

Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
JULY 28, 2024 • 10:00 AM

*Dear Siblings  
in Christ,*

**You're  
Invited!**

*Pass it on!*

**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 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](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

Salem Suite • Margaret Vardell Sandresky (b. 1921)

III. Song for the Pedals

I. Prelude for the Principal

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

Deacon Brendan Birth

from Psalm 145:10-18

One: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,

**All: and all your faithful shall bless you.**

One: The Lord upholds all who are falling

**All: and raises up all who are bowed down.**

One: You open your hand,

**All: satisfying the desire of every living thing.**

One: The Lord is just and kind,

**All: The Lord is near to all who call on God.**

### \* HYMN 42

**Your Faithfulness, O Lord, Is Sure**

### \* 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.**

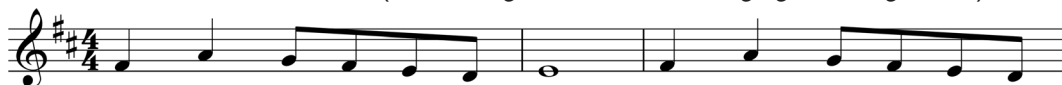
**We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**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.)



Take, O take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall



be; set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Music: John L. Bell, 1995. Text: John L. Bell and Graham Maule, 1995.

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\* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\* RESPONSE OF PRAISE

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, - jah!

Music: George Mxadana.  
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\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SOLO

Take My Life, and Let It Be Consecrated • *Mark Hayes (b. 1953)*

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 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.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

*Matthew 28:16-20*

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

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

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SERMON

*The Rev. Werner Ramirez*

**“Why Invite?”**

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from *A Brief Statement of Faith*, Presbyterian Church (USA)

**In a broken and fearful world**

**the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom and peace. Amen.**

\* HYMN 69

**I, the Lord of Sea and Sky**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Jaime Staehle, Director of Christian Education*

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

The Great Commission • *John Carter (b. 1930)*

Go! Go! Go and preach the gospel!  
Go into the world and tell the good news!  
Tell the world how he came to save.  
Tell them what his message cost.  
Tell the world how he came to save every single soul who’s lost.  
Tell the world what he came to say:  
“I am Truth and I am Light!”  
Tell the world what he came to say:  
“Love the Lord with all your might!”  
Tell the world how he healed the lame,  
how he made the blind man see.  
Tell the world how he set sinners free, set the sinners free!

\* 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.**

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\* OFFERTORY PRAYER

\* HYMN 300

**We Are One in the Spirit**

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Organ Sonata (1975): III. Toccata • *Robert Elmore (1913–1985)*

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The ministry of music this morning is offered by:  
Dr. Patrick Kreeger, *Associate Organist* • Sharon Byrne, *Soloist*

## 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, 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 Frederick Loomis, Louis Sterling King, Ceciwa Khonje, Janet Lamberth, Richard J. Lawson Mary Lowry, Lauren Ma, The McCall Family, Lynn and 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

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### **Faithful Departed:**

June 24, 2024: Raymond Fisher, beloved uncle of Byron and Calvin Fisher, and beloved brother-in-law of Henryette Fisher.

July 10, 2024: John W. Williams, beloved husband of Contstance Williams and beloved uncle of Rev. Kate Dunn.

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** **Little Lambs.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- 10:15 am** **Worship.** Sanctuary & Livestream.
- 10:15 am** **Children's Church.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- 11:15 am** **Coffee Hour.** Bonnell Hall and online.
- Celebrating Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom.** Bonnell Hall.
- Tour the Church.** Meet at the rear of the Sanctuary following worship.
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*This Week*

- Sat Aug 3** **Meals on Heels.** 8:30 am • Bonnell Hall. 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 Long Island City Brewery Tour.** 3 pm • Focal Point Brewery. If you have questions, direct message the FAYA Instagram account ([@fapcfaya](https://www.instagram.com/fapcfaya)).
- Sun Aug 4** **Worship.** 10 am • Sanctuary & Livestream. The Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike, 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.
- Sat Aug 10** **Meals on Heels.** 8:30 am • Bonnell Hall.
- Sun Aug 11** **Worship.** 10 am • Sanctuary & Livestream. The Rev. Dr. Jonah So, preaching.
- Sat Aug 17** **Meals on Heels.** 8:30 am • Bonnell Hall.
- 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)).
- Kids Bible Adventure.** 10 am • LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center. Register at [fapc.org/adventure](https://www.fapc.org/adventure).
- 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!
- Sun Aug 25** **Worship.** 10 am • Sanctuary & livestream. Join us for Chapel Church-style worship service! The Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike, preaching.
- Sun Sep 1** **Worship.** 10 am • Sanctuary & Livestream. The Rev. Dr. Jonah So, preaching.

**Next Sunday • Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost**

"Why Worship?" • Matthew 17:1-9

*The Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike, preaching.*



## NEWS & EVENTS

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### **Today: Celebrating Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom**

Please join us for a special coffee hour after worship. We will celebrate our departing director of engagement, Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom. Ashley has been with us since 2022 and we are extremely grateful for all that she has brought the the Fifth Avenue family. Come help send her off with blessings and appreciation!

### **Today: Early Bird Registration Deadline for 2025 Scotland Trip**

We are thrilled to invite you to join us on an exciting trip to Scotland! Join Jamie Staehle, Director of Christian Education, and explore the rich history and heritage of the Presbyterian Church. You'll visit historic sites, delve into our shared faith's deep-rooted traditions, and enjoy the breathtaking landscapes. Traveling with friends is the best kind of travel! Sign up for this unforgettable journey to make memories and deepen our faith together. Secure your spot by July 28, to receive a discount. To learn more and register visit [fapc.org/scotland](http://fapc.org/scotland).

### **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. Werner Ramirez continues the series as we ask together—“Why invite?”

### **Family Ministries Adventures this Week**

This week our youth and children are heading out for some serious fun and faith filled adventures! Today Jaime Staehle will take 8 of our children to Camp Johnsonburg in New Jersey for a full week of overnight camp. Kids will enjoy God's creation surrounded by friends—laughing, learning, swimming, creating, and worshipping. Tomorrow Rev. Werner Ramirez will be taking 5 youth for a week of service and fun at Jersey Jamboree. They will be serving God by serving others outside of Philadelphia, and then enjoying a fun day at the beach. Please keep our leaders, youth and children in your prayers this week as the embark on these adventures. Pray for their safety, spiritual growth, and the deepening of their connections with each other and with God.

### **Saturday, August 3: FAYA Long Island City Brewery Tour**

Calling all young adults! Come beat the heat this summer with a refreshing cold drink, as we bop around Long Island City to support local breweries. Join us at Focal Point Brewery at 3 pm, before we explore Fifth Hammer Brewing Company and Focal Point Brewing. The more the merrier!

### **Sunday, August 11: Kids Bible Adventure**

All kids in preschool through 5th grade are invited to join us for a fun day discovering the story of Paul! There will be games, crafts, songs, Bible stories, and more! There will also be a pizza lunch. Meet in the LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center at the start of worship. Parents are invited to attend worship at 10 am and then head for brunch or a walk in the park before picking your kids up at 1 pm. The cost for the day is \$10. Register at [fapc.org/adventure](http://fapc.org/adventure).

## 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* • John Wyatt, *Clerk of Session*

Meg Sheehan, *Assistant Clerk of Session*

### Class of 2024

Jill Borrero  
Mae Cheng-PaVon  
Bruni Fernandez  
Paul Griggs  
Sam Griggs  
Claire Kedeshian  
John Kern  
William Stone  
John Wyatt

### Class of 2025

Eric Daniels  
Ann Marie Koehler  
Chris Rogers  
Janeen A. Sarlin  
Meg Sheehan  
Sylvia Winrich

### Class of 2026

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

## The Board of Deacons

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Greg Dow, *Moderator* • Joann Harrah, *Vice Moderator* • Sarah McKoy, *Secretary*

Shane Markstrum, *Treasurer*

### Class of 2024

Jennica Carmona  
Greg Dow  
Joann Harrah  
Beverly Elmyra Johnson  
Lydia Kalmen  
Shane Markstrum  
Auguste Nipabi  
Joyce Nolen  
Branden Wang  
Lynn Wishart

### Class of 2025

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

### 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

## The Board of Trustees

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Ken Henderson, *President* • Jane Hong, *Vice President* • Susan Neunaber, *Secretary*

Christopher Duffy, *Treasurer* • Meredith Fleck, *Assistant Treasurer*

### Class of 2025

Susan Cersovsky  
Jose Guardado  
Ken Henderson  
Joanna McNurlen  
Jeff Rowbottom  
Mark Snyder

### Class of 2026

Christopher Duffy  
Chris Edwards  
Meredith Fleck  
Jane Hong  
Susan Neunaber  
Thomas Wesley

### Class of 2027

Joyce Hansen  
Mark Moreland  
Marran Ogilvie  
Constance Pond  
Hubbard  
Phil Ryan  
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*

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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*

Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom, *Director of Engagement*



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](mailto:familyministries@fapc.org)



**Fund the altar flowers**

Natalie Wardius

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



**Join the church**

Ashley Gonzalez-Grissom

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



**Make a donation**

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



**Plan your wedding**

Donna Ketchledge

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



**Planned giving**

Richard Schexnider

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

**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



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](http://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](http://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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