



Amy Browning, *The Fury of Water III*

Twelfth Sunday After Pentecost  
August 31, 2025 • 10 am



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

Please silence all electronic devices and do not take flash photos during the service.

### Prelude

Words of Welcome

*The Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike*

### \* Opening Song      All My Fountains • *Chris Tomlin*

This dry and desert land, I tell myself keep walking on  
Here's something up ahead, water falling like a song  
An everlasting stream, your river carries me home  
Let it flow, let it flow

A flood for my soul, a well that never will run dry  
I've rambled on my own, never believing I would find  
An everlasting stream, your river carries me home  
Let it flow, let it flow

#### *Chorus*

*Open the heavens, come living water  
All my fountains are in you  
Strong like a river, your love is running through  
All my fountains are in you*

Come on and rain down on us  
Rain down on us, Lord  
Come on and rain down on us  
Rain down on us, Lord (*Repeat*)

#### *Chorus (Repeat)*

### \* 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 Prayer)

### \* Words of Forgiveness

One:      Hear the good news of the gospel:  
All:      We are loved. We are claimed. We are forgiven.  
Thanks be to God! Amen.

\* Song of Celebration #582 Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me

Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me  
And to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me  
And to the Spirit, whose love has set me free  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

World without end, without end. Amen.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. Amen.

\* Holy Interruption Please enjoy your refreshments in the Narthex 😊

*The Rev. Chris Palmer*

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you!

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Blest be the tie that binds  
our hearts in Christian love.  
The fellowship of kindred minds  
is like to that above.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

### **Isaiah 43:1-3a**

But now thus says the Lord,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.  
For I am the Lord your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.  
I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

### **Genesis 1:1-13**

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.





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And God said, 'Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.' So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. God called the dome Sky. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, 'Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.' And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, 'Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.' And it was so. The earth brought forth vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

### Genesis 2:1-3

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

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

All: Thanks be to God.

### Sermon **"Between Ordered and Troubled Waters"**

*The Rev. Dr. Kimberly Wagner*

\* Prayer for the Day

**Creative and Creating God,**

**We live our days between calm and turbulent waters.**

**We are seeking peace amid storms,**

**seeking safety amid rising tides of conflict and change,**

**seeking control when the chaos and uncertainty seem overwhelming.**

**And yet, God, we know you are with us.**

**We trust in your capacity to guide us through,**

**to calm the storm,**

**to create order—again and again—in the midst of chaos.**

**You sustain us with the refreshment of your living water.**

**Sustain us again this day for the journey.**

**In Jesus's name we pray. Amen.**

Invitation to Pray and Give

*The Rev. Dr. Jonah So*

*Please write your prayers during the Offertory Song.*

\* Offertory Song

Holy Ground • Chapel Church Music

If creation sings,

then I want to sing

for you.

I'll sing for you.

If the rivers run,  
then I want to run  
to you.  
I'll run to you.

*Pre-Chorus*

Yes, I'm starting to see  
what the prophets believed,  
And I'm starting to see  
you're always next to me.  
Yes, I'm starting to see  
what the prophets believed,  
And I'm starting to see  
what the Psalms always sing—

*Chorus*

*This is holy ground,  
for I have found  
you here with me.  
This is holy ground,  
God, you surround  
from dust to the sky.  
You bring the light.  
You are my guide.  
And I'll sing*

*This is holy, holy, holy ground.  
This is holy, holy ground.  
Holy ground.*

If the flowers grow,  
I won't give up in you,  
My hope's in you.

If the stars still shine,  
through the night, I'll look  
I'll look for you.

*Pre-Chorus*

*Chorus*

*This is holy ground,  
for I have found  
you here with me.  
This is holy ground,  
God, you surround  
from dust to the sky.  
You bring the light.  
You are my guide.  
And I'll sing*





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*This is holy, holy, holy ground.  
This is holy, holy ground. (Repeat)*

*You bring the light.  
You are my guide.  
And I'll sing*

*This is holy, holy, holy ground.  
This is holy, holy ground.*

\* Prayer of Gratitude

\* Benediction

\* Closing Song 10,000 Reasons • *Rend Collective*

*The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning.  
It's time to sing your song again.  
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me,  
Let me be singing when the evening comes.*

*Chorus  
Bless the Lord,  
Oh, my soul, oh, my soul.  
Worship your holy name.  
Sing like never before,  
Oh, my soul.  
I worship your holy name.*

*You're rich in love  
And you're slow to anger.  
Your name is great  
And your heart is kind.  
For all your goodness  
I will keep on singing  
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.*

*Chorus*

*And on that day when my strength is failing,  
The end draws near and my time has come,  
Still my soul will sing your praise unending  
Ten thousand years and then forever more.*

*Chorus*

*I worship your holy name.  
I worship your holy name.*

\* Sending

One:           And all God's people say—  
All:            Amen!

## Shout-out to today's worship team!

Jennifer Reed *vocals* • Wayne Wilson *vocals* • Samantha Hogshire *vocals*  
 McKenna Nelson *vocals* • Brendon Lee *guitar*  
 Dr. Can Olgun *Director of Chapel Church Music and Pianist*



### Love the music?

Scan this code to enjoy our  
 Chapel Church playlist.

***fapc.org/spotify***

## 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, 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, Violet Lorenzen, Mary Lowry, Lauren Ma, The McCall Family  
 Octavia McLaren, Epifania Mercado, Ryan Moloughney, Gerry Nagy, Joyce Nolen, 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, Rocco Tannehill, Harold Tither  
 Susan Tobiason, Henny Waisapy, Bill Wanek, Warren White, Suzanne Wilks, Sylvia Winrich  
 Deborah Wurgler

## Faithful Departed:

Sunday, August 3: Rhoda Nakibuuka Nsibirwa Kalema, beloved grandmother of Willie Kalema  
 and esteemed parliamentarian in Uganda.

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

## Today

- 9:30 am** **Little Lambs Nursery.** Christian Education Center.
- 10 am** **Worship.** Sanctuary & Livestream.
- 11:15 am** **Special Coffee Hour for Barron Flood.** 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. Natalie 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.
- 4 pm** **Family Ministries BBQ @ Jaime’s House.** Morris County, NJ.
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## This Week

- Wed Sep 3** **Feed Your Soul.** Dinner, 6 pm, Bonnell Hall. Worship, 7 pm, Sanctuary & Zoom. Register at [fapc.org/soul](http://fapc.org/soul).
- Sat Sep 6** **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)).
- Come Home to Fifth.** 6 pm. Join Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike and online campus members for dinner and fellowship in New York on the weekend of Homecoming! Register at [fapc.org/home](http://fapc.org/home).

## Coming Up

- Sun Sep 7** **Homecoming Sunday.** Worship in the Sanctuary and on livestream at 11 am.
- Wed Sep 10** **FAYA Midweek Ice Cream Social.** 6:30 pm • The Weber Terrace. Join the Fifth Avenue Young Adults as we kick off our fall Midweeks together!
- Sat Sep 13** **FAYA Small Group Day Retreat.** 1 pm • The Living Room. To learn more, email [youngadults@fapc.org](mailto:youngadults@fapc.org).
- Sun Sep 14** **Chapel Church returns!** 9:30 am • Jones Auditorium.
- All Church Movie Matinee: Godspell.** 12:45 pm • Bonnell Hall.
- Tue Sep 23** **Women’s Ministry: A Walk in Central Park.** 6 pm • Central Park. All women are welcome to join as we enjoy the beauty of the park and each other’s company. Register at [fapc.org/women](http://fapc.org/women) for weather-related updates.
- Community Choir.** 6 pm • Jones Auditorium. Today we welcome back all who love to sing after the summer hiatus.

### Next Sunday • Homecoming Sunday

“Hidden” • Mark 4:1-13 • The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching.  
*Reminder: Next Sunday there will be one service at 11 am.*



# BEFORE YOU GO!

*The top reminders for this week.*

## Today: Special Coffee Hour for Barron Flood

Today's Coffee Hour is a special celebration in honor of Barron Flood, our 2025 Summer Pastoral Resident. Please join us to recognize all that Barron has brought to our congregation this summer!

## Homecoming & Fall Highlights

Homecoming is next week! On Sunday, September 7, at 11 am, we'll celebrate the beginning of our program year. Senior Pastor the Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston will launch a new sermon series. We'll cap the joyous day with a festive coffee hour in Bonnell Hall where you can connect with old friends, make new ones, and learn more about everything going on at church. See you at Homecoming!

- **Feed Your Soul Dinner and Worship Service:** Wednesday, September 3
- **Homecoming Sunday:** Sunday, September 7
- **Women's Ministry Walk in the Park:** Wednesday, September 23
- **The Anita and Antonio Gotto Lecture,** featuring Shannon Vallor: Sunday, September 28
- **The Fall Choral Concert: *Of Voice and Verse*:** Friday, October 17
- **The Kenneth O. Jones Distinguished Service Awards:** Friday, October 24

## Today: Welcome the Rev. Dr. Kimberly Wagner

The Rev. Dr. Kimberly Wagner serves as the Assistant Professor of Preaching at Princeton Theological Seminary. Though she has served among the Lutherans and was educated among United Methodists, Dr. Wagner is ordained as a Minister of Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA). Her current writing and work focus on preaching and ministry in the midst and wake of trauma, particularly thinking about collective trauma, the role of the preacher, and the resources of our Scriptures and faith to respond to these moments.

## Wednesday, September 3: Feed Your Soul

Take part in 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 with communion will be available on Zoom. For more information, contact Christine Boyle at [outreach@fapc.org](mailto:outreach@fapc.org).

## Saturday, September 6: Come Home to Fifth Avenue!

Join Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike and fellow online campus members for connection and fellowship on the weekend of Homecoming! We'll share a meal in NYC together and meet up before our spectacular Homecoming worship. If you'll be in New York and interested in attending dinner or worship alongside your online campus family, please register at [fapc.org/home](https://fapc.org/home).

## Sunday, September 14: All-Church Movie | *Godspell*

Join us for a fun all-church movie event to launch our fall sermon series! We'll watch *Godspell*, the 1973 musical that reimagines the story of Jesus through clowning, parables, and playful joy. With colorful storytelling and a spiritual heart, *Godspell* invites us to see Jesus as a joyful disruptor—a holy fool who reveals truth through laughter, surprise, and love. All ages are welcome! There will be movie concession treats!





# GETTING CONNECTED

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

### 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. 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).



Let's Be Friends



# NEXT WEEK HOMECOMING

**Sunday, September 7 • 11 am**

We'll celebrate the launch of the new sermon series, "Jesus the Jester," and the start of our program year in the Sanctuary and on livestream.

The joyous day will feature a festive celebration after worship in Bonnell Hall.

*Visit [fapc.org](http://fapc.org) to learn 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](http://fapc.org/give)*



**Monday, September 1, the building will be closed in observance of the Labor Day holiday.**

## 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

**Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church**

7 West 55th Street • New York, NY 10019 • [fapc.org](http://fapc.org)