also be healing for those who find the holidays difficult. Many worshipers have described Blue Christmas as one of the most beautiful and restorative services of the year. It begins at 6:30 pm in Kirkland Chapel.

## GETTING CONNECTED

### Adult Education

Each spring and fall, we offer courses in theology and Scripture, spirituality, social issues and other disciplines. The curriculum includes visiting authors, interfaith dialogue and other events. We offer classes in person, online and via podcast. All classes are free and open to all. Information on upcoming classes is available at [fapc.org/adult-ed](http://fapc.org/adult-ed).

### Community Groups

Want stronger relationships? Community groups make that possible. We have over 20 community groups to help you form closer bonds within the Fifth Avenue family. Options available online and in-person. Learn more at [fapc.org/community-groups](http://fapc.org/community-groups), or contact Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom, director of engagement ([membership@fapc.org](mailto:membership@fapc.org)).

### Congregational Care

If you (or others you know in our congregation) are going through a difficult time, we are here for you. We have a team of dedicated staff and volunteers who are available for counseling, home and hospital visits, medical escorts and prayer. You may also visit [fapc.org/care](http://fapc.org/care) to submit a prayer request and learn more about our Congregational Care program.

### Family Ministries

Family Ministries brings together families from diverse backgrounds to nurture healthy children and strong, faithful families. Our Little Lambs nursery for infants and toddlers is available every Sunday from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm. Sunday School and Youth Group take place at 9:30 am during the program year (September through May). Children depart the 11 am worship service to attend Children's Church every Sunday (except for our summer break, from June 25 until Homecoming). We also sponsor special events for families and kids throughout the year. Learn more and register your child at [fapc.org/family](http://fapc.org/family). Contact: Jaime Staehle (212.247.0490 ext 3003, [familyministries@fapc.org](mailto:familyministries@fapc.org)).

### FAYA | Fifth Avenue Young Adults

FAYA is an open and affirming community for those in their 20s and 30s, led by the Rev. Sarah Speed. During the program year, we meet every Wednesday night for small groups, supper, Bible study and fellowship. Find out more about our weekly gatherings, monthly fellowship events and weekend retreats at [fapc.org/faya](http://fapc.org/faya) or on Instagram [@fapcfaya](https://www.instagram.com/fapcfaya). Or contact Sarah ([youngadults@fapc.org](mailto:youngadults@fapc.org)). We'd love to get to know you!

### Membership

When we say "All are welcome," we mean it. Whether you live in the neighborhood, or across the country, we welcome you to join our family of faith. Through our Believing and Belonging seminars, you explore what it means to be a part of the Christian church, the Presbyterian tradition and Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church. Whether you're sure membership is right for you, or you're just beginning to wonder if this might be your spiritual home, we'd love to have you in an upcoming in-person or online class. Visit [fapc.org/membership](http://fapc.org/membership) to register, or contact Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom, director of engagement (212.247.0490 ext 3005, [membership@fapc.org](mailto:membership@fapc.org)).

### Music & Arts

Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church is home to a versatile program of music and arts in our worship and community life that endeavors to inspire, challenge and comfort all who encounter it, and to provide opportunities to share our artistic gifts. In addition to the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church Choir and Chamber Choir, we offer the Fifth Avenue Community Choir for anyone who loves to sing. Visit [fapc.org/choirs](http://fapc.org/choirs) to learn more. The Arts & Our Faith Committee sponsors exhibitions of art, history and photography in the Chesnut Gallery, often featuring work by members of the congregation. Theatre Fellowship is a community of artists and artisans that promotes congregational fellowship through our shared love of the theater.

### Outreach Ministries

Through our Outreach Ministries, hundreds of members and friends of the church are engaged in volunteering, advocacy and service. Our programs include our Befriending Ministry on behalf of our neighbors experiencing homelessness; the Ecumenical Outreach Partnership, a collaborative ministry with Saint Thomas Church and St. Patrick's Cathedral that serves the homeless population of Midtown; A Place at the Table, a twice-weekly sidewalk lunch for our homeless and hungry neighbors; and Meals on Heels, Saturday-morning meal preparation and delivery to homebound seniors. We also maintain mission partner relationships with local, national and international organizations. Our current mission partners are:

Church of Gethsemane	Parity
The Farminary Project	Search and Care
Garden of Hope	Urban Outreach Center NYC
Hands Along the Nile Development Services	West Side Federation for Senior and Supportive Housing
Holmes Camp and Retreat Center	
Ministry of Hope Lesotho	
Mission co-workers in	
Madagascar, the Philippines	
& the U.S.–Mexico border	

To learn more, visit [fapc.org/outreach](http://fapc.org/outreach), or contact Christine Boyle, director of outreach and missions (212.247.0490 ext 3006, [outreach@fapc.org](mailto:outreach@fapc.org)).

### Volunteering

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

### Women's Association

The roots of the Women's Association date to 1810, shortly after the church was founded. Today we offer a year-round program of education, service, prayer and benevolence. The Women's Association Holiday Bazaar in early November supports the ministries of the church and other benevolences. We also host a Christmas Tea for the congregation each December. We welcome you to take part! Contact: The Rev. Sarah A. Speed ([womensministry@fapc.org](mailto:womensministry@fapc.org)).

## 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

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Shane Markstrum, *Treasurer*

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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
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Class of 2024	Class of 2025	Class of 2026
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## 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*

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The Rev. Kate Dunn, *Parish Visitor*

The Rev. Dr. Patricia Kitchen, *Parish Associate*

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

The Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike, *Director of Ministry to the Online Campus*

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*

Stephanie Kelley, *Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor & Director of Special Projects*

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*

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](mailto:familyministries@fapc.org)



### Fund the altar flowers

Natalie Wardius  
[congregationalcare@fapc.org](mailto:congregationalcare@fapc.org)



### Join the church

Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom  
[membership@fapc.org](mailto:membership@fapc.org)



### Make a donation

[fapc.org/give](http://fapc.org/give)



### Plan your wedding

Donna Ketchledge  
[weddings@fapc.org](mailto:weddings@fapc.org)



### Planned giving

Richard Schexnider  
[finance@fapc.org](mailto:finance@fapc.org)



### Prepare for baptism

Jaime Staehle  
[familyministries@fapc.org](mailto:familyministries@fapc.org)

**Add a name to the prayer list** • Natalie Wardius, [congregationalcare@fapc.org](mailto:congregationalcare@fapc.org)

**Hire our caterer** • Rodrigo Rosas, [rodrigo@roxoevents.com](mailto:rodrigo@roxoevents.com)

**Notify us of a death or illness** • Natalie Wardius, [congregationalcare@fapc.org](mailto:congregationalcare@fapc.org)

**Request a bulletin announcement** • Sean McAvoy, [fapc@fapc.org](mailto:fapc@fapc.org)

**Update contact information in our database** • [update@fapc.org](mailto: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](mailto: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

# Abiding Light

The 2024 Pledge Campaign

**Have you pledged?**

308 families have pledged \$2,707,012  
towards our \$3.5 million goal.

**Thank you!**

Your pledge supports our worship services,  
music ministries, online campus, outreach  
to our neighbors, educational offerings,  
and so much more.

Please visit [fapc.org/pledge](https://fapc.org/pledge) today  
and help us meet our goal.

## 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](https://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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