



Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 22, 2025 • 10:00 AM



Christopher Myers, *Nekiya (the stories of dead people make the map for us)*, 2023

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 in worship! You will find children’s Bibles in the first 10 rows of pews on the far north side of the Sanctuary. Ushers can also provide children’s bulletins and worship bags. If you need to leave the service to attend to your child, the ushers can direct you to the nearest changing table and livestream monitor. We provide childcare for infants and toddlers from 9:30 to 11:30 am in the LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.

➔ Worship Resources Online

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

➔ Parking

We have a parking arrangement with the garage at 51 W. 56th St. For \$16, you may park for up to three hours, seven days a week. Please provide your mobile phone number or an email address to the staff person at the 55th Street reception desk. You will receive a QR code to use at the garage. (The garage no longer provides physical validation stickers.)

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

Prelude in G major, BWV 541 • J.S. Bach (1685–1750)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Chloe Hawker

One: Come to worship and take comfort.

All: **Our God strengthens tired bodies.
Our God is water for the all who wither.**

One: Come to worship to pursue justice.

All: **This God knows the names of the nameless.
This God burns for the let down and the shut out.**

One: Come to worship to find peace.

All: **In this house, dear neighbor, you belong,
Because all belong to God.**

* HYMN 41

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

* CALL TO CONFESSION

Summer Resident Barron Flood

* 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.)

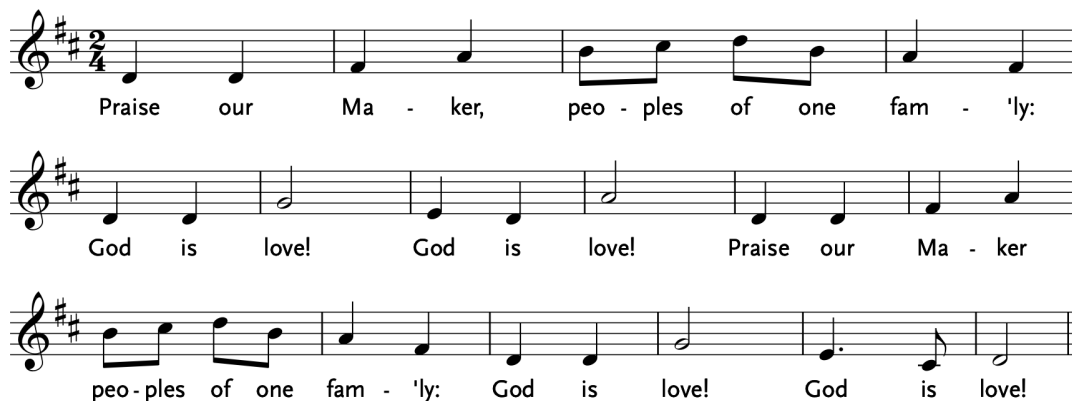
I wait-ed, I wait-ed on the Lord; I wait-ed, I wait-ed on the
Lord; who bent down low and re-mem-bered me and who heard my prayer.

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* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

* RESPONSE OF PRAISE



Music: E. Rawdon Bailey (1859–1938). Text: Church and School Hymnal, 1926; adapt. RGH.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOLO

Gloria (My Savior Lives) • Rob Gardner (b. 1978)

Sing, O my heart,
 Sing thy rejoicing,
 Morning has dawned and will stretch forth her wing.
 No more the night holds thee his captive,
 Jesus is risen, my Savior and King.
 I'll sing gloria, glory to the Lord,
 Gloria, glory for the life he doth bring.
 Gloria, gloria, gloria,
 Gloria, for my Savior lives.
 Why dost thou weep?
 What is thy longing?
 Why art thou cast down and turned from the light?
 Lift up your eyes,
 Look for the morning,
 Wait, for the darkness is only the night.
 And sing gloria, glory to the Lord,
 Gloria, glory for the life he doth bring.
 Gloria, gloria, gloria,
 Gloria, for my Savior lives.
 People, rejoice,
 Sing all creation,
 Jesus is risen with life in his wings,
 Raise up your voice,
 Sing our salvation,
 Now more than conquerors through him, our King.
 Sing we gloria,
 Gloria, glory to the Lord,

Glory for the life he doth give,
O sing gloria, gloria,
Gloria, for my Savior lives.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 35

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and shouting.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weak hands
and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
“Be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.
He will come and save you.”
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;
then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God’s people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.
And the ransomed of the Lord shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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

SERMON

The Rev. Chris Palmer

“When Tears Pray”

* CONFESSION OF FAITH

from the *Heidelberg Catechism*

One: What does God’s law require of us?

**All: ‘You shall love the Lord your God
with all your heart,
and with all your soul,
and with all your mind.’
This is the greatest and first commandment.**

One: And a second is like it:

**All: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’
On these two commandments hang
all the law and the prophets. Amen.**

* HYMN 735

I Need Thee Every Hour

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Austin Applebach, Director of Engagement

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever.
Amen.**

CALL TO GIVE

OFFERTORY SOLO

He’s Got the Whole World in His Hands

Traditional Spiritual, arr. Margaret Bonds (1913–1972)

He’s got the whole world in His hands,
He’s got the whole world in His hands,
He’s got the whole world in His hands,
He’s got the whole world in His hands.
He’s got the woods and the waters in His hands,
He’s got the woods and the waters in His hands,
He’s got the sun and the moon right in His hands,
He’s got the whole world in His hands.
He’s got the birds and the bees in His hands,
He’s got the birds and the bees right in His hands,
He’s got the beasts of the field right in His hands,
He’s got the whole world in His hands.
He’s got you and me right in His hands,
He’s got you and me right in His hands,
He’s got everybody in His hands,
He’s got the whole world in his hands,
He’s got the whole world in his hands.

* 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 463 **How Firm a Foundation**

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Fugue in G major, BWV 541 • *J.S. Bach*

The ministry of music this morning is offered by:
Dr. Patrick Kreeger, *Associate Organist* • Rebecca Soelberg, *Soprano*

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

If You Are in Need of Prayer

Deacons (wearing white stoles) are available to pray with you after the service. Your prayers are confidential unless you request that they be shared with our Congregational Care staff. You may also complete a prayer request card (available in the pews and at the entrances) and place it in the offering plate or hand to an usher. You may submit prayer requests online at fapc.org/prayer-requests.

Please pray for:

Ann Alexander, Pat Backus, Eliseo Batuan, Neta Beberino, Helen Betzaia, Becky Bjornstad
Patricia Blair, Teresita Block, Sarah Boyce, Benjamin Bradley, Britta Cabanos, Pastor Toribio Cajiat
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, Daniele Engome
Irene P. Gilman, Anthea and Neville Graham, Florence Hall, Torian Hall, Peter S. Hawkins
Carol Healy, Christopher Henderson, Donna Marie Henderson, 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, Octavia McLaren
Epifania Mercado, Ryan Moloughney, Gerry Nagy, Frank Owarish, Emmett Raitt, Dexter Ramcharan
Debbie Rogers, Ramon Rosa, Pauline Sample, Norma Santos, 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

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.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- 10 am** **Worship.** Sanctuary.
- 11:15 am** **Coffee Hour.** Weber Terrace. Join us after worship for a cup of coffee and an opportunity to chat with clergy and friends.
- Sermon Springboard.** Zoom. Join Rev. Chris and members of the online campus for sermon discussion and fellowship.
- Tour of the Church.** After worship, look for a docent in the back of the Sanctuary with a “tour starts here” sign.
- 12 pm** **Margaret Shafer Picnic.** Bonnell Hall.
- Youth Summer Picnic.** Meet Barron at coffee hour. Contact youth@fapc.org for more information.
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This Week

- Wed June 25** **FAYA Bible Study.** 6 pm • The Living Room. To learn more, visit [@fapcfaya](https://www.instagram.com/fapcfaya) on Instagram or email youngadults@fapc.org.
- Thu June 26** **Career Directions.** 10 am • Zoom. Visit fapc.org/groups to learn more and to sign up.
- Sat June 28** **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).
- FAYA Prom.** Bonnell Hall • 7 pm. To register, visit [@fapcfaya](https://www.instagram.com/fapcfaya) on Instagram or email youngadults@fapc.org.
- Wed July 16** **The Book of Esther in the Time of Rembrandt – Tour.** 3 pm • The Jewish Museum. To learn more, please email womensministry@fapc.org
- Thu July 17** **Fifth Avenue Reading Circle.** 7 pm • Zoom. Email adulthood@fapc.org to join.
- Sun July 20** **Water Wonders and Bible Fun.** 10 am • LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center. To learn more, please email familyministries@fapc.org
- Believing and Belonging.** 2 pm • Zoom. Register at fapc.org/belong.
- Sun July 27** **Johnsonburg Overnight Children & Youth Camp.** Join us at Johnsonburg Camp from Sunday, July 27, to Friday, August 1, for an unforgettable week of fun and faith for children entering first through eighth grade. Learn more and register at fapc.org/camp.

Next Sunday • Pride Sunday • Third Sunday after Pentecost

Genesis 9:8-17

Guest Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Jess Winderweedle

NEWS & EVENTS

Today: Margaret Shafer Picnic

Every summer our volunteers gather to serve a picnic lunch to neighbors in our community who are experiencing homelessness or simply in need of a relaxed meal among friends. This event is named in honor of the late Margaret Shafer, our former associate for outreach and a beloved friend and advocate of the homeless in our community. To learn more and register to volunteer, please visit fapc.org/picnic.

Saturday, June 28: FAYA Prom

Our largest and most joyful event of the summer is FAYA Prom! Grab a fancy dress or a suit and tie and dance the night away with the Fifth Avenue Young Adults at the Big Apple Awards. We walk the red carpet at 7 pm on the Terrace. We're reclaiming this high school tradition in the very best way. Tickets are \$25 (\$20 to bring a guest). Hope to see you there! Questions? Email youngadults@fapc.org. Sign up register at fapc.org/prom!

Sunday, June 29: Pride Sunday

Celebrate Pride with Fifth Avenue! Wear your brightest colors and join us as we show our support for the LGBTQ community in worship and throughout the day. On June 29, we will welcome Rev. Dr. Jess Winderweede as our guest preacher for 10 am worship. Following the service, The Word is Out and FAYA will meet at Coffee Hour and join our sister congregation at First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York (12 W 12th St.). We'll cheer on the annual NYC Pride March and hand out water to participants and spectators. All are welcome! Contact Barron Flood and Austin Applebach (community@fapc.org) for more information and to let us know you're coming.

June 30: Kirkland Chapel Campaign closes

Thank you to all who have supported the campaign to renovate our beloved Kirkland Chapel! Your generosity is at work every day to make the chapel ready for the next one hundred years. If you would like to join this historic effort, there is still time! We will close the campaign on Monday, June 30. Make your donation today to be sure your name appears on a plaque that will grace the chapel's walls. Visit fapc.org/give and select "Kirkland Chapel Renovation" in the Fund dropdown. Someone from the church will reach out to you this summer to confirm how you want your name to appear. Thank you!

Sunday, July 20: Kids Bible Adventures

All kids in preschool through 5th grade are invited to join us for a splashy summer morning filled with fun games, creative crafts, lively music, and Bible stories that dive into God's love through the theme of water. We'll wrap up the day with a delicious pizza lunch and plenty of laughter along the way! Parents—attend worship at 10am and then head to brunch or a walk in the park before picking up your child! To learn more and register, please visit fapc.org/bible.

Sunday, August 3: Let's Go (See the) Mets!

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon at Citi Field after worship! We'll cheer on the New York Mets against the San Francisco Giants. It's a great chance to enjoy summer baseball and connect with other families and friends from the church! Tickets are just \$48 in section 502, under the overhang to keep us out of the sun! Find more information and buy tickets at fapc.org/mets.

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. Natalie Owens-Pike, *Associate Pastor*
The Rev. Chris Palmer, *Associate Pastor* • Dennis Bushe, *Clerk of Session*
Persis Luke, *Assistant Clerk of Session*

Class of 2026

Rachel Brenner
Dennis Bushe
Roseanne Lind
Nate Mahrer
Brian McLendon
Erica Moffett
Martha Van Hise
Suri Wong (Youth Elder)

Class of 2027

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

Class of 2028

Evelyn Acosta
Amanda DeMeola
Kathy Henderson
Phillip Ma
Thomas Mann
Glenda Moreland
McKenna Nelson
Lynn Wishart

The Board of Deacons

Brendan Birth, *Moderator* • Jeanne Lehman French, *Vice Moderator* • Kyle Hughes, *Secretary*
Susan Roberson, *Treasurer*

Class of 2026

Chrissy Badger
Brendan Birth
Joshua Code
Rumel Francois
Jeanne Lehman French
Bruce Ramsden
Susan Roberson
Betsy Ross
Amelia Vogler Topping
Julia Ward

Class of 2027

Jesse Allen
Andy Craven
Myra Ford
Mary Sue Highmore
Kyle Hughes
Susie Hunter
Trevor Illingworth
Jamie Ku
Elizabeth (Beth) McCullough
Kathy Peterson
Nicole Rusk

Class of 2028

Lisa Cinelli
Linda Ferm-Fagan
Debbie Goetz
Tingting Markstrum
Gary McKoy
Charlotte Nichols
Matt Roush
Anggryani Sumenge
David Sytsma
Suzanne Zywicki

The Board of Trustees

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Tammi Kenton
Daniel Krueger
Janet Nettleton Otto
Sean Topping
Chrissy Wojcik

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*

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*

Barron Flood, *2025 Summer Pastoral Resident*

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



Join the online campus

Natalie Owens-Pike

hybridchurch@fapc.org



Join the church

Austin Applebach

membership@fapc.org



Make a donation

fapc.org/give



Make a bequest

Richard Schexnider

finance@fapc.org



Plan your wedding

Donna Ketchledge

weddings@fapc.org



Prepare for baptism

Jaime Staehle

familyministries@fapc.org

Add a name to the prayer list • Natalie Wardius, congregationalcare@fapc.org

Fund the altar flowers • 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

HOLY PRIDE!

Celebrate with us next week in person
or on livestream at *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



Summer Building Hours

Monday – Friday

9 am – 5 pm

Saturday

8 am – 1 pm

Sunday

8 am – 12 pm



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