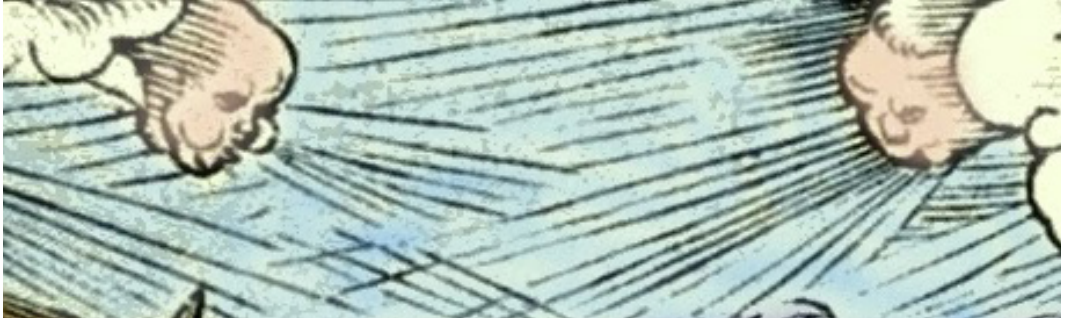




# Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church

SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY  
FEBRUARY 23, 2025 • 11:00 AM



Daniel's Dream of the Four Animals, Hans Holbein, the Younger (c. 1497 – 1543)

**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! You will find children’s Bibles in the first 10 rows of pews on the far north side of the Sanctuary (to the right when looking down the aisle). Ushers can also provide children’s bulletins and worship bags. If you need to leave the service with your child, the ushers can direct you to the nearest changing table and livestream monitor. Every Sunday, we provide childcare for infants and toddlers from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm in the LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center. There is Sunday school for children in preschool through 5th grade at 9:30 am and Children’s Church for children in preschool through 2nd grade at 11:15 am.

## ➔ **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

*Berceuse á la mémoire de Louis Vierne  
Pierre Cochereau (1924–1984)*

### \* CALL TO WORSHIP

*Trustee William Stone*

One: People of faith, trust in the Lord!

**All: God is our refuge.**

One: God is our rock and our salvation;

**All: we shall not be shaken.**

One: God's Spirit gives us strength.

**All: God fills us with hope!**

One: Let us worship the Holy One, trustworthy and true.

### \* HYMN 15

**All Creatures of Our God and King** (verses 1, 2, 3 & 6)

### \* CALL TO CONFESSION

*Seminarian Erin Jane Braun*

### \* 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.)



As the deer pants for the wa-ter, so my soul longs af - ter you.



You a - lone are my heart's de- sire, and I long to wor - ship you.

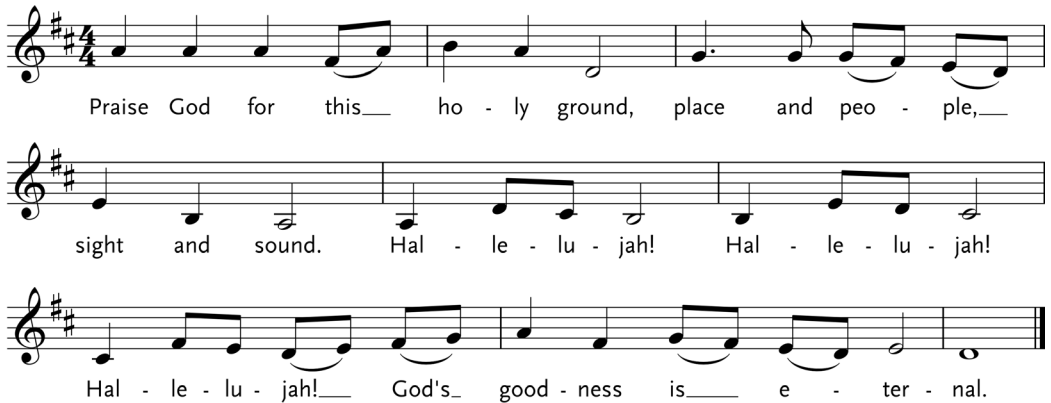
Music and Text: Martin J. Nystrom, 1984.

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### \* ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

\* RESPONSE OF PRAISE



Praise God for this ho - ly ground, place and peo - ple,  
sight and sound. Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!  
Hal - le - lu - jah! God's good - ness is e - ter - nal.

Music and Text: John L. Bell, 2002.  
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\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

LITANY OF PARTING

All: **May God be with you there.**  
Children: **May God be with you here.**

*Children (pre-K through second grade) are invited to exit the Sanctuary for Children's Church.  
If this is your child's first time at Fifth Avenue, please accompany them downstairs.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*The Rev. Dr. Jonah So*

ANTHEM

In Beauty May I Walk • *Jonathan Dove (b. 1959)*  
*Words from a Navajo prayer, trans. Jerome Rothenberg (b. 1931)*

In beauty may I walk,  
All day long may I walk,  
Through the returning seasons may I walk.  
Beautifully will I possess again  
Beautifully joyful birds.  
On the trail marked with pollen may I walk  
With grasshoppers about my feet may I walk.  
With dew about my feet may I walk.  
With beauty before me  
With beauty behind me  
With beauty above me  
With beauty all around me  
It is finished in beauty.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON

*Daniel 7:1-14*

**Austin Applebach, Director of Engagement**

**Voice 1:** In the first year of King Belshazzar of Babylon, Daniel had a dream and visions of his head as he lay in bed. Then he wrote down the dream:

**Voice 2:** I, Daniel, saw in my vision by night the four winds of heaven stirring up the great sea, and four great beasts came up out of the sea, different from one another. The first was like a lion

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and had eagles' wings. Then, as I watched, its wings were plucked off, and it was lifted up from the ground and made to stand on two feet like a human being; and a human mind was given to it.

**All: Another beast appeared, a second one, that looked like a bear. It was raised up on one side, had three tusks in its mouth among its teeth and was told, 'Arise, devour many bodies!' After this, as I watched, another appeared, like a leopard. The beast had four wings of a bird on its back and four heads; and dominion was given to it.**

**Voice 1:** After this I saw in the visions by night a fourth beast, terrifying and dreadful and exceedingly strong. It had great iron teeth and was devouring, breaking in pieces, and stamping what was left with its feet. It was different from all the beasts that preceded it, and it had ten horns.

**Voice 2:** I was considering the horns, when another horn appeared, a little one coming up among them; to make room for it, three of the earlier horns were plucked up by the roots. There were eyes like human eyes in this horn, and a mouth speaking arrogantly.

**All: As I watched,  
thrones were set in place,  
and an Ancient One took his throne;  
his clothing was white as snow,  
and the hair of his head like pure wool;  
his throne was fiery flames,  
and its wheels were burning fire.  
A stream of fire issued  
and flowed out from his presence.  
A thousand, thousand served him,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.  
The court sat in judgement,  
and the books were opened.**

**Voice 1:** I watched then because of the noise of the arrogant words that the horn was speaking. And as I watched, the beast was put to death, and its body destroyed and given over to be burned with fire.

**Voice 2:** As for the rest of the beasts, their dominion was taken away, but their lives were prolonged for a season and a time. As I watched in the night visions,

**All: I saw one like a human being  
coming with the clouds of heaven.  
And he came to the Ancient One  
and was presented before him.  
To him was given dominion  
and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one  
that shall never be destroyed.**

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

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SERMON

*The Rev. Dr. Scott Black Johnston*

**“God vs. Zilla”**

\* PRAYER FOR THE DAY

Holy God,  
when monsters stomp out of the sea,  
we tremble!  
They gnash their teeth.  
They fan the flames of fear.  
Call to us. Assure us.  
Help us to stand strong.  
Help us hear your voice over the noise.  
Protect us, encircle us, remind us  
that true dominion and power  
belong only to You.  
Only to You.  
Amen.

\* HYMN 329

**God Is Our Refuge and Our Strength**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The Rev. Chris Palmer*

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 ANTHEM

*Gloria from Missa Brevis • Jonathan Dove*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo  
et in terra pax hominibus bonae voluntatis.  
Laudamus te,  
benedicimus te,  
adoramus te,  
glorificamus te,  
gratias agimus tibi  
propter magnam gloriam tuam,  
Domine Deus, Rex caelestis,  
Deus Pater omnipotens.  
Domine Fili Unigenite, Jesu Christe,  
Domine Deus, Agnus Dei, Filius Patris,  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
miserere nobis;  
qui tollis peccata mundi,  
suscipe deprecationem nostram.*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.  
We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks  
for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.  
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer.

*Qui sedes ad dexteram Patris,  
miserere nobis.*

*Quoniam tu solus Sanctus,  
tu solus Dominus,  
tu solus Altissimus,  
Jesu Christe, cum Sancto Spiritu:  
in gloria Dei Patris. Amen.*

you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High,  
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

\* 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

**This Is God's Wondrous World**



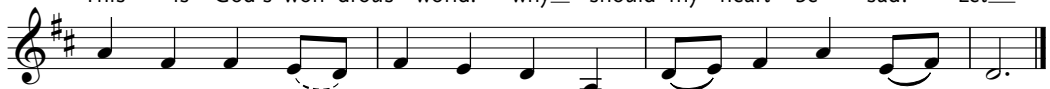
1 This\_\_ is God's won - drous world, and\_\_ to my lis - t'ning ears  
2 This\_\_ is God's won - drous world: the\_\_ birds their car - ols raise;  
3 This\_\_ is God's won - drous world: O\_\_ let me ne'er for - get



all na - ture sings, and\_\_ round me rings the mu - sic of the\_\_ spheres.  
the morn - ing light, the\_\_ li - ly white, de - clare\_\_ their Mak - er's\_\_ praise.  
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is\_\_ the rul - er\_\_ yet.



This is God's won - drous world; I\_\_ rest me in the thought of\_\_  
This is God's won - drous world: God\_\_ shines in all that's fair; in the  
This is God's won - drous world: why\_\_ should my heart be sad? Let\_\_



rocks and trees, of\_\_ skies and seas, God's hand\_\_ the won - ders\_\_ wrought.  
rus - tling grass or\_\_ moun - tain pass, God's voice\_\_ speaks ev - 'ry - where.  
voic - es sing, let the heav - ens ring: God reigns, let earth be\_\_ glad!

Music: Traditional melody, adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915; adapt. Stanley Oliver, 1929 – TERRA BEATA.  
Words: Malthie Davenport Babcock, 1901.

\* BENEDICTION

*Please remain in your pew until the conclusion of the Choral Response.*

\* CHORAL RESPONSE

May God Who Creates You • Louise Skibsted

May God who creates you give you light;  
May God who sustains you make you wise;  
May God who protects you give you joy;  
May God who surrounds you give you peace.

The ministry of music this morning is offered by the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church Choir  
Dr. Ryan Jackson, *William S. Perper Director of Music and Fine Arts Ministries*  
Dr. Patrick Kreeger, *Associate Organist*

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## WORSHIP NOTES

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The Anthem, “In Beauty May I Walk,” was composed by the brilliant British composer Jonathan Dove. The words come from an anonymous prayer of the Navajo people, translated by poet Jerome Rothenberg. This lovely musical setting is based on an evocative mantra-like theme that is sung repeatedly throughout much of the piece, primarily in the bass part. The repetition of this theme seems at once to plant the music firmly in the ground while lending it an air of weightlessness, as though suspended in time. In a contrasting middle section, the staccato sound of birdsong can be heard in the upper voices, ornamenting the words “beautifully, joyful.” The original mantra-like theme returns, leading the piece to an awesome climax before ending gently in quiet wonder.

The Offertory Anthem, also by Jonathan Dove, is the Gloria from his *Missa Brevis* (“Short Mass”), a work commissioned by the Cathedral Organists’ Association in the UK. *Missa Brevis* was premiered by the choir of Wells Cathedral in 2009, and was chosen for the BBC’s Christmas Day Worship broadcast in 2009. Since that time, *Missa Brevis* has become one of the most popular contemporary settings of the Mass, and has been performed in countless services throughout the world. The Gloria is characteristic of Dove’s distinctive minimalist style, featuring catchy rhythmic motives, ingenious thematic prolongation, and captivating interplay between the choir and organ.



## 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, Neta Beberino, Helen Betzaia, Becky Bjornstad, Patricia Blair 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, Irene P. Gilman, Anthea and Neville Graham, Florence Hall Torian Hall, Peter S. Hawkins, Carol Healy, Christopher Henderson, Donna Marie Henderson Maggie Hendrix, Emi Iwaida, Tara Kay Johnson, Juliet Kaldanie, Ceciwa Khonje, Louis Sterling King Janet Lamberth, Richard J. Lawson, Frederick Loomis, Mary Lowry, Violet Lorenzen, Lauren Ma The McCall Family, Epifania Mercado, Ryan Moloughney, Gerry Nagy, Frank Owarish, Emmett Raitt Dexter Ramcharan, Arthur Richmond, Ramon Rosa, Pauline Sample, 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](mailto:congregationalcare@fapc.org), 212.247.0490).

## CALENDAR

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### Today

- 9:30 am**      **Chapel Church.** Jones Auditorium.  
**Little Lambs Nursery.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- 10:15 am**      **Children's Choir.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- 11 am**          **Worship.** Sanctuary & Livestream.  
**Youth Group.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- 11:15 am**      **Children's Church.** LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center.
- 12:15 pm**      **Coffee Hour.** Bonnell Hall. Join us after worship for a cup of coffee and an opportunity to chat with clergy and friends.  
**Tour of the Church.** After worship, look for a docent in the back of the Sanctuary with a "tour starts here" sign.
- 12:30 pm**      **Sermon Springboard.** Zoom. Join Rev. Dr. Jonah So and members of the online campus for sermon discussion and fellowship.
- 1 pm**            **Game Day with Guests from Our Ecumenical Outreach Partnership.** Jones Auditorium.
- 7 pm**            **Exploring New Perspectives: Reading the Bible Through an LGBTQ+ Lens.** Zoom. Visit [fapc.org/adulted](https://fapc.org/adulted) to learn more and sign up!
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### This Week

- Tue Feb 25**      **Weekly Word Bible Study.** 12 pm • Zoom. For more information and to register, visit [fapc.org/bible-study](https://fapc.org/bible-study).
- Wed Feb 26**      **Community Choir.** 6 pm • Jones Auditorium. All voices are welcome!
- Thu Feb 27**      **Career Directions.** 10 am • Zoom. Visit [fapc.org/community-groups](https://fapc.org/community-groups) to learn more and to sign up.  
**Memorial Service for Pamela Harris.** 2 pm • Sanctuary.
- Fri Feb 28**      **Youth Group Last Friday Hangout.** 7 pm • LaDane Williamson Christian Education Center. To learn more, visit [fapc.org/fridays](https://fapc.org/fridays) or email the Rev. Werner Ramirez at [youth@fapc.org](mailto:youth@fapc.org).
- Sat March 1**      **Meals on Heels.** 8:30 am • Bonnell Hall. Contact: John Wyatt ([moh@fapc.org](mailto:moh@fapc.org)).

### Coming Up

- Sun, March 9**      **Deacons Annual Clothing Drive Begins.** 9 am • The Curry Church House.
- Sat March 15**      **FAYA Believing & Belonging Membership Class.** 2 pm • Living Room. Want to Join? Email [youngadults@fapc.org](mailto:youngadults@fapc.org).

**Next Sunday:  
Transfiguration of the Lord • Confirmation Sunday**

"For Pete's Sake" • Matthew 17:1-9  
*The Rev. Werner Ramirez, preaching.*

## NEWS & EVENTS

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### **Today: Exploring New Perspectives: Reading the Bible Through an LGBTQ+ Lens**

Have you ever wondered how the Bible might be read in ways that celebrate the diversity of God's creation? One perspective through which we can read the Bible is that of LGBTQ+ communities. Join us at 7 pm EST for this interactive Zoom session. We'll be joined by Dr. Jimmy Hoke, of the United Theological Seminary of the Twin Cities. Visit [fapc.org/new](http://fapc.org/new) to learn more and register!

### **Friday, February 28: Youth Group Last Friday Hangout**

Join us for pizza, games, and a meaningful devotional time to deepen our faith and connect with each other. These evenings are all about fun, friendship, and growing closer to God in a supportive community. Bring your friends and join us for unforgettable nights of laughter, games, and spiritual growth. Learn more and register at [fapc.org/friday](http://fapc.org/friday).

### **Sunday, March 2: Family Ministries Pancake Day**

All families are invited to join us at 9:30 am for a morning of fellowship and pancakes, as we gather to enjoy a final feast before the Lenten period of reflection. The tradition of consuming pancakes on Shrove Tuesday stems from the practice of using up rich ingredients like eggs and butter before the Lenten fast. No signup necessary. Learn more at [fapc.org/pancake](http://fapc.org/pancake).

### **Thursday, March 6: The Gotto Lecture**

Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, poet, and author Eliza T. Griswold will deliver the Anita and Antonio Gotto Lecture on Thursday, March 6, at 7 pm in the Sanctuary and online. Griswold is celebrated for her compassionate storytelling and deep exploration of social and cultural issues. Her work, often featured in *The New Yorker*, sheds light on marginalized communities and the resilience of the human spirit. Griswold's latest book, *Circle of Hope*, offers a powerful narrative about a congregation working towards change and justice amid adversity. Register for the lecture and the pre-event book discussion at [fapc.org/gotto](http://fapc.org/gotto).

### **Sunday, March 9: Deacons Annual Clothing Drive begins**

This year the drive will benefit the Ecumenical Outreach Partnership and the Samaritan's Closet, a collaborative ministry of Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church and St. James Episcopal Church. Bring your new or lightly used clothing with you to church on Sunday, March 9 or March 16. You may also drop them off at the 55th Street reception desk during the week. In demand: casual spring and summer clothing; packages of new underwear and socks, especially men's. If you are unable to come by in person, you are welcome to order socks and underwear and ship them directly to the church, to the attention of Natalie Wardius. Thank you for your generosity!

### **Saturday, March 15: FAYA Believing & Belonging Membership Class**

Are you looking to join a thriving community in the heart of New York City? We have room for you! If you are in your twenties or thirties and thinking about joining the church, come to our FAYA membership class, Believing and Belonging, on Saturday, March 15, at 2 pm. It's a fun afternoon, complete with confetti cannons, a church tour, interviews with older members, meaningful conversations, and statements of faith. This is for everyone interested, from lifelong churchgoers to the skeptical but curious. Want to take the class? Email [youngadults@fapc.org](mailto:youngadults@fapc.org).

## GETTING CONNECTED

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### 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. For more information on upcoming classes visit [fapc.org/adult-ed](https://fapc.org/adult-ed) or email Jaime Stahle at [adulthood@fapc.org](mailto:adulthood@fapc.org).

### 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.

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## 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. Our current mission partners are:

Asylum Support Clinic	Hands Along the Nile Development Services
Church of Gethsemane	Holmes Camp and Retreat Center
The Farminary Project	Ministry of Hope Lesotho
Garden of Hope	Mission co-workers in Madagascar, the Philippines & the U.S.–Mexico border
Good Samaritan Project	Parity
First Spanish Presbyterian Church	Urban Outreach Center NY
Green City Force	

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).

## OFFICERS BY CLASS

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

#### Class of 2025

Eric Daniels  
Carol Kenney  
Ann Marie Koehler  
Chris Rogers  
Janeen A. Sarlin  
Meg Sheehan  
Sienna Toung  
Sylvia Winrich

#### Class of 2026

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

#### Class of 2027

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

### The Board of Deacons

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Kirsten Aiello, *Moderator* • Chad Schepp, *Vice Moderator* • Sarah McKoy, *Secretary*  
Susan Roberson, *Treasurer*

#### 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

#### 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

### The Board of Trustees

---

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

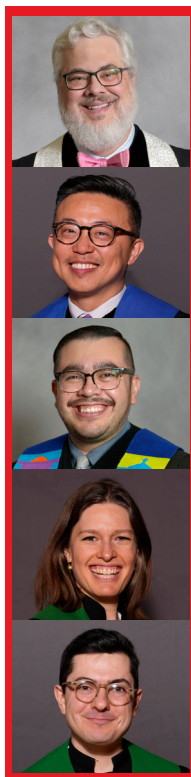
#### Class of 2026

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*

**The Rev. Chris Palmer** *Transitional Associate Pastor for Young Adults & Membership*

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The Rev. Dr. Michelle Lim, *Parish Visitor*

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*

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](mailto:familyministries@fapc.org)



**Join the online campus**

Natalie Owens-Pike

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



**Join the church**

Austin Applebach

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



**Make a donation**

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



**Make a bequest**

Richard Schexnider

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



**Plan your wedding**

Donna Ketchledge

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

**Fund the altar flowers** • 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)

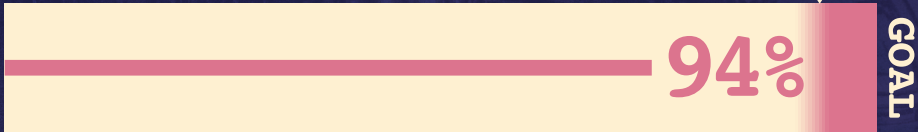
We livestream our worship services and provide online playback on demand. We also shoot videos and photos from time to time in the church house (interior and exterior). By your presence, you grant Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church unrestricted rights to use and publish, transmit or telecast your image 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

## Have you pledged?

463 families have pledged \$3,445,037  
towards our \$3.65 million goal.

Thank you!



Your pledge supports our worship services,  
music program, online ministries, outreach  
to our neighbors, educational offerings,  
and so much more.

Please visit [fapc.org/pledge](https://fapc.org/pledge) today!

## 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](https://fapc.org/give)



## 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



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