



# Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT  
MARCH 9, 2025 • 11:00 AM



The Temptations of Christ in the Basilica of St. Mark, Venice

**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

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## ➔ **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

Chorale Preludes • *Ethel Smyth (1858–1944)*  
I. *Du, O schönes Weltgebäude!* ("O Thou Fair Earth!")  
II. *O Gott du frommer Gott* ("O God, Thou Faithful God")

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

*Elder Sylvia Winrich*

*Psalm 100*

One: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

**All: Worship the Lord with gladness.**

One: Come into God's presence with singing!

**All: For the Lord is a gracious God,**

One: whose mercy is everlasting;

**All: and whose faithfulness endures  
to all generations.**

One: Let us worship Almighty God, tender and just.

### \* HYMN 167

**Forty Days and Forty Nights**

### \* 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

O Lamb of God most ho - ly! Who on the cross did suf - fer,  
And pa - tient still and low - ly, Your - self to scorn did of - fer;  
Our sins by You were tak - en, Or hope had us for - sak - en:  
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus!

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\* RESPONSE OF PRAISE

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,  
What wondrous love is this, O my soul,  
What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
To bear the heavy cross for my soul, for my soul,  
To bear the heavy cross for my soul!

Music: Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835 - WONDROUS LOVE. Text: American folk hymn, c. 1811.

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

ANTHEM  
Children's Choir

Come, Let Us Sing • *Becki Slagle Mayo (b. 1956)*

*Refrain*

*Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord,  
God has done great things!  
Come, let us sing with joy to the Lord,  
praises to God we bring.*

Enter his gates with thankful hearts,  
enter his courts with praise.  
Serve the Lord with gladness,  
serve him all your days. *Refrain.*

Enter his gates with thankful hearts,  
enter his courts with praise.  
Bless his name forever,  
joyful voices raise. *Refrain.*

Know that the Lord is God. He is the One who made us.  
Know that the Lord is God. We are his sheep.  
We are his people. He is our God.

Alleluia, God has done great things!  
Alleluia, praise to God we bring.  
Come, let us sing!

Come, let us sing! Come, let us sing to the Lord!

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SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Baptismal Questions  
Prayer of Thanksgiving  
Baptism

\* CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

**With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's Church;  
for we are all one in Christ.**

**We promise to love, encourage and support you,  
to share the good news of the gospel with you,  
and to help you know and follow Christ.**

*Choir and Congregation*

\* SUNG RESPONSE

**Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit,  
Marked with the sign of Christ, our King;  
Born of the Spirit, we are God's children  
Joyfully now God's praises we sing.**

*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. Chris Palmer*

TESTIMONY

*Shawn Minegishi*

ANTHEM

Bring us, O Lord God • *William H. Harris (1883–1973)*  
*Text by John Donne (1572–1631)*

Bring us, O Lord God, at our last awakening  
Into the house and gate of Heaven,  
To enter into that gate and dwell in that house,  
Where there shall be no darkness nor dazzling,  
But one equal light;  
No noise nor silence, but one equal music;  
No fears nor hopes, but one equal possession;  
No ends nor beginnings, but one equal eternity:  
In the habitation of thy glory and dominion,  
World without end. Amen.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

*Luke 4:1-13*

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tempted by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over, he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.'" Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the king

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doms of the world. And the devil said to him, “To you I will give their glory and all this authority; for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.” Jesus answered him, “It is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’” Then the devil took him to Jerusalem, and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, ‘He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’” Jesus answered him, “It is said, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’” When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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

SERMON

*The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston*

**“Say Amen to Trust”**

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *Belonging to God: A First Catechism*  
Presbyterian Church (USA), 1998

One: Who are you?

All: **I am a child of God.**

One: What does it mean to be a child of God?

All: **That I belong to God, who loves me. Amen.**

\* HYMN 783

**When We Are Tested**

\* INVITATION TO LENT

One: I invite you, my friends,  
in the name of Jesus,  
to observe a holy Lent.

All: **We know what Christ calls us to do.  
Let us seek quiet places.  
Let us examine our hearts.  
Let us repent where we have strayed.  
Let us abstain from choices  
that harm us and our relationships.  
Let us return to God in prayer.  
Let us read and meditate on Scripture.  
Let us encourage one another  
to love and good deeds.  
Let us care for the poor and those in need.  
Lead us, gracious God, in your way this Lent.  
Guide our steps. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike*

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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.**

CALL TO GIVE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Take My Life, and Let It Be • *Ruth Watson Henderson (b. 1932)*  
*Text: Frances Ridley Havergal (1836–1879)*

Take my life, and let it be  
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
Take my moments and my days;  
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move  
At the impulse of thy love;  
Take my feet, and let them be  
Swift and beautiful for thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing  
Always, only, for my King;  
Take my lips, and let them be  
Filled with messages from thee.  
Take my silver and my gold,  
Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect and use  
Every power as thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it thine;  
It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is thine own;  
It shall be thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
At thy feet its treasure store:  
Take myself, and I will be,  
Ever, only, all for thee.

\* 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

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\* HYMN 166

**Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days**

\* BENEDICTION

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

\* CHORAL RESPONSE

A Celtic Prayer • *Barry Peters, Text: Traditional*

May the Christ who walks on wounded feet  
walk with you on the road.

May the Christ who serves with wounded hands  
stretch out your hands to serve.

May the Christ who loves with a wounded heart  
open up your hearts to love.

May you see the face of Christ in everyone you meet,  
And may everyone you meet see the face of Christ in you.  
Amen.

POSTLUDE

Prelude in G major • *Fanny Hensel (1805–1847)*

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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*

Children's Choir

Eugenia Oi Yan Yau, *Director* • Pablo Molano, *Pianist*

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## WORSHIP NOTES

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The Anthem is one of several famous pieces for double choir composed by the great English choral composer William Harris. Harris was professor of organ and harmony at the Royal College of Music from 1921 until 1955. He became the organist at St. George's Chapel, Windsor, in 1933. Harris directed the music for the coronation ceremony of King George VI in 1937 and for Queen Elizabeth II's coronation in 1953. This morning's Anthem, "Bring us, O Lord God," was composed rather late in his career in 1959. Scored for double choir a cappella, the piece is a beautiful setting of a religious poem by John Donne. Harris's musical language is evocative and spacious, and together with Donne's mystical text, paints a radiant picture of heaven. The piece builds to a grand, resplendent climax on the words, 'World without end,' but the most intimate and reflective music is saved for the transcendental, concluding 'Amens.'



## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

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### **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](http://fapc.org/prayer-requests).

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### **Please pray for:**

Ann Alexander, Pat Backus, Neta Beberino, Helen Betzaia, Becky Bjornstad, Patricia Blair, Sarah Boyce, Benjamin Bradley, Britta Cabanos, Pastor Toribio Cajiuat, Ella Calderon, Denise Campbell, Nina S. 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, Irene P. Gilman, Anthea and Neville Graham, Florence Hall, Torian Hall, Peter S. Hawkins, Carol Healy, Christopher Henderson, Donna Marie Henderson, Maggie Hendrix, Emi Iwaida, Tara Kay Johnson, Juliet Kaldanie, Ceciwa Khonje, Louis Sterling King, Janet Lamberth, Richard J. Lawson, Frederick Loomis, Violet Lorenzen, Mary Lowry, Lauren Ma, The McCall Family, Epifania Mercado, Ryan Moloughney, Gerry Nagy, Frank Owarish, Emmett Raitt, Dexter Ramcharan, Arthur Richmond, Ramon Rosa, Pauline Sample, Robert Scheuer, Taylor Shultz, Bonnie Smith, Monica Smith, Spencer Robert Smith, Willie Gerald Smith, Frieda Sompotan, Neva Strom, Lorraine Sukhu, Rocco Tannehill, Harold Tither, Susan Tobiason, Henny Waisapy, Bill Wanek, Warren White, Suzanne Wilks, Sylvia Winrich, Deborah Wurgler, Doris Wurgler

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### **Faithful Departed:**

March 1, 2025: Susan Story Pittman, beloved mother of Jennifer Bailey and Katie Purcell, beloved mother in law of Christian Bailey and Tom Purcell. Beloved grandmother of Nathan and Dylan Bailey, and Daisy and Theo Purcell.

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](mailto:congregationalcare@fapc.org), 212.247.0490).

## CALENDAR

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### Today

- 9:30 am**      **Chapel Church.** Jones Auditorium.  
**Sunday School & Little Lambs Nursery.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- 10:15 am**      **Children's Choir.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.  
**Parents Community Group.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- 11 am**          **Worship.** Sanctuary & Livestream.  
**Youth Group.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- 11:15 am**      **Children's Church.** Christian Education Center.
- 12:15 pm**      **Coffee Hour.** Bonnell Hall. Join us after worship for a cup of coffee and an opportunity to chat with clergy and friends.  
**Tour of the Church.** After worship, look for a docent in the back of the Sanctuary with a "tour starts here" sign.
- 12:30 pm**      **Sermon Springboard.** Zoom. Join Rev. Natalie and members of the online campus for sermon discussion and fellowship.
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### This Week

- Tue March 11**      **Weekly Word Bible Study.** 12 pm • Zoom. For more information, please email [bible-study@fapc.org](mailto:bible-study@fapc.org). To register, visit [fapc.org/bible](http://fapc.org/bible).
- Wed March 12**      **Community Choir.** 6 pm • Jones Auditorium. All voices are welcome!  
**FAYA Midweek.** 6:30 pm • The Living Room. To learn more, contact [youngadults@fapc.org](mailto:youngadults@fapc.org)
- Thu March 13**      **Career Directions.** 10 am • Zoom. Visit [fapc.org/community-groups](http://fapc.org/community-groups) to learn more and to sign up.
- Sat March 15**      **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](mailto:moh@fapc.org)).  
**FAYA Believing & Belonging Membership Class.** 2 pm • The Living Room.

### Coming Up

- Sun March 16**      **International Women's Day Lunch & Learn.** 12:30 pm. The cost is \$10. Head to [fapc.org/lunch](http://fapc.org/lunch) to learn more and register.  
**Deacons' Clothing Drive Concludes.** 9 am • 55th Street Lobby.  
**Adult Education: Forgiveness in Focus: A Study of Matthew 18.** 7 pm • Zoom.

### Next Sunday • Second Sunday in Lent

"Say Amen to Celebration" • John 2:1-12  
*The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching.*

## NEWS & EVENTS

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### **Today: Deacons Annual Clothing Drive Begins**

This year the drive will benefit the Ecumenical Outreach Partnership and the Samaritan's Closet, a collaborative ministry of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church and St. James Episcopal Church. Drop off your new or lightly used clothing at the 55th Street reception desk during the week or bring them to church on Sunday, March 16. In demand: casual spring and summer clothing; packages of new underwear and socks, especially men's. If you are unable to come by in person, you are welcome to order socks and underwear and ship them directly to the church, to the attention of Natalie Wardius. Thank you for your generosity!

### **Saturday, March 15: Fifth Avenue Young Adults (FAYA) Believing & Belonging Membership Class**

There are few things more meaningful than rooting yourself in community, and there is always more room for people to be rooted in ours! If you are a young adult thinking about joining the church, come to our FAYA membership class. It's a fun afternoon, complete with confetti cannons, a church tour, interviews with older members, meaningful conversation and statements of faith. Whether or not you've been in church your whole life or if you've been skeptical all your life, we'd love for you to take part in the conversation. Email [youngadults@fapc.org](mailto:youngadults@fapc.org) to join.

### **Sunday, March 16: International Women's Day Lunch and Learn**

Celebrate International Women's Day this March by joining us for a special Lunch and Learn event, part of two powerful weeks dedicated to advancing gender equality alongside the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). Gather around the table with us as we share a meal, connect deeply, and engage with meaningful insights and transformative conversation. The cost for lunch is \$10. Questions? Email the Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike at [womensministry@fapc.org](mailto:womensministry@fapc.org). To learn more and register, visit [fapc.org/lunch](http://fapc.org/lunch).

### **Sunday, March 16: Forgiveness in Focus: A Study of Matthew 18**

Join us for an engaging Zoom class at 7 pm on forgiveness, led by Dr. Susan Hulen, Professor of New Testament at Candler School of Theology, as she explores the teachings of Jesus found in Matthew 18. Dr. Hulen will guide us through Jesus's instructions on forgiveness, exploring its complexities and challenges within the context of Christian life. This session will offer fresh insights into one of the Bible's most powerful passages, inviting us to reflect deeply on the transformative power of forgiveness. Learn more and register at [fapc.org/forgive](http://fapc.org/forgive).

### **Sunday, March 23: Blessed are the Peacebuilders: How to Heal Conflicts Between LGBT and Faith Communities**

You are invited to join an interactive workshop that will empower you to use your own values and beliefs to transform LGBTQ+ polarization and build loving communities at home, work, and in the larger world. We will meet at 12:30 pm in Jones Auditorium. For more information reach out to Austin Applebach at [aapplebach@fapc.org](mailto:aapplebach@fapc.org)

### **Thursday, March 27: Good Soil: The Education of an Accidental Farmhand**

Join us as Jeff Chu and Austin Channing Brown discuss Jeff's new book, *Good Soil*. After leaving journalism for Princeton Seminary's "Farminary," Jeff discovered how the rhythms of the land—growth, decay, and renewal—mirror our spiritual and personal journeys. Through storytelling, he reflects on belonging, community, and our sacred connection to the earth—inviting us to slow down and learn from the land. Books will be available for purchase. Doors open at 6:30 pm, and the event is free with registration. Register at [fapc.org/goodsoil](http://fapc.org/goodsoil).

## GETTING CONNECTED

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### Adult Education

Each spring and fall, we offer courses in theology and Scripture, spirituality, social issues and other disciplines. 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

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 email ([membership@fapc.org](mailto:membership@fapc.org)).

### Congregational Care

If you (or someone you know) are going through a difficult time, we are here for you. We are available for counseling, home and hospital visits, medical escorts and prayer. Please 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 nurtures diverse, strong, faithful families. Our Little Lambs nursery for infants and toddlers is available every Sunday from 9 am to 12:30 pm during the program year (September–May). Sunday School (PreK – 5th Grade) is at 9:30 am and Children’s Church (PreK – 2nd Grade) is following the Litany of Parting during the 11 am worship service during the program year. Youth Group worships at Chapel Church at 9:30 am and meets at 11 am. On the first Sunday of the month, Youth Group worships at both services. Learn more 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. 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).

### Hybrid Church

Did you know that this church has a vibrant online community? Whether you’re a New Yorker worshipping from home, a longtime member who moved, or a visitor new to our livestream, you are a part of our online campus! There are many ways you can get involved. Don’t miss our virtual small groups, online office hours for pastoral care, retreat programming and seasonal gatherings here at Fifth Avenue. Contact Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike at [hybridchurch@fapc.org](mailto:hybridchurch@fapc.org) for more information.

### 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) or email [membership@fapc.org](mailto:membership@fapc.org) to register.

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## 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:

Asylum Support Clinic	Hands Along the Nile Development Services
Church of Gethsemane	Holmes Camp and Retreat Center
The Farminary Project	Ministry of Hope Lesotho
Garden of Hope	Mission co-workers in Madagascar, the Philippines & the U.S.–Mexico border
Good Samaritan Project	Parity
First Spanish Presbyterian Church	Urban Outreach Center NY
Green City Force	

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).

## Fifth Avenue Women's Ministry

For generations, the women of Fifth Avenue have gathered for service, fellowship, and deeper faith. Standing on the shoulders of those who have gone before, we continue to connect and would love to include you in our community. The women's ministry at Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church is trans affirming and welcoming to women of any age and stage. We meet for annual retreats, fellowship events, Bible study, and small groups. To learn more and get involved, email [womensministry@fapc.org](mailto:womensministry@fapc.org) or visit [fapc.org/women](http://fapc.org/women).

## OFFICERS BY CLASS

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### The Session

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The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, *Moderator* • The Rev. Dr. Jonah So, *Executive Pastor*  
The Rev. Werner Ramirez, *Associate Pastor* • The Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike, *Associate Pastor*  
The Rev. Chris Palmer, *Associate Pastor* • Meg Sheehan, *Clerk of Session*  
Dennis Bushe, *Assistant Clerk of Session*

#### Class of 2025

Eric Daniels  
Carol Kenney  
Ann Marie Koehler  
Chris Rogers  
Janeen A. Sarlin  
Meg Sheehan  
Sienna Toung  
Sylvia Winrich

#### Class of 2026

Rachel Brenner  
Dennis Bushe  
Roseanne Lind  
Nate Mahrer  
Brian McLendon  
Louisa Raitt  
Martha Van Hise

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Josie Lawrence  
Persis Luke  
Patrick Obeng-Frimpong  
Thomas Pak  
David Roberson  
Beth Rumore Stanley  
Jama Toung

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

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Brendan Birth  
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Rumel Francois  
Jeanne Lehman French  
Bruce Ramsden  
Susan Roberson  
Betsy Ross  
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Julia Ward

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Kyle Hughes  
Susie Hunter  
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Jamie Ku  
Elizabeth (Beth) McCullough  
Kathy Peterson  
Nicole Rusk

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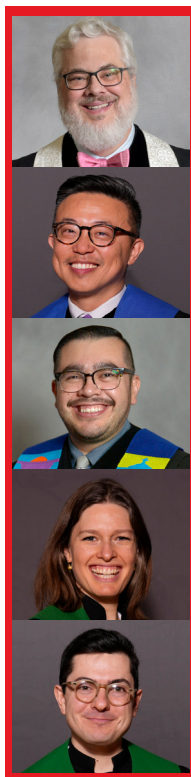
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Thomas Wesley

#### Class of 2027

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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. Natalie Owens-Pike** *Associate Pastor for Ministry to the Online Campus*

**The Rev. Chris Palmer** *Transitional Associate Pastor for Young Adults & Membership*

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

The Rev. Randy Weber, *Associate Pastor Emeritus*

Austin Applebach, *Director of Engagement*

Christine Boyle, *Director of Outreach & Missions*

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

Stephanie Kelley, *Executive Assistant to the Senior Pastor & Co-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*

Dr. 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)



**Join the online campus**

Natalie Owens-Pike

[hybridchurch@fapc.org](mailto:hybridchurch@fapc.org)



**Join the church**

Austin Applebach

[membership@fapc.org](mailto:membership@fapc.org)



**Make a donation**

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



**Make a bequest**

Richard Schexnider

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



**Plan your wedding**

Donna Ketchledge

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

**Fund the altar flowers** • 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

## NEW MEMBER CLASS

# Believing & Belonging

What does it mean to belong to a church? Join us as we explore being part of the Christian church, the Presbyterian tradition, and the community of Fifth Avenue. This class offers an opportunity to connect with others, learn about the history and mission of our church, and deepen your understanding of the Presbyterian faith.

Whether you're considering membership or simply want to learn more, you are welcome.

For details on upcoming classes and registration, visit [fapc.org/membership](https://fapc.org/membership) or email [membership@fapc.org](mailto:membership@fapc.org).

## 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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