

THE FIRST CHURCH IN ALBANY

(Reformed Church in America)

110 North Pearl Street, Albany, NY 12207 ~ (518) 463-4449

Email: info@firstchurchinalbany.org ~ Website: www.firstchurchinalbany.org ~ Sunday Worship: 10:00 am

Founded in 1642; Continuing in Ministry Today

In response to God's unconditional love for all people made known to us in Jesus Christ, we are called to be a welcoming and affirming community. The First Church in Albany includes young and old, families, couples and singles, rich and poor, persons of various races, ethnicities, backgrounds, sexual orientation and gender identities, differing physical and mental abilities, believers and seekers. We welcome into the full life of the church all those whom God sends us. Centered in Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down dividing walls and building a community where all are loved.

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost August 12, 2018

Prelude

*By the Cradle: Op. 68, No.5
Love-Poem: Op. 43, No. 5*

Edvard Greig
Edvard Greig

Announcements

Call to Worship

Our help is in the name of the Lord who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

Amen.

I will bless the Lord at all times;

God's praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Let the humble hear and be glad.

O magnify the Lord with me, and let us exalt God's name together.

O taste and see that the Lord is good;

happy are those who take refuge in God.

Adapted from Psalm 34.1-3, 8

*Hymn 430

Come Sing, O Church, in Joy

DARWALLS'S 148TH

Prayer of Confession

**O God, when we give in to despair,
When we believe nothing can rescue us,
When we allow fear to overpower us,
When we think we can ignore the angels you send to us,
When we are filled with anger and taste only bitterness,
Forgive us and help us to open our mouths and our hearts
to receive the words, the food, the sweetness of your love
that can save us.**

The prayer may continue in silence.

Assurance of Pardon

*The Peace

Let us give thanks for the mercy of God and share the peace of Christ in the community God has created among us this morning.

The peace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

*Response (Tune: #386 - AZMON)

**O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,
Where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.**

**O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
Where time and tears will be no more and all but love will cease.**

A Word with Children

THE WORD OF GOD

The Prayer for Illumination

Eternal God, in the reading of the Scripture, may your word be heard; in the meditation of our hearts, may your word be known; and in the faithfulness of our lives, may your word be shown. Amen.

The Old Testament Lesson 1 Kings 19:4-8
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Lesson Ephesians 4:25-5.2
The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The Sermon Grief, Grace and Goodness

The Prayer for Blessing on the Word

THE RESPONSE TO GOD

*Hymn 472 *O Sing to the Lord* CANTAD AL SENOR

Offering

Offertory *Change My Heart, O God* Eddie Espinosa

*Doxology (Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, no. 455)
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below.
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise, praise Creator, praise the Son,
Praise Holy Spirit, Three in One,
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Meaning of the Sacrament and the Invitation

*The Hymn 505

Be Known to Us in Breaking Bread

ST. FLAVIAN

The Communion Prayer and the Prayers of the People

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

You are worthy of our thanks and praise.

Lord God of truth...

we echo the song of the angels in heaven,
evermore praising you and singing:

Sanctus (sung to the tune A15)

Santo, santo, santo, mi corazon te adora

Mi corazon te sabe decir, santo eres Senor.

Holy, holy, holy, my heart, my heart adores you.

My heart is glad to say the words, you are holy Lord.

Embracing our humanity....

that we might rise and reign with him in glory.

Dying he destroyed our death,

Rising he restored our life.

We await his coming in glory.

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, for ever. Amen.

The Words of Institution and Communion

Communion Anthem *Day by Day* Carolina Sandel Berg

Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me, bringing comfort to my anxious soul. Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal. Love divine beyond.

all mortal measure, brings to naught the burdens of my quest; Savior, lead me to the home I treasure, where at last I'll find eternal rest.

Day by day, I know you will provide me strength to serve and wisdom to obey; I will seek your loving will to guide me o'er the paths I struggle day by day. I will fear no evil of the morrow, I will trust in your enduring grace. Savior help me bear life's pain and sorrow till in glory I behold your face.

Oh, what joy to know that you are near me when my burdens grow to great to bear; Oh, what joy to know that you will hear me when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer. Day by day, no matter what betide me, you will hold me ever in your hand. Savior, with your presence here to guide me, I will reach at last the promised land.

Prayer after Communion

*Hymn 481 *Praise the Lord, God's Glories Show* LLANFAIR

*Charge and Blessing

Postlude *Album-Leaf; Op. 28, No.1* Edvard Greig

AΩ

*Those who are able, please stand

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS: Liturgist: Becky Hudak; Preacher: The Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden; Accompanist: Darhon Ress-Rohrbacher; Soloists: Ella Campbell & Jean Lamere.

We welcome all who gather to worship God this morning, especially visitors and friends from near and far. Please sign our guest book or complete a visitor's card (found in the pew rack) and place it in the offering plate. There is an elevator in our building, which makes every floor accessible. Please join us for refreshments and conversation after worship.

Children 4 and under are welcome in the Nursery following "A Word with Children." First Church is an accessible building:

- We have an elevator so you can reach every floor.



An Automated External Defibrillator "AED" is located in the lobby attached to the wall outside of the **workroom**.

We welcome Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher who joins us for worship today. Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, Darhon Rees-Rohrbacher holds a Doctor of Music degree as well as a Master of Science in Nursing degree. Initially trained as a classical vocalist and pianist, she began playing harp after moving to Upstate New York. Since then, she has focused her energies on writing for that unique instrument with over 200 published harp arrangements sold internationally as well as being recorded by numerous artists. When not making music, Darhon pursues her interest in healing as a nursing and healthcare instructor. A lifelong educator, she has been a faculty member at several colleges in the greater Capital District and is the author of two instruction manuals as well as numerous articles.

The flowers this morning are in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Edward M. Monthie by Mr. & Mrs. Edward M. Monthie, III.

There are **crayons, games and puzzle sheets** available for children. Please speak to one of our ushers.

Pocket Prayer Shawls are available at today's Worship. Please ask one of our greeters and they can provide a basket of pocket prayer shawls to choose from. Pocket Prayer Shawls are made and filled with prayers and can be given to someone in need of comfort, healing, or a reminder of the closeness of God.

Music Notes: [Today](#)'s piano selections are all by Norwegian composer Edvard Grieg (1843 – 1907). He is considered to be one of the leading Romantic era composers. His incorporation of Norwegian folk music in his compositions helped put Norway on the map in the “classical music” world. At 18, Grieg made his debut as a concert pianist in Sweden. From then on, he enjoyed a career as pianist and composer, despite suffering from chronic ill health after contracting tuberculosis at age 16. Grieg wrote in many genres but is best known for his incidental music for Henrik Ibsen's play *Peer Gynt*, which includes the famous excerpt entitled, "In the Hall of the Mountain King."

Drive-in Worship Service continues each Sunday at 9 a.m. through the first Sunday in September. Worshippers gather in the Sheridan Avenue parking lot and in Clee Park for a half hour worship service led from the outdoor pulpit. If you arrive before 9:30 a.m. for the James Chapel Service, please park in the Orange Street Lot or in the large lot against the wall that borders North Pearl Street.

July 8th thru August 26th indoor worship at 10 am will be held in James Chapel, which is air-conditioned. On September 2nd there will be no 10 am worship at First Church. Joint FOCUS Worship service will be held at Westminster Presbyterian at 10:00 am.

Cleo's Hotdog Thursdays: First Church will be offering **free Chili dogs or plain hotdogs** in Clee Park each Thursday from 11 am – 1pm thru August 30th. All are welcome! If you are interested in volunteering please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the hospitality table or talk to Larry or Valerie.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday	8/12	Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 am Drive-In Worship 10:00 am Worship Service in James Chapel (Main Floor) The Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden, preaching 11:00 am Lemonade Lull
Monday	8/13	9:00 am – 11:30 am – Food Pantry Open
Wednesday	8/15	Newsletter Deadline 9:00 am – 11:30 am – Food Pantry Open 12:00 pm AA Meeting 12:00 pm Prayer at Noon in Clee Park (weather permitting) 6:30 pm Pastoral Search Committee
Thursday	8/16	11:00 am – 1:00 pm – CLEEO’S HOTDOGS
Sunday	8/19	Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 am Drive-In Worship 10:00 am Worship Service in James Chapel (Main Floor) The Rev. Lynn Carman Bodden, preaching 11:00 am Lemonade Lull

Mary Bon is on vacation July 30th thru August 31st. She will back in the office on Tuesday, September 4, 2018. Rev. Susan Vincent-Cox is on vacation August 11th thru August 20th. She will be back in the office on Tuesday, August 21, 2018.