



The First Church in Albany
Sunday, November 14, 2021, 9:00 am
Drive-In Order of Service

Last Drive-In Service of 2021

You may tune in on your car radio at 87.9FM.

We Gather in the Presence of God

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

“You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.” Psalm 16:11

Call to Worship Inspired by the Rev. Quentin Chin, member of Church on the Hill in Lenox, MA

Leader: Come into this time of worship through Jesus Christ, the new and living way.

People: We come with true hearts and in full assurance of our faith.

Leader: Come with joyful expectation!

People: We gather in full confidence of the gospel’s promise.

Leader: Let us praise God together and open ourselves to the power of the Holy Spirit,

People: So that we may encourage and support each other to love our neighbors as ourselves, and to be God’s instruments of grace.

***Opening Hymn** “*Battle Hymn of the Republic*”
Sung by Civil Rights Leader Odetta Holmes

Confident in God’s grace, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Call to Confession

The church year begins with Advent where we remember and hope together for the coming of Christ and the reign of God. Advent is soon to come. However, we are in the final liturgical season of Pentecost, which is a time to grow spiritually and faithfully through the renewing of the Holy Spirit.

So today we acknowledge that, despite our better efforts both individually and collectively, Advent and its hope for a better world feels far away.

Let us take this time to confess our sins of omission and commission that keeps afar that day when the sound of weeping across the land will be no more.

Prayer of Confession

Despite our better efforts, O God, we have not always lived as we ought. Our own short-sightedness and impatience have led us to make choices based upon our immediate needs over your desire and will for the world. Forgive us for our selfish ways. According to your promise of this Pentecost season, send your Holy Spirit to transform our short-sightedness and impatience into farsighted wisdom and a holy patience that will manifest as Advent hope.

Words of Assurance

As our Psalm of Blessing from the beginning of the service reminds us, A cord of love binds us to God. God will not allow us to enter Sheol or to see the Pit. We are forgiven and saved by God's love for us. In this love we can be transformed and we can hope. Thanks be to God!



Passing the Peace

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

People: And also with you.

Leader: Please **beep and wave** to one another as a sign of Christ's peace.

Prayer for Illumination

People: Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

Scripture

Mark 13:1-8

1 As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” 2 Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.”

3 When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, 4 “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” 5 Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. 6 Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. 7 When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. 8 For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ!

Sermon

A Building Not Made by Hands

Rev. Dr. Mashona Walston

The Prayer and Blessing on the Word

Sermon Notes

Trouble in the text:

Trouble in our world:

God in the text:

God in our world:

Ways that God is moving in me:

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.**

Song of Response & Offering

"Lord Keep Me Day by Day"
Sung by the Caravans

Charge & Blessing

Worship Leadership:

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Mashona Walston

Technical Team: Joshua Bliss, and Stephen Reohr

CCLI License #463379; One License #A-700689

To our Drive-In faithful, we hope to see you in-person or on ZOOM at 10am on Sundays. We want to thank all those who have volunteered to extend this powerful ministry. Our Drive-In service is one of the many things FCIA does well. Thank you to all who have served, even in the cold and rain to greet congregants and visitors. You are a blessing. While it saddens us that the time has come to end our Drive-In season and surely our neighbors will miss what has become a Sunday morning staple in downtown, we will look forward to returning in the Spring.



Please keep in prayer this week...

- Jane, sister of Donna Schultz
- Elaine and Jim Jenks, Rose Hunsberger's parents
- Linda N. and Robert H., family friends of Colleen Lais
- Charnelle Jones
- Jeff Curry
- Barb Andrews
- Samuel, Barb Andrew's son
- Haleigh Bliss
- Mary Weijola
- Neil Keen
- Ian and Edi Leet
- Fran Carr Morton
- Harriet Stockhoff
- Kathy Stallmer (Monthie family)
- Cheryl Gowie
- Steve Hoffman
- Ada Harris
- Ginger
- Charles Welge
- Olivia Gaydushek
- Staff and Leaders of The First Church in Albany
- Veterans, retired and active duty, we give prayers of thanksgiving for their service.

Prayer Concerns? If you would like your church family to join you in prayer, please share your concerns and joys with us.

Submit on our website or call the office at 518-463-4449 or email office@firstchurchinalbany.org.

COME JOIN US

for a **NIGHT OF WORSHIP**

A NEW WORSHIP
OPPORTUNITY AT THE FIRST
CHURCH IN ALBANY



**THE
STEPHEN JAMES
CHAPEL**

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 2, 7PM
ADVENT SERVICE WITH MUSIC BY GLENN CLAYDON

THURSDAY, JANUARY 6, 7PM
EPIPHANY SERVICE

Consecration **SUNDAY**

is November 21, 2021



This Week at the First Church in Albany



- Sunday 11.14 9am Final Drive-In Worship
10am Sanctuary Worship & Children and Worship
- Monday 11.15 9am Food Pantry
- Tuesday 11.16 10:30am Colonie Seniors Tour the Sanctuary
12pm Adult Book Study
- Wednesday 11.17 9am Food Pantry
12pm AA Meeting
12pm Centering Prayer

Upcoming Events

- Sunday 11.21 11am Advent Candle Set (Parlor)
- Tuesday 11.30 5:30pm Meeting of Joint Boards (Zimmerman Hall and ZOOM)
- Thursday 12.2 7pm Thursday Worship Service in our Chapel

Tom the Turkey here!

Thank you, First Church Friends. The baskets have been packed and we will start the distribution to our pantry guests on Monday. We are so grateful for the way this community supports our pantry!

Happy Thanksgiving



The First Church in Albany

along with
FOCUS CHURCHES
invite you to



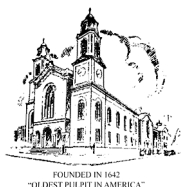
**What is a Blue
Christmas Service?**

This purpose of this service is to comfort those among us who are approaching the holidays with heavy hearts due to loss or other difficulties. You are not alone and we want you to know that you are cared for in this season.

**Thursday, December 16
6:30pm**

Join us for this
candlelight service
in
the First Church
Stephen James Chapel

*If you have any questions about First Church in Albany,
call the number below or email office@firstchurchinalbany.org
for information.*



FOUNDED IN 1642
"OLDEST PULPIT IN AMERICA"

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www.firstchurchinalbany.org