

# THE BEATITUDES OF BROADWAY

August 5, 2018 • 10 a.m.

**Prelude**

*Jolly Holiday*

Robert Kwan

Richard Sherman & Robert Sherman

**Welcome**

Rev. Dr. Michael Piazza

**\*\* Exchange of Peace**

**\*\* Opening Hymn**

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;  
2 Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,  
3 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways  
4 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time;

hark, how the heaven-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own!  
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise.  
cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
His reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet  
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
but down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.  
thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

**\*\* Invocation**

Rev. Kibbie Laird

(\* \* The people will rise in body or spirit.)

## Anthem

## Practically Perfect

Allison Gray

George Stiles, music; Anthony Drewe, lyrics

## Pastoral Prayer

### \*\* Gospel Lesson

Luke 6:27-38

One: Please rise in body or spirit in reverence to the words of Jesus.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church

**All: We listen for a word from God:**

Jesus said, "But I say to you that, listen, love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you. If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for God is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your God is merciful. Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back."

One: Hear this ancient witness from yesterday.

**All: May the Word become flesh in us today!**

### \*\* Gloria

## Glory to God

Paul M. Vasile



Glo - ry to God, whose good-ness shines on me, and to the Son, \_\_\_ whose grace has  
World with-out end, with-out end, A-men. World with-out end, \_\_\_ with - out



par - doned me, and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free. As it  
end, A - men. World with-out end, with - out end, A - men.



was in the be-gin - ning, is now and ev-er shall be, A - men.

## Special Music

## Feed the Birds

Richard Sherman & Roger Sherman, music & lyrics

**Sermon**

*The Beatitudes of Broadway: Mary Poppins*

**\*\* Hymn of Response**

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

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**Offering and Cents-Ability Collection**

Rev. Chris Tate

**Offertory Anthem**

*A Spoonful of Sugar*

Richard Sherman & Roger Sherman, music & lyrics

**Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Jesus Christ and in God grow,  
Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Praise to the Holy Spirit give,  
That we with God in love may live.  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**Sacrament of Holy Communion**

**Words of Institution**

**Prayer of Consecration**

**Invitation**

**The Sharing of the Feast**

**Communion Music**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**The Prayer of Jesus**

*from The New Zealand Book of Common Prayer*

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe!**

**May the way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!**

**Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!**

**Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.**

**In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.**

**In times of temptation and testing, strengthen us.**

**From trials too great to endure, spare us.**

**From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,**

**Now and forever. Amen.**

**\*\* Closing Hymn**

*God Be with You till We Meet Again*

Unison Harmony

1 God be with you till we meet a - gain; lov - ing coun - sels  
2 God be with you till we meet a - gain; un - seen wings pro -  
3 God be with you till we meet a - gain; when life's per - ils  
4 God be with you till we meet a - gain; keep love's ban - ner

guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's care en - fold you:  
tect - ing hide you, dai - ly man - na still pro - vide you:  
thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing arms a - round you:  
float - ing o'er you; smite death's threat - ening wave be - fore you:

Unison

God be with you till we meet a - gain.

**\*\* Charge and Blessing**

**\*\* Response**

*Let's Go Fly a Kite*

**Let's go fly a kite, up to the highest height  
Let's go fly a kite and send it soaring  
Up through the atmosphere, up where the air is clear  
Oh, let's go fly a kite!**

**\*\* Ringing the Church Bell**

**Postlude**

*Let Us All with Gladsome Voice*

Healey Willan

*All are invited to enjoy a continental breakfast and time of community hosted by the deacons on the back terrace off the common room, which is down the hall and on the left.*

## TODAY AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF NEW CANAAN

Welcome to the service of worship for the Lord's Day. **Summer worship continues through September 2.** Many of us are traveling or living elsewhere for the summer, but, if all who are in town will make an effort to be here each Sunday, we can have an amazing spiritual adventure. **Services, which, as always, begin at 10 a.m.,** will be a bit more relaxed, so you can dress more comfortably. We are going to practice laughing and loving in the presence of God each week. Parents of **infants through age four** are encouraged to take their children to the nursery school classrooms during worship. **Students in PreK and up remain in worship with their families.** Activity packets are available in the back of the church. All are invited to join us following worship at 11:15 a.m. for a continental breakfast provided by our deacons on the terrace located off the common room, which is down the hall and to the left.

**Greeters:** George and Charlotte Conner

**Worship Coordinator:** Bob Spangler

**Ushers:** Ed Elbert and Bob Spangler

**Refreshments:** Cindy Hagopian

**The Beatitudes of Broadway** This morning, we begin a new sermon series called "The Beatitudes of Broadway." We kick things off with the family-friendly "Mary Poppins," and one of our own stars, Allison Gray, will lend her beautiful soprano voice to the service. Today also is Communion Sunday, and, because we celebrate an open communion, everyone is welcome to nourish their soul with the "bread of life" and the "cup of redemption." Next Sunday, August 12, we will listen for a "word from God" from "Hello Dolly" and, of course, the scripture. On the 19th of August, we will explore "Hamilton," and the special music will be provided by a harpsicord, an instrument the founding parents might have played and heard. Then, on August 26, we will look at just a couple of the spiritual lessons in "Les Misérables," Interim Pastor Rev. Dr. Michael Piazza's all-time favorite musical. Finally, on Labor Day Sunday, September 2, Associate Pastor Rev. Kibbie Laird will share stories from



**HELLO,  
DOLLY!**

our Summer mission trips and talk about the lessons we might learn from the scripture as expressed in the classic "My Fair Lady." Please be sure to follow our Facebook page ([facebook.com/FPCNC](https://www.facebook.com/FPCNC)) and our Instagram feed ([FPCNC](https://www.instagram.com/FPCNC)) for ways you can invite your family and friends to join you in worship throughout the series.

**Cents-Ability** This morning during worship, we will take our monthly collection for Cents-Ability, a small first step in the battle against hunger and poverty. We invite members of all ages in our congregation to contribute a few cents at every meal to be donated each month. This simple act is an expression of thanks for what we have received and a commitment to share with others in response to Jesus' command, "You give them something to eat." When members bring their offerings to church on the appointed Sunday, all those coins "make a joyful noise unto the Lord" as they are received and dedicated. **Our total collection since we began Cents-Ability in November 2011 is \$19,251.** Thank you for your awareness and generous response to hunger. If you would like more information or need a Cents-Ability cup, please call the church office at 203-966-0002.



**Guest Organist** Our music director, Victoria Shields, currently is on study leave and a well-deserved vacation, so, this morning, we welcome Robert Kwan to the organ bench. Originally from Canada's westernmost province, British Columbia, Robert spent a year in England as the organ scholar at St. George's Chapel, Windsor castle before moving to the United States in 2001 for graduate studies. After earning a Doctor of Musical Arts from the Eastman School of Music in 2008, he moved to Connecticut where he was the assistant musician at Christ & Holy Trinity in Westport. Since August 2013 he has served as director of music and organist at Trinity Episcopal Church, Southport, where he selects the music, oversees the church's music series, rehearses and directs the choirs, and leads congregational singing from the organ. In addition to his church responsibilities, Robert maintains an active teaching schedule consisting of both piano and organ students, sings in various choral ensembles, and is the accompanist for the Staples High School choral ensembles.



**Digital Evangelism** We invite you to become a "digital evangelist" by taking a moment now, before silencing or turning off your smartphone, to check in on Swarm and Facebook. Leave a tip or thought about what First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan means to you. Snap a picture of the sanctuary, or a selfie of you and your family or friends, and post to Instagram and use **#FPCNC**. This afternoon, if you have not already, be sure to "Like" our Facebook page ([facebook.com/FPCNC](https://facebook.com/FPCNC)) and follow us on Instagram ([FPCNC](https://FPCNC)). Then, as you ponder the sermon, take a moment to post an idea to your page that challenged or uplifted you, letting your friends know they can join you in worship next Sunday at 10 a.m. Someone who sees it is sure to need a word of grace. See how easy it is to offer one?

**Why Multimedia** This week, in an installment of his daily email, *Liberating Word*, Interim Pastor Rev. Dr. Michael Piazza touched on some of the reasons that he believes the use of multimedia in worship is critical to the survival of the mainline progressive church. Having introduced multimedia to his congregation in Atlanta, Rev. Piazza shared a bit of his conversation with the church matriarch, Miss Blanche. "Although we would continue to have liturgical worship every Sunday," he wrote, "I wanted to use the screens to communicate better with people who are visual learners, to attract more families with children, and to retain the folks who are growing up spending their entire lives looking at screens. I told her that the screens essentially are the stained-glass windows of the 21st century. Windows were used initially to teach the Bible to an illiterate age. Today, at least as many people are Biblically illiterate. The United Church of Christ reminds us that 'God is still speaking,' and the screens allow us to train ourselves to listen and look for a word from God in movies and television shows, in Broadway musicals, and in the videos we watch online of poets, authors, and great leaders. I wanted my children to grow up hearing and seeing the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., rather than a white man quoting him."

**Summer Office Hours:** Through August 31, the church office will be open Monday-Thursday 9 a.m.-4 p.m. and on Fridays from 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

**If you wish to have flowers in the sanctuary** to celebrate an anniversary, a baptism, a birthday, or to memorialize a beloved family member or friend, please contact Barbara Wentzel, Flower Coordinator, at 203-966-5402 or [barbarawentzel@mac.com](mailto:barbarawentzel@mac.com).

## **NEWS & NOTES**

**Save the Date!** We will feast together on worship and a meal afterwards on **Homecoming Sunday, September 9**, as we welcome everyone home for what promises to be a transformational Fall. Our theme will be ***reVision: Discovering Our Transformational Purpose!*** In worship and in small groups, we will explore the vision and mission of our church and our lives as individuals.

**New Canaan Food Pantry:** Items in need now due to low/no stock are Parmalat, dry milk, applesauce, brownies, canned fruit, pancake mix (add water only), syrup, jelly, pasta sauce, decaf coffee, and canned stew. **No beans or soup are needed at this time.** Please drop these items in the shopping cart at the back of the sanctuary, and we will make sure they are delivered to the New Canaan Food Pantry.

**No Gift Too Small!** The Bell Tower Society, which allows members of the community and our congregation to bequeath enduring statements of faith, welcomes gifts and bequests of all sizes. Every dollar given makes a difference in serving the long-term welfare of our church. If you have questions about remembering the church in your estate plans, please contact our acting office administrator, Jim Beall, in the church office at 203-966-0002.

## **DEACON MINISTRIES**

**Baptisms:** The deacons at FPCNC help to welcome the families of children or adults being baptized. This is a ministry of welcome, hospitality, and care. One of our deacons will welcome the family on the chosen Sunday, help them get comfortable in the common room, let them know that the minister will meet with them before the service begins, and direct them where to sit in the sanctuary. They also help by taking photos for the family and for the church office. If you would like to learn more about baptisms, please do not hesitate to speak with the pastor or contact the church office for further information.

**Memorial Services:** Assistance for memorial receptions is a central ministry of service for the deacons at FPCNC. Given the grief and stress on families and the planning needed for a reception, the deacons share in the responsibility to assist at these events. Deacons work through the church office in reaching out to the family to ask how they can be of assistance with any reception set up, food and beverages, and other important details. Deacons assist during memorial services to help ensure the family receives the support and help they need. To learn more about memorial services, please speak with our pastor or inquire at the church office.

**Stewardship:** Thank you all so much for your GREAT response to the recent appeal from Associate Pastor Rev. Kibbie Laird and Clerk of the Session Scott Beyer. Many of you already stepped up and generated incremental and new pledges and gifts. We're incredibly grateful to the families and individuals who so quickly contributed an additional \$81,000, bringing us up to \$763,000. This puts us within reach of our \$800,000 goal for the 2018 operating budget. We're not quite there yet, however, and great First Presbyterian Church of New Canaan programs and services are still in jeopardy. If there's any way you can consider an additional pledge for 2018, please contact the church office at 203-966-0002 to be put in touch with Barbara Wentzel, our stewardship chair, or Armin Thies. You also may visit [fpcnc.org/stewardship](http://fpcnc.org/stewardship) to pledge or donate electronically TODAY! Every donation and pledge are a blessing to this congregation and its mission, as are you.

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

178 Oenoke Ridge, New Canaan, CT 06840

203-966-0002 / fpcnc.org

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 5

10 a.m. **Holy Communion Service  
with Rev. Dr. Michael Piazza**  
11:15 a.m. Blood Pressure Clinic  
11:15 a.m. Continental Breakfast and  
Fellowship

### TUESDAY, AUGUST 7

8 p.m. Men's A.A.

### SATURDAY, AUGUST 11

9 a.m. Goodwill Truck in parking lot  
9:15 a.m. A.A. (closed)  
10:30 a.m. A.A. (open)

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 12

10 a.m. **Worship Service  
with Rev. Dr. Michael Piazza**  
11:15 a.m. Continental Breakfast and  
Fellowship

### OUR MINISTERS

The Entire Congregation

### OUR PASTORS

The Rev. Dr. Michael S. Piazza, Interim Pastor  
The Rev. Kathryn Kibbie Laird, Associate Pastor  
The Rev. Mary Marple Thies, Parish Associate  
The Rev. Christopher G. Tate, Parish Associate

### OUR STAFF

Victoria Shields, Director of Music / Sherry Tate, Cherub Choir director  
Jim Beall, Acting Church Administrator / Tina St. Armand, Office Manager  
Erika Hagan, Administrative Assistant to Children and Youth Ministries  
Edgar Torres, Day Sexton / Jonathan Roos and Kate Stringfellow, Operations Managers  
*The Rev. T. Guthrie Speers, Jr., Pastor Emeritus - Mrs. Marilyn J. Ballantine, Minister of Music Emerita*

**Let us keep in our thoughts and prayers: *Continued concerns:*** Catherine Armstrong; Grace Chung; Graham Harden; Bob Jackson; William Boyd Kegg; Vince Lombardi; Jim Mierendorf; Alanna Ruszkowski; The Stricos family (friends of Joe and Diana Ruszkowski); The Abo Noktah family (our Syrian refugees): father Khaldoun, mother Khawla Alzob, daughters Hanin and Zain, and sons Yaman and Ahmed.

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*, original text: Matthew Bridges, 1851, music: George Job Elvy, 1868; *Glory to God*, traditional liturgical text, adapted by Paul M. Vasile, 2008, music: Paul M. Vasile, 2008; *Let Us Break Bread Together*, African-American spiritual, arranger: Melva Wilson Costen, 1988; *Doxology*, text: Brian Wren, 1989, tune: *Lasst uns Erfreuen*; *God Be with You till We Meet Again*, text: Jeremiah Eames Rankin, 1880, music: Ralph Vaughn Williams, 1906. CCLI # 11412435

