**May 18, 2025 5th Sunday of Easter 11 AM**



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**PRELUDE** “Lord, Grant Me This I Pray – Divine Entreatices for Mercy”

(from Mass Ordinary Section #7,8,9 of Plain Song Melodies”) Max Reger

**WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** **– Psalm 24:1**

The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it.

**HYMN #20** (vv. 1,4) “All Things Bright and Beautiful”

**Refrain:** All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,  
all things wise and wonderful, the Lord God made them all.

1 Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,  
God made their glowing colors; God made their tiny wings. [**Refrain**]

4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell  
how great is God Almighty, who has made all things well. [**Refrain**]

**CALL TO CONFESSION**  (1 John 1:8-9)

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves,

and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just

will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Almighty God, we acknowledge, and confess that we have sinned against you, in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbor as ourselves. Deepen within us our sorrow for the wrong we have done and the good we have left undone. We ask you to forgive all our sin, not on the basis of our good works, but by what Jesus has already done for us on  the cross. In your mercy forgive us, heal us, and make us whole. Set us free from our sin and restore us to your joy.

**ASSURANCE OF GOD’S LOVE** (1 John 2:2)

But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father,

Jesus Christ the righteous;

and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only

but also for the sins of the whole world.

**RESPONSE: HYMN #581** “Gloria Patri”

Glory be the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,

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

World without end. Amen. Amen.

**PEACE**

Let there be peace on earth.

**And let it begin with me.**

The peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

**RESPONSIVE READING** Psalm 24:1-6 (NRSVUE)

The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it,🕈  
**for he has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers.**

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place?🕈  
**Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls**

**to what is false and do not swear deceitfully.**They will receive blessing from the Lord

and vindication from the God of their salvation.🕈  
**Such is the company of those who seek him,  
    who seek the face of the God of Jacob.  Selah**

**FIRST READING** Revelation 21:1-6 (NRSVUE)

1Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 2 And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. 3And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them and be their God; 4 he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away.” 5 And the one who was seated on the throne said, “See, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true.” 6Then he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

**CHILDREN’S SERMON (optional)**

**SECOND READING** John 13:31-35 (NRSVUE)

31 When he had gone out, Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. 32 If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once. 33 Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me, and as I said to the Jews so now I say to you, ‘Where I am going, you cannot come.’ 34 I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. 35 By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”

**SERMON** “All Things New and True” Lois Anne DeLong

**HYMN #753** “Make Me a Channel of Your Peace”

1 Make me a channel of Your peace. Where there is hatred let me bring Your love. Where there is injury, Your pardon, Lord, and where there’s doubt, true faith in You.

2 Make me a channel of Your peace. Where there’s despair in life, let me bring hope. Where there is darkness, only light, And where there’s sadness, ever joy.

3 Oh Master, grant that I may never seek so much to be consoled, as to console, to be understood, as to understand, to be loved, as to love with all my soul.

4 Make me a channel of Your peace. It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, in giving of ourselves that we receive, and in dying that we’re born to eternal life.

**PROFESSION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES CREED**

**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 Spirit, 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 at 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 Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints,**

**the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

**Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** The Rev. Natalie Owens-Pike, Associate Pastor, Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church of NYC, offered this prayer on Sunday, May 11, 2025.

Holy God, in whom we live and move and have our being, we lift up to you the prayers on our hearts this day. We name to you these, our precious hopes.

For those of us who need your tenderness on this day, whether we are grieving a loss of a parent, child, or a role within our family, be with us.   
For those under threat of violence or war, or who seek a better life for their children, lend your courage, lend your presence of steadfast love.  
Move your spirit of gentleness through each of our hearts - whatever they hold on this day. Rejoice with us in our rejoicing, if this day brings tears let your love be there, help give us the strength and courage to be makers as you have been, Creator God.   
Be with us in the moments when we desire the faith of Lydia, even as we feel within us our fears or questions.

Lift in our hearts your spirit of tender mercy as we behold our neighbors near and far, especially those we imagine are not like us. Teach us to see each other as you created each of us: in your holy image, beloved just as we are. Help us to be bold in our actions on behalf of the poor, and the oppressed, the refugee and the immigrant, as you commanded us, oh Christ.

Waymaker, peacebuilder, we call on your holy names today to bring peace even where peace feels unreachable. Bring peace to all those in Sudan and Ukraine and Pakistan, bring peace, real peace, to Israel and Gaza, bring peace to our nation as we work toward the promise of together what we can be.

Loving God, we know you accompany us even when we do not see it. We lift up to you the joys and sorrows of our lives. The news we await from doctors and tests. The care we hold for those who mourn, and who long to be comforted.

We pray all this in the name of the one who came to give abundant life, as we pray together the prayer your son Jesus taught us, saying:

***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.***

**OFFERING/OFFERTORY**  “Lord, My Heart Inclined Unto Thee” Gustav Merkel

**OFFERING SONG #606**  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.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION/(THE LORD’S PRAYER)**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CLOSING HYMN #81** “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

1 Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God.  
God, whose word cannot be broken, formed thee for a blest abode.  
On the rock of ages founded, what can shake thy sure repose?  
With salvation's walls surrounded, thou may'st smile at all thy foes.

2 Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear  
for a glory and a covering, showing that the Lord is near.  
Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,  
safe they feed upon the manna which God gives them when they pray.

3 See, the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,  
well supply thy sons and daughters and all fear of want remove.  
Who can faint while such a river ever flows, their thirst to assuage?  
Grace, so like the Lord the giver, never fails from age to age.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** “Jesu, Source of Pleasure” Johann Pachelbel

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**UPCOMING CALENDAR**

**TODAY, 1:00 PM** – we welcome back Medina (clarinet) and Margrit Zimmermann (pianist) in concert today after worship. Please plan to attend in the church hall and join us! (Flyers are in the back of the church)

**REMINDER:** We are still looking for **volunteers** for **worship readers** and/or **juice/coffee hour**. There is a 3-month sign-up sheet posted just outside the office.

If you have any questions, please contact the Office.

**First Presbyterian Church of Forest Hills**

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**David Barnett**, Admin.718-268-4036 **Jeff Courter**, Pastor,

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**Nadina Grants**, Clerk of Session  **Hannah Lin**, Guest Organist

Please note: we now have a public WiFi for the church, though it may only be available in the church hall for now.

**Name: CHURCH GUEST**

**Password: welcome1**

***For offerings/donations:***

1. ***Qr code

   Description automatically generated*Use Zelle to make Online donations from your bank account. Use this phone number to transfer to the church:**

**929-418-0958 (please note: this is a new number)**

1. **Make checks payable to *First Presbyterian Church of Forest Hills* and mail check to the church office**
2. **Go to our church website:** [**presbyfh.org**](about:blank) **and click on the “**[**Give Now**](about:blank)**” icon to set up a donation; or click on the qr code above**
3. **Set up a “Bill pay” from your bank.**



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