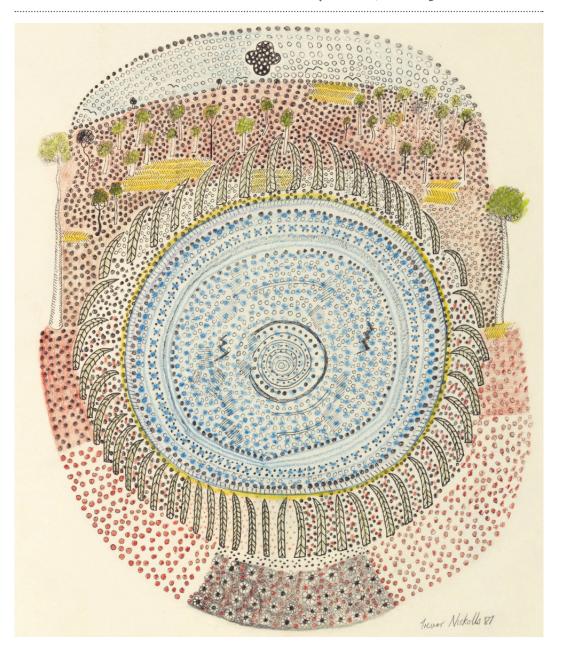


# Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

# SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JULY 27, 2025 • 10:00 AM



Trevor Nickolls, Pool (from the Bethesda series), 1987

# 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 if 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 opporunities.

#### **→** 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 <code>fapc.org/playback</code>. This morning's Prayers of the People can be found at <code>fapc.org/pray</code>. Details about the upcoming service each week can be found at <code>fapc.org/this-sunday</code>. For information about future worship services, visit <code>fapc.org/worship</code>.

#### 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 Elegy • George Thalben-Ball (1896–1987)

\* Call to Worship

Adapted from the Iona Community

Elder Nate Mahrer

One: We gather in your presence, Holy God.

All: We gather in our need,

and bring with us the needs of the world.

One: We come to you, as you came to us in Jesus,

All: For you know by experience what human life is like.

One: We come with our faith and our doubts;

All: We come with our hopes and our fears.

One: We come as we are, because you have invited us,

because you come looking for us,

All: And you have promised never to turn us away.

One: Let us worship God.

\* HYMN 42

Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure

\* CALL TO CONFESSION
Summer Pastoral 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

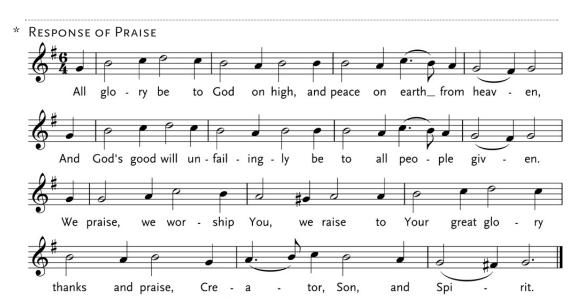
\* SUNG RESPONSE

(Cantor sings once; then the congregation sings once.)



Music and Text: Marty Haugen © 1982 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-721169.

\* Assurance of Pardon



Music: Nikolaus Decius, 1539 - ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH'. Text: Nikolaus Decius, 1522, trans. F. Bland Tucker. © 1985 Church Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-721169.

\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All:

And also with you.

Announcements
The Rev. Chris Palmer

Solo

Arise, My Love • Richard Hundley (1931-2018)

Arise, my love, my fair one

And come away.

O, my dove that dwelleths

in the cliffs of the rock.

In the covert of a steep place Let me see thy countenance

Let me hear thy voice

For sweet is thy voice

And thy countenance is comely.

Arise, my love, my fair one.

#### PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

#### SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 5:1-15

After this there was a Jewish festival, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. In these lay many ill, blind, lame, and paralyzed people. One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, "Do you want to be made well?" The ill man answered him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am making my way someone else steps down ahead of me." Jesus said to him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk." At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk.

Now that day was a Sabbath. So the religious authorities said to the man who had been cured, "It is the Sabbath; it is not lawful for you to carry your mat." But he answered them, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Take up your mat and walk.' "They asked him, "Who is the man who said to you, 'Take it up and walk'?" Now the man who had been healed did not know who it was, for Jesus had disappeared in the crowd that was there. Later Jesus found him in the temple and said to him, "See, you have been made well! Do not sin any more, so that nothing worse happens to you." The man went away and told the religious authorities that it was Jesus who had made him well.

One: This is the Word of God; for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON
The Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike

"Stir the Waters"

\* RESPONSE IN FAITH

Adapted from the Iona Community

We believe in God above us, Maker and Sustainer of all life, of sun and moon, of water and earth, of all bodies created good.

We believe in God beside us, Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh, born of a woman, servant of the poor.

We believe in God within us, the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire, life-giving breath of the church, spirit of healing and forgiveness, source of resurrection and eternal life. Amen.

\* HYMN 703

Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me

**NEW MEMBER RECEPTION** 

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE The Rev. Dr. Jonah So

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

A Simple Song from Mass • Leonard Bernstein (1918–1990)

Sing God a simple song: Lauda, Laude Make it up as you go along: Lauda, Laude

Sing like you like to sing. God loves all simple things, For God is the simplest of all, For God is the simplest of all.

I will sing the Lord a new song
To praise him, to bless him, to bless the Lord.
I will sing his praises while I live
All of my days.

Blessed is the man who loves the Lord, Blessed is the man who praises him. Lauda, Lauda, Laude And walks in his ways.

I will lift up my eyes
To the hills from whence comes my help.
I will lift up my voice to the Lord
Singing Lauda, Laude.

For the Lord is my shade, Is the shade upon my right hand, And the sun shall not smite me by day Nor the moon by night.

Blessed is the man who loves the Lord, Lauda, Lauda, Laude, And walks in his ways. Lauda, Lauda, Laude, Lauda, Lauda di da di day. All of my days.

#### \* 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 308 O God in Whom All Life Begins

\* Benediction

POSTLUDE Organ Sonata (1975): III. Toccata

Robert Elmore (1913–1985)

The ministry of music this morning is offered by Dr. Patrick Kreeger, Associate Organist • Max Parsons, Soloist

#### 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 Batuon, Neta Beberino, Helen Betzaia, Becky Bjornstad Patricia Blair, Teresita Block, 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, Daniele Engome Jeanne Lehman French, 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

9:30 am Little Lambs. LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.

**10 am** Worship. Sanctuary & Livestream.

11:15 am Coffee Hour. Rita Arlen Room. Join us after worship for a cup of coffee and an

opportunity to chat with clergy and friends.

**Sermon Springboard.** Zoom. Join Rev. Jonah 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.

11:30 am Camp Johnsonburg. Kids depart for camp with Jaime Staehle, Director of

Christian Education.

This Week

Thu July 31 Career Directions. 10 am • Zoom. Visit fapc.org/groups to learn more and to sign

up.

Sat Aug 2 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 Silent Disco at Riverside Park South.** 5:30 pm • Riverside Park South.

We're dancing under the stars! Questions? Email youngadults@fapc.org.

Coming Up

Sun Aug 3 Let's Go (See the) Mets! 1:30 pm • Citi Field. Find more information and buy

tickets at fapc.org/mets.

Sun Aug 10 FAYA Central Park Potluck. 12:30 pm • Central Park. To learn more, visit

fapc.org/potluck.

Sat Aug 23 FAYA at the PLAYA! 12:30 pm. Join the Fifth Avenue Young Adults for a fun beach

day! Email Rev. Chris Palmer at youngadults@fapc.org to get in the WhatsApp

group for the event.

Sun Aug 31 Family Ministries BBQ at Jaime's House. 4 pm • Morris County, NJ. Please learn

more and register at fapc.org/bbq.

Wed Sept 3 Feed Your Soul. Dinner, 6 pm, Bonnell Hall. Worship, 7 pm, Jones Auditorium

& Zoom. Register at fapc.org/soul.

**Sun Sept 7 Homecoming Sunday.** Worship in the Sanctuary at 11 am and on Livestream.

#### **Next Sunday · Eighth Sunday after Pentecost**

"Through the Mud" • John 9:1-12 Summer Pastoral Resident Barron Flood, preaching.

#### NEWS & EVENTS

#### Welcome, New Members!

With joy and thanksgiving, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church welcomes the following new members into the congregation:

Claudia Chwe	Cameron Lyon	Susan Kneefel
Michael Guippone	Will Duncan	Sharyl Byank
Sarah Lyons	Rachel Blank	Kerry Morse

#### Save the Dates!

- Wednesday, September 3: Feed Your Soul Dinner and Worship Service
- Sunday, September 7: Homecoming Sunday
- Sunday, September 28: The Anita and Antonio Gotto Lecture, featuring Shannon Vallor, the Baillie Gifford Professor in the Ethics of Data and Artificial Intelligence at the University of Edinburgh
- Friday, October 17: The Fall Choral Concert: Of Voice and Verse
- Friday, October 24: The Kenneth O. Jones Distinguished Service Awards

#### Saturday, August 2: FAYA Silent Disco at Riverside Park South

Dance, dance, dance with FAYA! We'll be at Pier 1 in Riverside Park South. The line forms at 5:30pm and the dancing begins at 6pm. Whether you have one or two left feet, we hope you'll enjoy the evening with friends. Headphones are free, but food and drink is on each individual person. Questions? Email youngadults@fapc.org.

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

Join us at 1:30 pm 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 \$48 in section 502, under the overhang to keep us out of the sun! Find more information and buy tickets at fapc.org/mets.

#### Sunday, August 10: FAYA Central Park Potluck

Bring something to share or grab something on the way over. We'll lay out some blankets in the shade and enjoy a summer afternoon in one of the greatest parks in the world. To learn more, email youngadults@fapc.org or visit fapc.org/potluck.

#### Sunday, August 31: Family Ministries BBQ at Jaime's House

Jaime Staehle, our Director of Christian Education, invites all families with children to her house (in Morris County, NJ) for a BBQ on Labor Day weekend! We will gather on Sunday, Aug. 31, at 4 pm. Jaime will provide burgers, hot dogs, and veggie burgers! Please learn more and register at fapc.org/bbq.

#### Wednesday, September 3: Feed Your Soul

Join an inspiring evening of fellowship, prayer, and a shared meal at Feed Your Soul. This event is a wonderful opportunity to prepare for a year of dedicated service as officers, vocalists, ushers, greeters, Sunday School teachers, Outreach volunteers, and more. Dinner begins at 6 pm in Bonnell Hall. The evening's worship service will be available on Zoom for hybrid members. Please register at fapc.org/soul by Friday, August 29. For more information, contact Christine Boyle at outreach@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. 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 Class of 2027 Class of 2028 Rachel Brenner Chloe Hawker Evelyn Acosta Dennis Bushe Josie Lawrence Amanda DeMeola Kathy Henderson Roseanne Lind Persis Luke Nate Mahrer Patrick Obeng-Frimpong Phillip Ma Brian McLendon Thomas Pak Thomas Mann Erica Moffett David Roberson Glenda Moreland Martha Van Hise McKenna Nelson Beth Rumore Stanley Suri Wong (Youth Elder) Jama Toung Lynn Wishart

#### The Board of Deacons

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

Class of 2026 Class of 2027 Class of 2028 Chrissy Badger Jesse Allen Lisa Cinelli Brendan Birth Andy Craven Linda Ferm-Fagan Ioshua Code Debbie Goetz Myra Ford Rumel Francois Mary Sue Highmore Tingting Markstrum Ieanne Lehman French Gary McKoy Kyle Hughes Bruce Ramsden Susie Hunter Charlotte Nichols Susan Roberson Trevor Illingworth Matt Roush Betsy Ross Iamie Ku Anggryani Sumenge Elizabeth (Beth) McCullough David Sytsma Amelia Vogler Topping Iulia Ward Kathy Peterson Suzanne Zywicki Nicole Rusk

#### The Board of Trustees

Jane Hong, President · Joyce Hansen, Vice President · Chris Edwards, Secretary

Marran Ogilvie, Assistant Secretary • Christopher Duffy, Treasurer • Constance Pond, Assistant Treasurer

Class of 2026 Class of 2027 Class of 2028 **Christopher Duffy** loyce Hansen Julie Hennighausen Chris Edwards Mark Moreland Tammi Kenton Meredith Fleck Marran Ogilvie Daniel Krueger Jane Hong Constance Pond Hubbard Janet Nettleton Otto Susan Neunaber Phil Ryan Sean Topping William Stone Thomas Wesley 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

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



## Join us for Homecoming on Sunday, September 7.

We'll celebrate the start of our program year with worship at II am in the Sanctuary and on livestream. We'll cap the joyous day with a festive celebration in Bonnell Hall.

#### Be sure to save these dates in your calendar:

- Wednesday, September 3 | Feed Your Soul Dinner and Worship Service
  - Sunday, September 28 | The Anita and Antonio Gotto Lecture
  - Friday, October 17 | The Fall Choral Concert: Of Voice and Verse
- Friday, October 24 | The Kenneth O. Jones Distinguished Service Awards

Visit *fapc.org/events* for details on all these events and more.

# 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









