

The First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York

TRINITY SUNDAY

Service for the Lord's Day | May 31, 2026 | 11:00 a.m.



The Trinity, Andrei Rublev, 1411

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH

The Session and members of First Church extend a sincere welcome to all persons regardless of race, nationality, gender, or sexual orientation.

This includes an open invitation to membership, the sacraments of baptism and the Lord's Supper, marriage, funerals, memorial services, and service as an officer of the church.

We are an open and inclusive community, gathered by God's grace and shaped by many cultures, identities, and experiences.

Together, we are a tapestry of God's children, seeking to respond to God's call in our lives and to witness to God's love, grace, and justice in the world.

Wherever you are in your journey of faith, we pray today's service will be a blessing to you. If this is your first time here, a member of the pastoral staff would be glad to greet you and answer any questions about the life and ministries of this church.

We are glad you are here. May you experience God's welcome in this place today.

Greg Stovell
Senior Pastor

Join us after worship for Coffee Fellowship in the Lobby or on the North Lawn, weather permitting, to meet one another, say hello to new faces, and enjoy refreshments.

Gender-neutral restrooms are located at the back of the Sanctuary, as well as through the wooden doors at the front on the south side. Additional restrooms are located in the lobby on the north side.

GET INVOLVED

STAY CONNECTED



Scan to receive our weekly newsletter, *First Matters*.

INTERESTED IN MEMBERSHIP?



Learn more about becoming part of our community.

GIVE



Support the life and ministries of the church.

If you are in need of care, such as prayer, a call from a pastor, or a ride to the church, please contact our church office at (212) 675-6150. Our staff will connect you with one of our pastors or a deacon from our caring ministry.

GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Prayer of Saint Gregory”

Alan Hovhaness

PEALING OF THE CARILLON

WELCOME

INTROIT

Above all praise and all majesty, Lord, thou reignest evermore. Hallelujah.

Felix Mendelssohn
—based on Nehemiah 9:5

HYMN 1

“Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!”

NICAEA

Please stand in body or spirit.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Great God of all creation,
who are we that you are mindful of us?
You set the stars in motion,
launched waves crashing against the shore.
You know the heights and depths of the world,
and yet you care for us.
Turn us around, O God.
Help us to see as you see,
and to reach out as you reach out.
Remind us once again of the sacredness of our lives.
Hear our prayers of confession...**

SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSE

JULION



Though the shad - ows dim our vi - sion, hope is dawn - ing like the sun.



Give us strength to tend the wound - ed, till your new world has be - gun.



Word of Jus - tice, Liv - ing Prom - ise, be our life, O Ris - en One!

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE AND SHARING SIGNS OF PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

HEARING THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 1:1-2:4a

pew Bible, Old Testament page 1/large print, Old Testament page 1

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Let Us Create”

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

HYMN 664

“Morning Has Broken”

BUNESSAN

Please stand in body or spirit.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

The Apostles' Creed

Please stand in body or spirit.

**I believe in God the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.**

and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;

who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried;

he descended into hell;

the third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and sitteth on the right hand

of God the Father Almighty;

from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost;

the holy catholic church;

the communion of saints;

the forgiveness of sins;

the resurrection of the body;

and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERTORY

Ēriks Ešenvalds

We praise Thee, O God: we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord. All the earth doth worship Thee: the Father everlasting.

To Thee all Angels cry aloud: the heavens and all the powers therein. To Thee Cherubim and Seraphim continually do cry,

Holy, Holy, Holy: Lord God of Sabaoth; heaven and earth are full of the majesty of Thy glory. The glorious company of

the Apostles praise Thee. The godly fellowship of the Prophets praise Thee. The noble army of Martyrs praise Thee. The

holy Church throughout all the world doth acknowledge Thee; the Father of an infinite majesty; Thine honorable, true,

and only Son; also the Holy Ghost: the Comforter. Thou art the King of Glory, O Christ. Thou art the everlasting Son

of the Father. When Thou tookest upon Thee to deliver man: Thou didst not abhor the Virgin's womb. When Thou hadst

overcome the sharpness of death, Thou didst open the kingdom of heaven to all believers. Thou sittest at the right hand

of God in the glory of the Father. We believe that Thou shalt come to be our Judge. We therefore pray Thee, help Thy

servants whom Thou hast redeemed with Thy precious blood. Make them to be numbered with Thy Saints in glory

everlasting.

—Latin hymn, c. 5th-6th century

Please stand in body or spirit.

Traditional Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Him, all crea - tures
Inclusive Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise Christ, all peo - ple



here be - low; praise Him a - bove, ye heaven - ly host;
 here be - low; praise Ho - ly Spir - it ev - er - more;



praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.
 praise Tri - une God, whom we a - dore.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND 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.

SENDING

HYMN 757

“Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples”

KINGSFOLD

Please stand in body or spirit.

BLESSING

POSTLUDE

“Trumpet Voluntary”

John Stanley

*The congregation is invited to continue worshiping through the postlude,
 which is offered as a thanksgiving to God.*

LEADING THIS MORNING

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, *Senior Pastor*
 Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, *Executive Minister*

The First Church Choir
 Andrew Kemp, *Trumpet*
 Michael Shake, *Organist and Director of Music*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

**Today,
May 31** 9:30 a.m. Child Care
9:30 a.m. Coffee & Theologians (hybrid)
11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
12:00 p.m. Coffee & Fellowship
12:30 p.m. Creatives Create: Open Gallery
12:30 p.m. Literary Group (hybrid)

**Monday,
June 1** 5:30 p.m. Qigong (virtual)
7:00 p.m. Current Events (virtual)

**Wednesday,
June 3** 6:00 p.m. Art at First (virtual)
7:00 p.m. LGBTQ Bible Study (virtual)

**Thursday,
June 4** 9:00 a.m. NY Artist Circle
5:00 p.m. Elder Care Committee (virtual)

**Friday,
June 7** 5:45 p.m. Family Summer Music

**Saturday,
June 6** 10:00 a.m. Soup Kitchen
12:00 p.m. RIF Asylum Support

**Sunday,
June 7** 9:30 a.m. Child Care
9:30 a.m. Worship Circle with Babies & Toddlers
11:00 a.m. Sunday Worship
12:00 p.m. Coffee & Fellowship
12:30 p.m. Creatives Create: Open Gallery



Stay connected with all that's
happening at First Church.
Scan to receive our weekly
newsletter, *First Matters*.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Creatives Create: Open Gallery | Open until June 14

Join us after worship in the Great Hall for “Deep & WIDE,” a creative exhibition on partnerships around the world. What do deep and wide partnerships mean to YOU? Discover diverse interpretations of partnership, reflecting on the rich tapestry of connections that inspire thought and conversation. On June 14 at 2:00 p.m., join us for an engaging performance, when we hear and experience interpretations of “Deep & Wide” connections! A reception will follow. All are invited!

Literary Group | Today, May 31 and June 21 | 12:30 p.m.

Join the Literary Group for upcoming discussions following worship at 12:30 p.m. in the Parlor and via Zoom. Today, May 31, the group will discuss *On Tyranny: Twenty Lessons from the Twentieth Century* by Timothy Snyder. On Sunday, June 21, the discussion will focus on *Travels with Herodotus* by Ryszard Kapuscinski. All are welcome.

Pride Month at First Church

Join us this June for Pride Month gatherings and events at First Church. From Bible study and shared meals to music, fellowship, and serving our neighbors during the NYC Pride Parade, we invite you to celebrate with us. All are welcome.

- **Sunday Brunch with Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church | Sunday, June 14 at 12:30 p.m.** Join us for a shared rooftop brunch and community gathering following worship.
- **Cocktail & Jazz Party | Thursday, June 25 | 6:00–9:00 p.m.** Celebrate Pride Month with live jazz, fellowship, and summer gathering on the South Lawn.
- **Pride Parade Water Tables | Sunday, June 28 beginning at 11:00 a.m.** Help offer water and welcome along the NYC Pride Parade route.

Questions? Contact Sally Collins at mission@fpcnyc.org.

Virtual LGBTQ Bible Study | Wednesday, June 3 and 17 | 7:00 p.m.

Led by Rev. Dr. Barbara Davis, this series will engage in conversations around biblical stories and the book *Queer Virtue* by the Reverend Elizabeth M. Edman. Considering stories of Mary meeting Jesus in the garden outside the tomb and the wedding at Cana, Edman’s book considers the “inherent queerness of Christianity” and how reading our sacred stories from this point of view can help us energize our faith beyond the often considered binaries.

Senior Luncheon | Thursday, June 11 | 12:30 p.m.

The Elder Care Committee invites you to attend the Senior Luncheon in the Parlor. Barbara Sherman, a member of the church, artist, and Chair of the Art at First program, will present “The Artist at Work.”

Summer Music and Community for All Ages | June and July

Join us this summer for music for all ages:

- **Summer Choir** (high school and up, Sundays in June; mshake@fpcnyc.org)
- **Summer Strummers** (intergenerational ukulele, select Sundays in June and July; rbarkerasto@fpcnyc.org)
- **Summer Worship Circle with Babies & Toddlers** (select Sundays in June and July; jbennett@fpcnyc.org)
- **Family Summer Music** (Fridays outdoors in June and July; rbarkerasto@fpcnyc.org)

Adult Education

This season, our hybrid adult education offerings explore hope through ancient and contemporary voices. All are welcome.

- **Bible Study | Wednesdays at 12:30 p.m. | June 10, 17** Join us as we explore the Gospel of John, engaging themes from Dorothy A. Lee’s commentary. Together, we will reflect on ideas central to this late first-century community, including wisdom, glory, light, and revelation. (Hybrid)
- **Coffee & Theologians | Sunday at 9:30 a.m. | June 14** *The Work of Discipleship in Today’s World*. Gather for thoughtful conversation as we consider what it means to live out our faith today. (Hybrid)

For details and Zoom links, contact the front desk at frontdesk@fpcnyc.org.

Youth & Family Ministries

- Church School (age 3–6th grade) is on summer recess and will resume in September.
- Child care for infants and toddlers is available throughout the summer during worship.
- Additional summer programming for children and families will be announced throughout the season.

For more information, contact Jenny, Director of Youth & Family Ministries at jbennett@fpcnyc.org.

Deacons of the Month

The May deacons of the month are **Caroline Fjeldheim, Aurora Jones, and Matthew Power**. They’ll be wearing name badges at coffee hour and would be happy to answer questions about the church.



SUMMER MUSIC at First Church

MUSIC AND COMMUNITY
FOR ALL AGES

Summer Choir

High school and up | Sundays in June



Summer Strummers

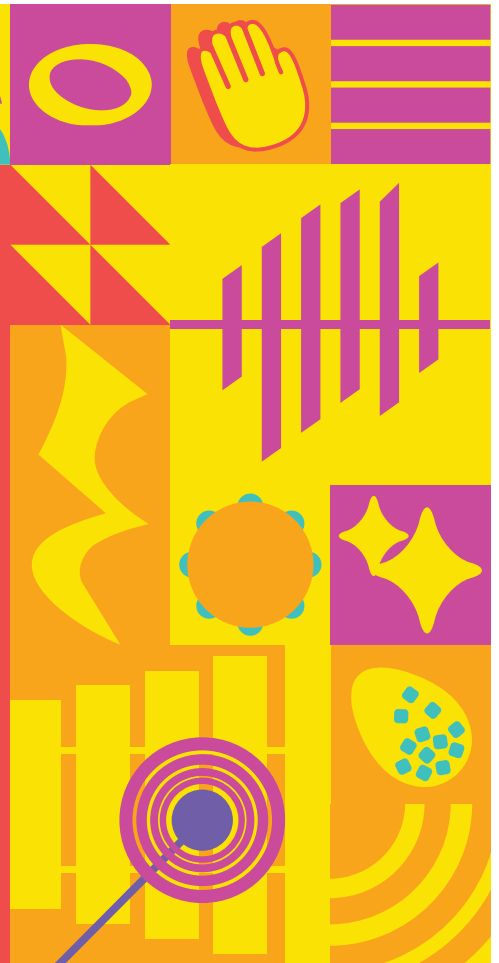
Intergenerational ukulele | Select Sundays in June & July

Summer Worship Circle with Babies & Toddlers

Select Sundays in June & July

Family Summer Music

Fridays outdoors | June & July



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