



Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 11, 2024 • 10:00 AM



Nelly Bube, *The Three Servants*

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

Violin Sonata no. 18 in G major, K. 301 • W.A. Mozart (1756–1791)

I. Allegro con spirito

II. Allegro

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon Chrissy Badger

Psalm 90

One: Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations;

All: you have been our home throughout all the ages.

One: You were there before the world was made
and will be forever.

All: From everlasting to everlasting you are God.

One: Let us worship God, loving and steadfast.

* HYMN 361

O Christ, the Great Foundation

* CALL TO CONFESSION

The Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**In your mercy, forgive what we have been,
help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be,
so that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your holy name.**

Silent Reflection and Confession

* SUNG RESPONSE

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



To you, O God, I lift my soul, to you, I lift my soul.____

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* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

* RESPONSE OF PRAISE

All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace on earth_ from heav - en,
 And God's good will un - fail - ing - ly be to all peo - ple giv - en.
 We praise, we wor - ship You, we raise to Your great glo - ry
 thanks and praise, Cre - a - tor, Son, and Spi - rit.

Music: Nikolaus Decius, 1539 - ALLEIN GOTT IN DER HÖH'. Text: Nikolaus Decius, 1522, trans. F. Bland Tucker.
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* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOLO

from *Ten Biblical Songs*: I Will Sing New Songs
 Antonín Dvorák (1841–1904)

I will sing new songs of gladness,
 I will sing Jehovah's praises upon a ten-stringed psaltery.
 Every day will I extol thee and bless thy Holy Name.
 Great is God and great his mercy.
 Who shall tell of all his greatness?

Who shall his power declare?
My song shall be of praise and honor, and of thy glorious acts.
Thy works are wonderful, past our knowing.
Yea, men shall tell of thy great kindness
and of thy wondrous might,
and my voice shall proclaim aloud thy glory.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 25:14-30

For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Jonah So

“Why Serve?”

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

From *The Confession of 1967*, Presbyterian Church (USA)

**Jesus Christ has given the church preaching and teaching,
praise and prayer, and Baptism and the Lord's Supper
as means of fulfilling its service of God among men.**

These gifts remain,

but the church is obliged to change the forms of its service

in ways appropriate to different generations and cultures. Amen.

* HYMN 697

Take My Life

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

from *Ten Biblical Songs*: Turn Thee to Me
Antonín Dvorák (1841–1904)

Turn thee to me and have mercy
for I am desolate and sore and distressed.
Great, great are the sorrows of my heart;
bring me out of my distress.
Oh be merciful, look on my sorrow,
see mine affliction and forgive me all my wickedness.
Oh, keep my soul in safety and deliver me.
Let me never be confounded,
for my hope is in 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

* HYMN 716

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Organ Sonata no. 1 in F minor: IV. Allegro assai vivace
Felix Mendelssohn (1809–1847)

The ministry of music this morning is offered by Dr. Patrick Kreeger, *Associate Organist*
Britt Hewitt, *Soloist* • Joseph Vaz, *Pianist* • Bob Goetz, *Violinist*

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, Patricia Blair, Neta Beberino, Helen Betzaia, Becky Bjornstad Benjamin Bradley, Britta Cabanos, Pastor Toribio Cajiuat, Ella Calderon, Denise Campbell Nina S. Campbell, Phoebe Chiu, Sookjoong Choi, Anne Coffey, Dr. Johanna Cook Eugenia Connerat, Edna Craddock, William Cuffee, Athanassia Doucas, Sherian Edgreen David Elissa and Barbara Mitchell, Michael Elissa, Narmella Elissa, Sohn Fong, Irene P. Gilman Anthea and Neville Graham, Florence Hall, Torian Hall, Wanda Roush Hannan, Peter S. Hawkins Christopher Henderson, Donna Marie Henderson, Maggie Hendrix, Emi Iwaida, Juliet Kaldanie Louis Sterling King, Ceciwa Khonje, Janet Lamberth, Richard J. Lawson, Frederick Loomis Violet Lorenzen, Mary Lowry, Lauren Ma, The McCall Family, Gerry Nagy, Frank Owarish Dexter Ramcharan, Don Rogers, Ramon Rosa, Pauline Sample, Robert Scheuer, Nancy Seelig Tshombe Selby, 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, Doris Wurgler, Priscilla Young-Rodgers, Wayne Zhou

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 & Livestream.
Kids Bible Adventure. LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- 11:15 am** **Coffee Hour.** Bonnell Hall and online.
Tour the Church. Meet at the rear of the Sanctuary following worship.
-

This Week

- Sat Aug 17** **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 at the Playa Beach Day.** Location TBD. To learn more about the meet-up location and timing, send a direct message to the FAYA Instagram account ([@fapcfaya](https://www.instagram.com/fapcfaya)).

Coming Up

- Sun Aug 18** **Worship.** 10 am • Sanctuary & Livestream. The Rev. Dr. Jonah So, preaching.
Women's Ministry: White Elephant Book Swap. 11:30 am • Corning Logan Room. Grab a beloved book for a women's ministry book swap!
- Sat Aug 24** **Meals on Heels.** 8:30 am • Bonnell Hall.
- Sun Aug 25** **Worship.** 10 am • Sanctuary & livestream. Join us for a Chapel Church-style worship service! The Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike, preaching.
- Sat Aug 31** **Meals on Heels.** 8:30 am • Bonnell Hall.
- Sun Sep 1** **Worship.** 10 am • Sanctuary & Livestream. The Rev. Dr. Jonah So, preaching.
Bagels & Bible. 11:30 am • 7th Floor Conference Room. Calling all those 40+ to join the Rev. Dr. Jonah So for bagels & Bible study.
- Mon Sep 2** **Labor Day holiday.** Building closed.
- Wed Sep 4** **Feed Your Soul.** 6 pm • Bonnell Hall. Register at fapc.org/events.
- Sat Sep 7** **Meals on Heels.** 8:30 am • Bonnell Hall.
- Sun Sep 8** **Homecoming.** 11 am • Sanctuary & Livestream. The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston, preaching.
Family Ministries Breakfast. 9:30 am • LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.

Next Sunday • Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

"Why Engage?" • Acts 9:1-19
The Rev. Dr. Jonah So, preaching.

NEWS & EVENTS

Baptized Today

Victoria Mark, child of Dean and Jessica Mark.

Summer Sermon Series

In the ever-divisive world we live in, people ask—Why church? Why do you go to worship? Why are you a Christian? Why do you join? This summer we want to explore those deep questions and see what the wisdom of scripture and tradition have to offer. Come hear the perspective you might be missing. Join us as the Rev. Dr. Jonah So continues the series as we ask together—“Why serve?”

Sunday, August 18: Women’s Ministry White Elephant Book Swap

Calling all bookworms for a women’s ministry book swap! Grab a beloved book. It could be a children’s book, cookbook, *New York Times* Best seller or anything in between. Wrap your book with gift wrap and bring it to church for a white elephant book swap. You will leave with a different book than you brought, and hopefully a few more joyful memories with this community! Join us in the Corning Logan room at 11:30 am. This is a free event, but your RSVP is appreciated! Email womensministry@fapc.org to let us know you’re coming!

Wednesday, September 4: Feed your Soul

Join the staff of Fifth Avenue for an 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 will begin at 6 pm in Bonnell Hall. We will also host this annual worship service via Zoom for the online campus, including online communion. Please register at fapc.org/events by Wednesday, August 28 as registration is required. For more information, contact Christine Boyle at outreach@fapc.org.

HOMECOMING & FALL HIGHLIGHTS

Homecoming is only a few weeks away! On Sunday, September 8, at 11 am, we’ll celebrate the beginning of our program year. Senior Pastor Scott Black Johnston will launch a new sermon series. We’ll cap the joyous day with a festive coffee hour in Bonnell Hall and an Opportunities Fair where you can learn more about everything going on at church. See you at Homecoming!

Following Homecoming, we have a vibrant lineup of events to bring our community together in fellowship, worship, and celebration. Mark your calendars and join us!

- **Women’s Ministry Walk in the Park.** Wednesday, Sept. 18, 6 pm.
- **Fall Concert.** *Unclouded Day: Sacred Songs of America.* Friday, Oct. 18, 7 pm.
- **Family Ministries Fall Festival.** Sunday, Oct. 20, 12:30 pm.
- **The Kenneth O. Jones Awards.** Friday, Oct. 25, 7 pm.

We look forward to seeing you at these events as we come together to enjoy the blessings of the fall season!

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*
Meg Sheehan, *Clerk of Session* • Dennis Bushe, *Assistant Clerk of Session*

<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>
Eric Daniels	Rachel Brenner	Chloe Hawker
Carol Kenney	Dennis Bushe	Josie Lawrence
Ann Marie Koehler	Roseanne Lind	Persis Luke
Chris Rogers	Nate Mahrer	Patrick Obeng-Frimpong
Janeen A. Sarlin	Brian McLendon	Thomas Pak
Meg Sheehan	Louisa Raitt	David Roberson
Sienna Toung	Martha Van Hise	Beth Rumore Stanley
Sylvia Winrich		Jama Toung

The Board of Deacons

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<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>
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Jane Henn	Jeanne Lehman French	Kyle Hughes
Sarah McKoy	Bruce Ramsden	Susie Hunter
Jeannine Rodgers	Susan Roberson	Trevor Illingworth
Chad Schepp	Betsy Ross	Jamie Ku
Dicky Tuwaidan	Amelia Vogler Topping	Elizabeth (Beth) McCullough
Arthur Wong	Julia Ward	Kathy Peterson
		Nicole Rusk

The Board of Trustees

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<u>Class of 2025</u>	<u>Class of 2026</u>	<u>Class of 2027</u>
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Jeff Rowbottom	Susan Neunaber	Phil Ryan
Mark Snyder	Thomas Wesley	William Stone

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. Kate Dunn, *Parish Visitor*

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

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

The Rev. Randy Weber, *Associate Pastor Emeritus*

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 & Director of Special Projects*

Donna Ketchledge, *Program Coordinator & Assistant to the Executive Pastor*

Dr. Patrick Kreeger, *Associate Organist*

Derek Maddalena, *Director of Facilities*

Sean McAvoy, *Director of Communications & Development*

Can Olgun, *Director of Chapel Church Music*

Richard J. Schexnider, *Director of Finance*

Jaime Staehle, *Director of Christian Education*

Dr. Eugenia Oi Yan Yau, *Director of Music for Family Ministries*

CONTACT US



Announce a birth or adoption

Jaime Staehle

familyministries@fapc.org



Join the online campus

Natalie Owens-Pike

hybridchurch@fapc.org



Join the church

Jonah So

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



Get an up-close look at our historic Sanctuary and Church House.

Free, docent-led tours of our historic Sanctuary, Kirkland Chapel, and the Chesnut Gallery are offered every Sunday following the 10 am worship service. Meet at the rear of the Sanctuary, just inside the Fifth Avenue entrance, and look for the docent holding the yellow “TOUR STARTS HERE” sign.

Read about the art and architecture of this landmark church 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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