

**The First Church in Albany**

*Welcomes you*



**The Second Sunday after Epiphany  
January 16, 2022, 10am**

# **The First Church in Albany** **(Reformed Church in America)**

**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 we are loved.*

## **Second Sunday after Epiphany**

January 16, 2022

### **We Gather in the Presence of God**

#### **Prelude**

*"It Is Well with My Soul"*

W. Held

*"Kum Bah Ya"*

A. Hailstork

*Margaret Randall, organist*

### **Welcome, Announcements & Blessing**

"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." 2 Corinthians 13:14

### **Call to Worship: Based Psalm 36**

Leader: Your steadfast love, O LORD, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

**People: Your righteousness is like the mighty mountains, your justice like the great deep; you save humans and animals alike, O LORD.**

Leader: How precious is your steadfast love, O God! All people may take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

**People: They feast on the abundance of your house, and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

Leader: For with you is the fountain of life; in your light we see light.

**People: O continue your steadfast love to those who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!**

Leader: Let us worship this God, who is the fountain source of all life and delight!



## \*Opening Song High in the Heavens, Eternal God

v. 1,2, & 4

1 High in the heavens, e - ter - nal God, your good - ness  
 2 For - ev - er firm your jus - tice stands, as moun - tains  
 3 From the pro - vi - sions of your house we shall be  
 4 Life, like a foun - tain, rich and free, springs from the

in full glo - ry shines: your truth shall break through  
 their foun - da - tions keep; wise are the won - ders  
 fed with sweet re - past; there mer - cy like a  
 pres - ence of the Lord, and in your light our

ev - every cloud that veils and dark - ens your de - signs.  
 of your hands; your judg - ments are a might - y deep.  
 riv - er flows and brings sal - va - tion to our taste.  
 souls shall see the glo - ries prom - ised in your word.

Words: Isaac Watts (1674-1748), P.D.

Music (TRURO 8.8.8.8): Thomas Williams' *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789, P.D.

### Prayer of Confession *Inspired by a prayer from the Presbyterian Church USA*

**Most holy and merciful God, like those who fast in convenient ways, we condemn racial injustice with our words, and yet so many of us cling to the privileges derived from racism. Like living with the lights turned off, we complicitly live in and maintain systems of oppression, causing the hopes and dreams of another generation to be deferred. Holy Spirit, teach us true fasting, and cut off our attachments to those things that lead to the oppression of our neighbors and ourselves; turn on the lights in our world to expose systems of oppression, and empower us to live lives that are anti-racist and justice oriented.**

## *Silence*

### **Assurance of Pardon** *From Isaiah 58, True Fasting Leads to The Light of Dawn*

“Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the cords of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin? [When this is your fast], then your light shall break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up quickly.”



#### **\*Passing the Peace**

**Leader:** The peace of Christ be with you.

**People:** And also with you.

**Leader:** Let us greet one another with a hand-sign of peace.

*Touch your thumb to the tip of your ring finger, and wave to one another. This hand-sign makes Christ's gesture of blessing in a lot of iconography in the Orthodox Tradition.*

### **Children's Message & Blessing**

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

**God who is the fountain of life, we gather today as a people looking for signs that will change our life together. Show us that you are a water-changing God, and teach us to make the waters of our lives into the best wine for all to enjoy. Amen.**

#### **Sermon Text**

John 2:1-1

On the third day, there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, “They have no wine.” And Jesus said to her, “Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come.” His mother said to the servants, “Do whatever he tells you.”

Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, “Fill the jars with water.” And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them,

“Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward.” So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, “Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now.”

Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, O Christ!**

**Sermon**

*Jesus the Winemaker*

**A Prayer of 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:

**v. 1-3**

Unison D A D Bm

1 God, who cre - a - ted hearts to love, show - ering all bless - ings from a -  
2 Je - sus at Ca - na gave a sign, turn - ing the wa - ter in - to  
3 Spir - it of God, be at their side: Wis - dom and Com - fort, Guard - ian,

Asus A D G A D G A D

bove— Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia—give these, who come to you with  
wine: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Sign that con - tin - ues as he  
Guide. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Make of their hearts a rest - ing

A D Asus A Refrain G A D G

praise, peace, love, and laugh - ter all their days. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
said— love, liv - ing, ris - en from the dead. place; in ev - ery tri - al, gen - tle grace.

A D G A D G D Em Asus A7 D

lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

- 4 Sing, friends and family gathered here,  
voices in witness ringing clear;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Here is the mystery begun:  
woman and man becoming one. *Refrain*
- 5 God, let our joyful singing be  
sign of our faith community.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Baptized in water, we are fed,  
sharing the living wine and bread. *Refrain*

*For an alternate arrangement see 208, 551, 847*

Words: M.D. Ridge © 1992 M.D. Ridge, admin. OCP Publications

Music (LAST UNS ERFREUEN 8.8.8.8.6.4.4.4): *Auserlesen Catholische Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623. P.D.

## Offering & Offertory

*“God’s Son Is Come”  
Margaret Randall, organist*

M. Dupre

*You may also mail your offering to the church at First Church in Albany, 110 North Pearl St., Albany NY 12207.*

## \*Doxology #592

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

Leader: O Lord,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

THE WORDS HE TAUGHT US

# *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 Song **There'll Be Sunshine in the Morning**

v. 1-3

words by  
Jim Stratthdee  
♩ = 100 - 120

Traditional spiritual  
WELCOME TABLE  
arr. by Jim Stratthdee

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major, 4/4 time. It consists of four systems of staves. The first system begins with the lyrics '1. There'll be sun - shine in the morn - in', There'll be sun -'. The second system continues with 'shine in the morn - in', There'll be sun - shine in the'. The third system continues with 'morn - in', sun-shine in the morn-in' one of these days'. The fourth system concludes with 'morn-in' one of these days.' and includes a 'last time rit.' section. Chord symbols (G, C, F, D, Em, B7) are placed above the staves to indicate harmonic accompaniment. The score is arranged by Jim Stratthdee, based on a traditional spiritual.

2. Freedom will come to all my brothers,  
Freedom will come to all my sisters,  
Freedom will come to all my children,  
Freedom to all God's children one of these days.
3. Justice will flow like a mighty river, (3x)  
Justice like a river one of these days.
4. Love shall live in every heart, (3x)  
Love in every heart one of these days.
5. Peace shall come to every nation, (3x)  
Peace to every nation one of these days.
6. There'll be sunshine in the morning, (3x)  
Sunshine in the mornin' one of these days.



## \*Charge & Blessing

### Postlude

*“Joshua Fought the Battle of Jericho”  
Margaret Randall, organist*

E. Hancock

### Worship Leadership:

**Preacher:** Rev. Trey Tirpak

**Liturgist:**

**Guest Organist:** Margaret Randall

**Technical Team:** Joshua Bliss, and Stephen Reohr

*CCLI License #463379; One License #A-700689*



- Carol LaBatte
- Anthony, of the Brown family
- Jane, sister of Donna Schultz
- Elaine and Jim Jenks, Rose Hunsberger's parents
- Peter, Karen Van Epps' brother
- 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
- The homeless in our community as we enter this time of colder weather, and for outreach groups who seek to help the homeless.

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


*Call the office at 518-463-4449 or email [office@firstchurchinalbany.org](mailto:office@firstchurchinalbany.org)*



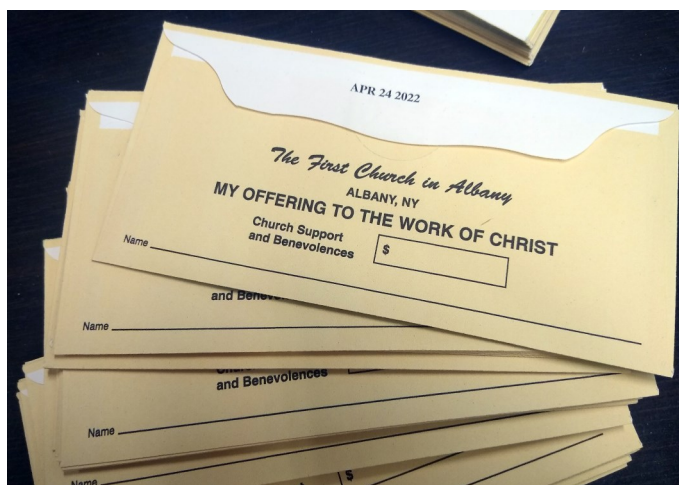
# *The Prayer Shawl Ministry*

The Prayer Shawl Ministry meets once a month in the Powell Room. We knit or crochet our shawls while we check in with each other. Then we discuss who might need a shawl.

**Our next meeting is February 7, 2022 at 11:30 AM.  
New members are always welcome.**



If you know of someone who needs a shawl, please tell Gertrude Dorn, Kathy Monthie, Mary Weijola or Jean Lamere.



**The remaining envelopes have been mailed. If you are looking for your envelopes and they don't arrive, please let the office know.**

**[office@firstchurchinalbany.org](mailto:office@firstchurchinalbany.org)**

**518-463-4449**



# Deck (and un-Deck) the Halls...



**A special thanks...**

**To our youth group and young adults and their group leaders for setting up and taking down the trees, garlands and other holiday decorations. A shout out as well, to our sexton, Keith Curry, who hung a lot of the wreaths and assembled the trees on the chancel.**



## This Week at the First Church in Albany

- |             |      |         |                                   |
|-------------|------|---------|-----------------------------------|
| • Sunday    | 1.16 | 10am    | Sanctuary Worship                 |
|             |      | 11:15pm | Trustees Meeting                  |
| • Monday    | 1.17 |         | <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b> |
|             |      |         | <b>OFFICE CLOSED for MLK Day</b>  |
| •           |      | 9am     | <b>Food Pantry Will Be Open</b>   |
| • Tuesday   | 1.18 | 12pm    | Adult Book Study                  |
|             |      | 6:30pm  | Leadership Meeting                |
| • Wednesday | 1.19 | 9am     | Food Pantry                       |
|             |      | 12pm    | AA Meeting                        |
|             |      | 12pm    | Centering Prayer                  |
|             |      | 12:30pm | Weathervanes Lunch                |
| • Thursday  | 1.20 | 11am    | Soup Lunch in Clee Park           |
|             |      | 8pm     | Prayer on Conference Call         |

### Upcoming Events

- |          |      |         |                               |
|----------|------|---------|-------------------------------|
| • Sunday | 1.23 | 11:15am | Annual Congregational Meeting |
| • Sunday | 2.6  | 10am    | FOCUS Worship Service         |

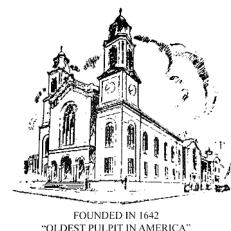
*Meeting Schedules are subject to change.*

*Watch your email for updates if you are a part of these gatherings.*



SOUP IN  
*Glee Park*  
THURSDAY  
11:30AM-12:30PM  
**FREE SOUP  
LUNCH**

**Volunteers needed!** On Sunday, there will be a volunteer sign up sheet in the work room, near the copier. We need help setting up, serving, welcoming our guests and cleaning up. Soup has been planned and will be prepared for Soup Thursday, but we could use dessert items (i.e. cookies, brownies, etc.).



## First Church in Albany

110 North Pearl St.,  
Albany NY 12207  
518-463-4449

[www.firstchurchinalbany.org](http://www.firstchurchinalbany.org)